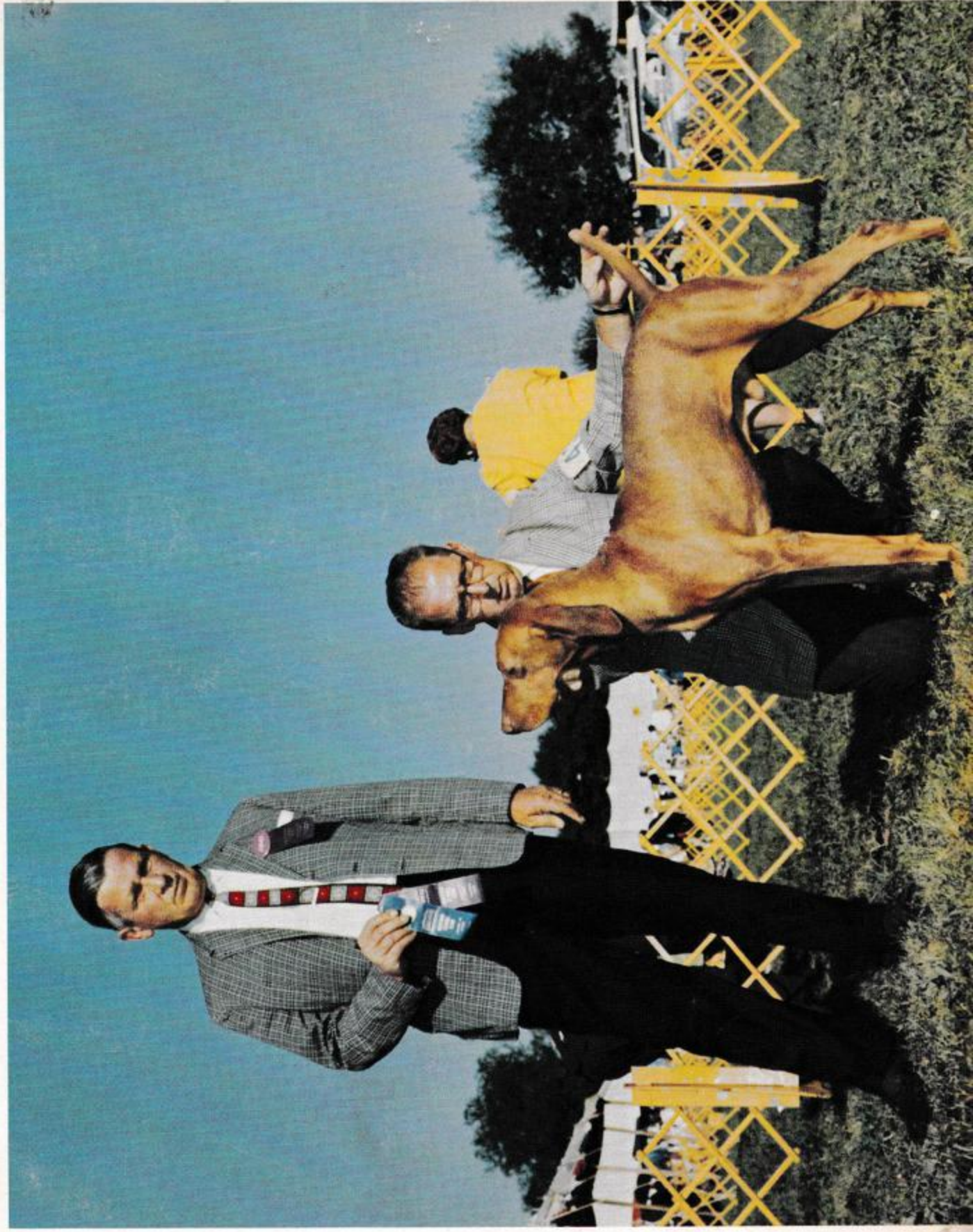


HUNGARIAN REVIEW

VOL. I

Fall 1971



From the Editors:

It is hoped that you enjoy this first issue of the Hungarian Review. For some time we have been urged and encouraged to publish a magazine which would serve to increase understanding and knowledge. Therefore this magazine is for YOU, the breeders, owners and all those interested in the four Hungarian breeds recognized by the American Kennel Club—the Komondor, Kuvasz, Puli and Vizsla.

In this first issue we decided to concentrate on the origins of each breed. This is YOUR magazine and through the combined efforts of every Komondor, Kuvasz, Puli and Vizsla fancier we will try to provide the answers to your questions and welcome the exchange of ideas.

We have listed the national and local breed clubs known to us—if we have left anyone out, please let us know. We urge everyone to support and work for their breed through these clubs.

The next issue of the Hungarian Review will be published in January—DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISING COPY AND ARTICLES IS DECEMBER 10th, 1971.

THE HUNGARIAN REVIEW

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Dr. P. A. Wright*

Regular Feature Writers:

*Bernard C. Boggs
W. F. Goodman
Géza Frank Say
Dr. P. A. Wright*

dual ch.weedy creek “LOBO”

Has at least 68 placements in both A.K.C. and A.F. Field Trials

Lobo completed his A.K.C. Field Championship in November, 1968 by being the ONLY Vizsla ever to win all three Major Stakes (Open Gun, Open All Age and Open Limited All Age) at one Trial—the V.C.O.A. Fall Field Trial in Kildeer Plains, Ohio.

In September, 1969 Lobo completed his Bench Championship by going Best of Breed in Louisville, Kentucky. Lobo was shown for 10 weeks to gain his championship points which included a 5 point Major in Ravenna, Ohio. The following day at the V.C.O.A. Specialty Lobo went Reserve Winners Dog.

Lobo's puppies are winning Bench Championships and are on their way to A.K.C. Field Championships.

Lobo Puppies due on the West Coast
For further details, contact:

Owner:

HAROLD WINGERTER

R.R. 4

Muscatine, Iowa 52761

Phone (319) 263-1788

Vol. 1, No. 1. The Hungarian Review, P.O. Box 90693, International Airport, Los Angeles, Calif. 90009. Telephones (213) 663-5868, 374-1067, 1971 Elaine Saldivar and David Galve, Editors and Publishers. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or part without written permission is prohibited; we reserve the right to edit all material. Publishing 5 times a year. Subscription rate \$8.00 per year (\$2.00 Single Copy). Advertising rates (check accompanying copy): Full page \$50; Half page \$30; Quarter page \$18. (All include one picture—each additional photo \$5.) Photos are returned with proof of copy. Prices of covers and double spreads quoted upon request.



Look at some of my trophies—won in both Field and Show.

CHAMPION NIKKI'S ARCO—1957-1969

He sleeps now with all the great dogs.

The tears stain my eyes, he returned much more than he took.

Arco always gave his best and that's all anyone can ask of their dog. I can only say he was the gretest dog anyone could have.

These words were written in the tribute to Ch. Nikki's Arco by his owner, Bob Foster of Bremerton, Washington. When he was 12 years old Bob Foster's father gave him a liver and white ticked Pointer. Over the last 61 years Bob has owned and hunted over many dogs and loved them all—but to him, the Vizsla holds a very special place in his heart.

Ch. Nikki's Arco was 7 months old when he placed second in a Field Trial. While still a pup he competed successfully against all age dogs and was only 17 months old when he won the National Amateur All Championship over dogs 4 years old.

In referring to Arco in an interview for the Bremerton Sun in September, 1959, Bob told the reporter, "Very seldom does one get a dog with such a high IQ and bird sense. Arco has never run past a cagey old rooster yet and has never flushed a bird, always waiting for the gun. I attribute his all around success to his ability to immediately recognize the difference between running a field trial and hunting to the gun."

When handled by his owner in breed shows, "Arco" always won Best of Breed or Best of Opposite Sex. He lives on through more than 200 puppies he sired, including two owned by Bob Foster who will be hunting them this Fall.

(Ed. Note: How about some of you telling us about Arco's pups and what they are doing.)



Ch. Nikki's Arco with one of his pups.



Shown with his First Place Trophy, Ch. Nikki's Arco was 11 years old when this picture was taken. This was his last First Place Trophy, won at the Pacific Coast Vizsla Trial in 1968.



CH. ARCO'S ARCO — son of Ch. Nikki's Arco
O.F.A.-VZ 170

From a Father/Daughter breeding, Ch. Arco's Arco was kept by Bob Foster as a replacement for his Nikki's Arco, then about 10 years old. After the loss of our Ch. Luko of Shirbob, son of Ch. Nikki's Arco, we persuaded Bob Foster to sell Arco's Arco to us.

Arco is well-mannered and has excellent temperament.

Arco is alert, eager and has the drive necessary for his win in Shooting Dog Stake at an American Field trial. Arco is at Stud to Approved Bitches. For pedigree and further information contact:

John Fife
8759 Bradhurst St.
Pico Rivera, Calif. 90660
Phone: (213) 669-1195

Paraphrasing a local news station, "An informed Vizsla owner is a better owner," may or may not be true. But in any event this column will, within my personal experience, observations and contacts with other Vizsla owners in the mid-west, tell you about these people and their dogs—but only from my point of view except where someone of you wish to express your own opinion in it.

Since this publication is being sent to all judges, let me make the comment on our Standard regarding muzzle to skull length. The skull is longer than the muzzle and it is hoped that the Vizsla Club of America will soon have this error changed that has been there ever since someone translated wrong or did a poor job of proof reading in 1960 and since. Vizslas just have never been whelped that had longer muzzles than skulls, and we are not likely to change that fact.

Three Vizslas finished their *Field Champion* titles this spring here in the mid-west. *Ch. Brook's Amber Mist* owned and handled by Tony Lucas of Illinois, *Ch. Behi's Csinos Csiny, C.D.* owned and handled by myself and Hilda, and *Amber's Windy Autumn* owned and handled by Phil Rosenberg of Illinois. In addition *Amber's Windy Autumn* also earned the *Amateur Field Champion* title and is the first listed in the *ACK Gazette* since the new rules change. The northern Illinois area has some very fine dogs and owners who are capable of handling them in all-breed competition.

We attended the Northern Kentucky KC show July 25. Martha Sloane (a teenager) won Winners Dog and Best of Opposite Sex from Novice Class with her father's *Rich's Pirosh Aranya* which was also the Best Adult dog in our Sanctioned B Match in July. Mrs. Shirley Rothan with her *Rothan's Rozsda Kisanya, C.D.* won Winner Bitch, Best of Winners and Best of Breed which completed the requirements for *Champion* title and her first home-bred one.

Although we didn't attend the Bloomington KC show in Indiana July 24th, Sharon Cleary reported that *Ozbak* won two points and then went third at the Chesterland KC show in north eastern Ohio the next day.

VIZSLAS USED AS GUIDE DOGS FOR THE BLIND

For those Vizsla owners who do not know that the Vizsla has proven a success for guiding the blind, this will tell you that they have. Pilot Dogs, Inc., Columbus, Ohio is the first organization to train them successfully: "Snoopy" from *Ch. Szeke's Kelet Szel ex Dual Ch. Behi's Csinos Csiny, C.D.* is the latest one to complete the requirements and is with Linda Giese of Lorain, Ohio. Her other dog was the first Vizsla to complete this training and when it was retired due to an arthritic condition she requested another Vizsla. There are several more Vizslas being raised in 4-H homes by Pilot Dogs donated by Dr. Paul & Mrs. Shirley Rothan, Dr. & Mrs. Harvey Oury and Mr. & Mrs. James Arrasmith that should be entering training soon. You can donate Vizslas to this organization and deduct the normal selling price from your income tax. It has been our practice to donate one from each litter we raise and this makes the second one to finish training from our breeding. Pilot Dogs preferred females at one time, but hopefully we have convinced them that the male does better than they had previously experienced with other breeds.



Dual Ch. "Trixie" has the longest muzzle of any Vizsla known to me, yet it is shorter than the skull. The Vizsla Standard calls for the reverse which is in error.

You can find trials to enter your Vizslas in every weekend from late August until mid-November within easy driving distance in this area. September trials are generally quite hot and are very hard on dogs. I find it more satisfactory to wait until October, but that leaves only five or six weeks of fall field trialing. Vizsla clubs holding licensed field trials in the Mid-West are the Hawkeye Vizsla Club (Iowa), Nebraska Vizsla Club (Oct. 16-17), Miami Valley Vizsla Club (Ohio, Nov. 13-14), Vizsla Club of Greater Cleveland (Ohio Oct. 2-3) and the Vizsla Club of Illinois (usually the last weekend in Sept.). The Vizsla Club of America trials will be at Raymond, Nebraska October 23-24.

Inter-breed competition is great for some Vizsla owners, but for the majority it is the "kiss of death" for their field trialing. Most of us don't enter them *unless* we think we have a Vizsla that can win. Neither can I fault the individual who does take up the challenge to go out to beat all the Continental pointing breeds with his Vizsla. For many owners their dog, like their car and clothing is nothing more than an extension of their personalities and for others it is done to build their ego. Each owner can have a slightly different reason, but each one who loses whenever he thinks he should have won has a problem. I support and encourage all Vizsla trials first and then enter the closest Continental breed trial allowing Vizslas to run so that I can continue to enjoy that sport. So that readers who do not yet know me, don't jump to a wrong conclusion early, I finished one bitch in the field against all-breed competition and will continue to enter these trials with my Vizslas and earn placements as in the past. I don't run dogs that I do not think can measure up to the competition. All Vizsla stakes have a definite place in breed improvement moreso, in my opinion, than stakes open to all the Continental breeds. Far too many Vizsla owners enter the other breed trials and find the competition difficult and find all kinds of excuses to blame their failure on which causes them to quit the sport. Vizsla people at all Vizsla stakes take more interest in the other fellow and his dog and actually will help him learn to like the sport better.

VIZSLA ORIGINS

A thousand years ago the MAGYARS occupied the land that is now known as Hungary. These people were hunters accompanied by various breeds of dogs, among them a "yellow dog" used for hunting. This information, however flattering, needs thorough research. This has been made very difficult through the many wars that destroyed the country and often the work of the dedicated people who attempted to separate legend from facts.

This writer, too, regrets not being in the position to elaborate on the early history of the Vizsla due to a lack of available literature. That there was a "yellow dog" is an undeniable fact. It is also known that during the Turkish occupation of Hungary, which lasted over 150 years, the Vizsla was crossed with the dogs of the Turks. On the other hand, the Magyars were supposed to come from that part of Asia Minor which became, and partially still is the land of the Turks. In this respect the aforementioned crossing could have been regarded as a sort of "line breeding" in the very broad sense of the word. At any rate the name VIZSLA is Turkish in origin; meaning "seek."

It has also been reported that the "yellow dog" was crossed with the "Erdélyi Kopó" (the coon-hound of Transylvania, a part of Hungary until 1918). Looking at the KOPÓ today, the report may leave some doubt in one's mind. The KOPÓ is black and tan and black is supposed to be a dominant trait in breeding. Further crossings must have taken place during the three centuries of Austrian occupation which followed the Turks. It is remarkable, however, that the "yellow dog" did not spread over to Austria, in fact, it became almost extinct by the end of World War I. About this time a handful of dedicated people decided to give the "yellow dog" yet another chance for survival.

The following part of this article deals with the history of the modern Vizsla. The data, although not documented, is factual and more complete than any existing publication known to the writer.

In 1920, Dr. Polgár and Captain Bába initiated a movement to save the Vizsla from extinction. Their effort gained support and in 1924 the *Országos Vizsla Club* was founded. This date marks the beginning of the history of the modern Vizsla. Earlier history is irrelevant for none of the Vizslák were registered prior to this event.

The founders of the Club began by searching out and registering a dozen or so Vizslák with the most desirable characteristics. Most of these dogs were owned by the founders and their immediate friends. It must be stated positively that the Vizsla has nothing to do with either the Weimaraner or the German Shorthaired Pointer; it is a breed of its own.

Next an initial standard was worked out and efforts were made to establish a strain and type. For this purpose the Club provided a stud dog, Ch. Ripp II, donated to the Club by General Mesterházy. Two other most popular stud dogs were Mr. Popovits' "Witti", the sire of the legendary "Betyár," and Mr. Vicenti's "Treff." Among the very first bitches were Mr. Szentgyörgyi's "Kaposi Marcsa" and "Frici Laura" and a "liver colored" bitch of Dr. Kunstl.

This writer's father, one of the founders, was in charge of the registration and, in part, the breeding and training program. Ch. Ripp II was trained and kept also by him. At the outset every Vizsla had to be shown to be approved for registration. These Vizslák were by no means befitting the present requirements of the standard but chosen to achieve that goal. Only through a very tightly controlled breeding program was it possible to eliminate the white chest and pasterns, the color variations, short muzzle, hare foot, and so on. (The original color was lacking the reddish tint and was considerably lighter than present coloring. The white markings and light eyes seem to be a widespread problem of American breeders.)

For the record it is deemed appropriate to present the American Vizsla enthusiast with a complete list of the original founders and the offices held by them. As a matter of interest the writer attempts to include also their dogs owned during the early years, the forebearers of all the modern Vizslák who are privileged and proud to own today.

President: Dr. Kálmán Polgár. It was his dream to form a Club and to restore the breed. He was primarily responsible for alerting his friends and others to the necessity of immediate action. He owned "Kati," National Champion.

Honorary President: Count László Eszterházi. Without his patronage, moral, and financial support the Club could not have been realized.

Treasurer: Mr. Petöcz. He owned one dog, name presently unknown.

Registrar: József Stifft (Say). Also in charge of stud book and of the stud dog Ch. Ripp II. Owned 3 females: Joli, Csöre and Kati II. The latter was sold to King Alexander of Serbia. Italian Queen Umberto's offer to purchase "Csöre" was rejected.

Geneologists: Prof. Balázs Ötvös. Published a book in which the standard and other matters of interest were published. Prof. Endre Félix. His books on training and hunting with Vizslák became the blueprint to all future publications (the writer owns two of his books). Prof. Félix maintained training sites and sold his bitch "Csitt" to the above named Queen of Italy in 1932.

National Judge: Dr. Elemér Márkus. An expert par excellence, a veterinarian by profession.

Supplies: Dr. János Wirker. Another financial supporter of the Club, a pharmacist. Also owner of dog-care supplies, medical and nutritional.

Founder-Member: Captain Károly Bába. Next to Dr. Polgár, he was most influential in forming the Club. Consulted by József Stifft (Say), published book on training, breeding and care of the Vizsla. He owned the legendary Betyár.

Some of the other supporters of the Club were: Mr. Antal Hajek, a forester. He owned "Dóra" and "Tip." Mr. Béla Nyáry, he owned "Lurko." Mr. Antal Bádén, his dog's name presently unknown. Lastly, the world renown hunter and genealogist Dr. Kálmán Kittenberger with his famous "Szikra" and "Sodi."

There were a few more people and their dogs not mentioned in this article but the list of the founders is accurate. This handful of people were responsible for making a dream come true. Their dedication and know-how was reflected by the performance of those legendary Vizslák in the field, in obedience trials, and in the show ring. This performance was a true manifestation of the success of controlled breeding and training methods in accordance with the true purpose and characteristics of the Vizsla.

This writer grew up with these Vizslák and the people herein mentioned, most of them close friends. The year, 1924, has long been forgotten. The founders of the Országos Vizsla Club are all gone but one—the writer's father. He is the last of the masters—the real Vizsla expert. I am only his apprentice.

Géza Frank Say



Can Ch. Condor v. Fichtental

"King" has won 9 pts. with a major under J. Forest Hall.

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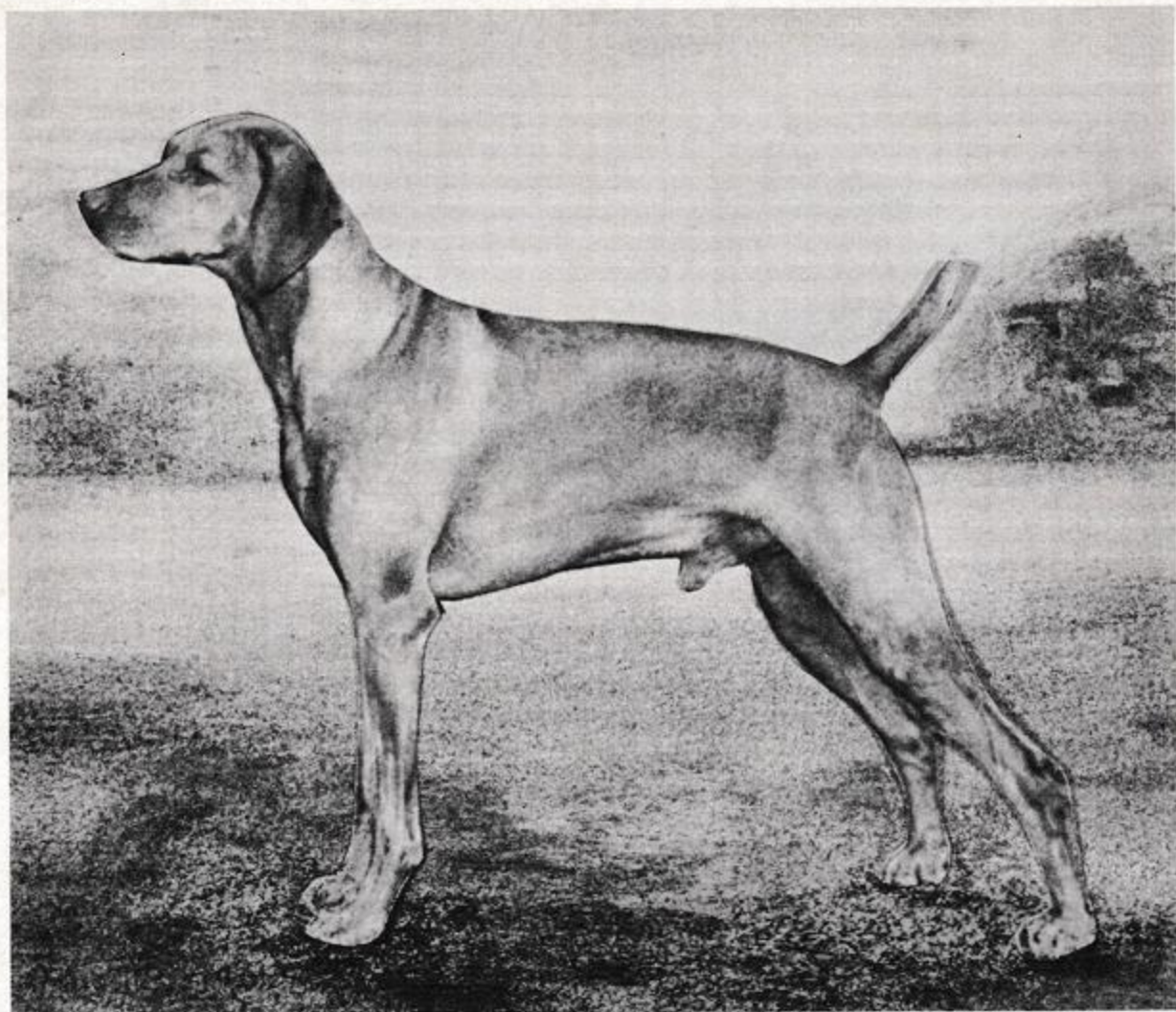
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Latest Field Trial Win, first of season, A.K.C. Open Gun Dog—thirteen entries, Sept. 18, Central New England Vizsla Club at Cape Cod, Mass.

Service to Approved Bitches
ROUND TABLE at CAMELOT

Direct inquiries to:
HOME OF SIR LANCELOT

Wm. F. GOODMAN — 71 Cleveland St., Orange, New Jersey 07050
Area Code (201) 674-7369

Bernard C. Boggs
51 Cherry Drive
Springfield, Ohio 45506
1-513-325-2095



VIZSLA FIELD TRIAL JUDGING

JUDGING QUALIFICATIONS

The handler, if he is to train his dogs effectively, must know and be aware of the judging factors involved to be competitive in the sport.

What are the qualifications? Really, there are none. You do not even have to own a dog, but it helps. The American Kennel Club requires that a person must be in good standing to judge, which means only that he is not on its suspension list, and that person signs a statement that he has read the rules and standards for judging and conduct of the trial and is above a certain age. For the American Field, the big money stakes use judges selected from the old timers who are devotees to the field trial sport. Some of these judging assignments last for two weeks or more. For the regular trials, the judges are selected based on previous field trial experience and is strictly the choice of the field trial committee or trial-giving club. Generally this is true for those judges used for the licensed American Kennel Club trials.

It would not be likely, except in some extreme situations, that a person with no experience or knowledge would be asked to judge, except in a fun trial or sanctioned trial where the "apprenticeship" should start. We all hope that the person selected as a judge has owned and campaigned dogs with some success and recognizes good dog flesh and performance as well. It helps to know that he has hunted birds over a good dog for a period of time with less time being spent with poorer ones. It would also help to know that he was not currently campaigning a dog so that he could be more objective in rendering a fair and impartial decision. Once he meets these requirements he must be prepared to stand up to the other judge and defend his opinions and then compromise or arbitrate when necessary to the benefit of the best dog in the stake.

Dual Ch. Behi's Csinos Csiny

Whether or not a professional should be asked to judge is a matter of perception and judgment by the club selecting the judge. He should not be expected to volunteer his services when he has commitments to his clients and is obligated to campaign their dogs. Many of them currently do judge in the Continental breed trials. This makes it extremely difficult for the amateur, for the professional believes that the professional handlers are the ones who makes the field trial business and also determines the standard of performance. He is usually close mouthed and has his own pet trade secrets.

Back several years ago, I listened to those "experts" in both field and show and they gave me a very wrong impression. I was led to believe that the show judges were dishonest in that they catered to those with the money. But field trials were judged by people, one's own neighbors so to speak, who were non-professional which automatically made that activity free of all human inadequacy, frailty and deception.

In all the times that I have been involved in dog shows, there has never been one incident indicating the judge based his decision on anything other than his own opinion and a decision of the moment. One firm observation I did make was that when all novices and amateurs are in the ring, a reasonably good job of selecting the best dogs is done. If just one professional handler is in the ring, he usually gets the nod. When more than one professional handler is in the ring, the judge's favorite handler gets the nod. If an amateur handler is there week in and week out against the professionals he will sometimes get the nod.

But the field trial judging was more deceptive and difficult to analyze. All the judges at first seemed friendly and honest enough. Everything seemed just rosy as long as I paid my entry fee and did not represent a challenge or threat to any of the other dogs under judgment.

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Finally the obvious began to become clearer. The field trial judges are just ordinary people in competition from one week to the next with their contemporaries who have their own selected friends as well as preferred strains or lines within their own breed. They just do not like dogs in their own breed that are owned by certain people who are not their friends. These men are generally well respected, but if their decisions are not accepted very well, and oftentimes they are not, these judges risk not being asked to judge again by that specialty breed club. I did observe that the judge for next week's trial at another location, or sometimes at the same trial, got more consideration than the person who judged last week's trial or did not judge at all. The professional handler truly gets more than the average placements, all other things being equal. The "off-breed" handler was usually just there for the experience, and was slow in being accepted. A number of small specialty clubs are more friendly toward those having the minority breeds and are truly happy to have them participate. To me, this behavior seems normal, but the bias and prejudice toward the other dog breed cannot be denied or overlooked. That too is to be expected.

It reminds me of the plight of the woman in our society. The lady handler is allowed to participate, but not really accepted, and I have watched some darn good women handlers competing in the field trials. But a lot more are willing to try their hand in the Vizsla trials than in most other breed trials, except for retriever trials. I like to think of the woman as being the type who likes the cat for its independence and hates a dog that has the same thing, and maybe this is the reason they like Vizslas so well.

It takes a special breed of person to climb into the saddle and judge, when he knows full well that there is a 100% chance that he will suffer either verbal or physical abuse, or both, when judging or upon announcement of the decision. Both the professional and amateur alike continually try to affect the running and judging so that their dog can win. Instead of upgrading the standards of judging and the running, they are doing just the opposite, and it shows!

It is not unusual for the strong (extroverted) judge to suggest to his partner how he sees a certain performance in order to induce and suggest to that person to see the performance differently. The psychological sciences have proven just how faulty man's perceptions and memory can be without any effort or suggestion on anyone's part. A good judge must have a lot of self-confidence and positive self-evaluation capability to see everything in proper perspective and then defend it when necessary.

Covering up lack of confidence, nervousness, and such, while under judgment, or a poor performance of the dog will be demonstrated by a handler in a number of ways. While some of this behavior is of no concern, some is, and can and does cause problems in the judge-handler relationship that is damaging to the handler. It is most likely that there will be other trials or shows under the same judge. While under judgment the handler should demonstrate his best stability, manners and self control. It is also entirely possible that those

he selects not to be his friends and aggravates at every opportunity, will someday be his judge. So he should also consider these things if he wants to continue the sport for a long period of time. Over the long haul this term was once defined as SPORTSMANSHIP but has seemingly been lost temporarily in some dog activities.

In field trials the judge is the judge and the judged, for he is usually in competition with a dog of his own. Should he cater to those he knows are going to be selected to judge trials or will he run in, or be unfriendly to them? A gratuity accepted is a gratuity to be repaid.



An unproductive is a minor fault with most judges, but two usually puts the dog out of contention. With some judges the tail carry on point is sufficient to put it out of contention. This Vizsla is not intense on point indicating to the handler (if he is alert and knows his dog) that the game has left. The dog should be encouraged to hunt 'on.

SELECTING JUDGES FOR VIZSLA FIELD TRIALS

First, we must develop and select judges in our own breed and become less dependent on those from other breeds. We must also provide a base that assures fair judgment of our breed when running in competition with other breeds. One way is to switch judging assignments and the other is to keep some of our stakes open to the other breeds.

There are two extremes in judging. One is where a dog is ordered to be picked up and removed from the competition for a minor infraction, and another dog does nothing right, breaks on shot, and on the retrieve crunches meat and bones and yet places or wins. Neither of these judging practices are desirable and in the long run, any deviation from a prescribed set of judging standards is not helping the breed or handler.

Any person who volunteers to judge, when asked, knowing that he will ride in the saddle from daylight to dusk in all kinds of weather does it, because in spite of his other weaknesses, he loves to watch pointing dogs perform.

Selection of judges is strictly a matter of choice by a club or field trial committee and finding someone willing. These people will be amateur or professional dog handlers in field trials. It is better for the field trial committee to make every effort to get handlers who have, as a minimum, won in gun dog or all-age stakes, and preferably those who have worked their dogs through personally for the Field Champion title. But, I do not want to mislead my readers here, for most often either the field trial chairman or secretary usually obtains the judges, and there is no democratic selection by a committee. It never works when tried.

For several years to come, the Vizsla breed will be better off to get judges from the ranks of the German pointing breed and Brittany Spaniel rather than pointer or setter field trialers and have one judge in conjunction with one from the Vizsla ranks. Contrary to opinion not every handler can evaluate the performance of other dogs in a trial for the same reason that not every dog owner can train his own dog.

Responsible officials should try and get different judges and not depend on the same ones all the time, even if they are the best, for it improves the trial and breed when a number of capable people are involved. It is better to have the judge who is impartial and a friend to none, than the one who is so and so's buddy and a name dropper. A judge is no good if the people who have judged with him before do not respect him.

The judge should be instructed by the committee that no award should be made when the dogs have not met the proper standards of performance, and most certainly *not* first place. It is unfortunate for a committee to buy all those ribbons and trophies, but they should not be used just for the sake of using them. Anything less than this brings the trial down to the level of a fun trial and is an outright gift, not an indication of performance and merit. It is back to the same old question, "Who is the loser?" Many field trial chairmen insist that every placement be made.

JUDGING QUALITIES

I defy any dog owner-field trialer to tell me how a judge comes up with the best dog in a field trial! Neither do I know of a book, or any other printed material that you can read and find a description of exactly what a dog must do to be "perfect" in his performance. Just like the breed standard—words will not convey the proper description, because each person has his own concept and subjective opinions under such situations as are found in field trials where the constantly changing conditions occur—including the judges.

Some trials are under a series of elimination heats and even some dogs with errors in their first heat or heats are called back. During the first series, dogs with certain recognizable faults and mistakes are eliminated. Some with high prestige (favorites to win) may survive a letdown or miscue and be allowed to continue to the second series. Or the judge or judges might not observe the mistake. Some invitational owner stakes have limited entries, switch braces, change the time of running during the day, and all other possible variables are considered for each and every dog in trying to determine the best of that breed, that year, to make a true champion worthy of the title. These judges are trying to evaluate the



total dog, not just a single performance, and they know that a dog is not a machine.

Who is to say that in most trials the best dog was eliminated because of the time of day that he ran? Or the weather changed during the running and eliminated him? Or his brace mate caused his elimination?

The point I want to make is that judging of field trials is done by negative evaluation. Survival in some trials means that no game contact was made, until the dog got to the birdfield. In any single course trial too much bird work is sure elimination, simply because some judges say the dog never got the chance to run. So, the judges could not evaluate the run which by the negative system of judging rejects!

A handler, in order to be successful, must make the effort to judge his dog's performance in relation to all the others in the stake, even though he actually sees but few others run. To me, this means that he has to know more than the judges to win. It also means he must have a fairly good idea of what constitutes a winning performance under different judges. Sometimes he can get a clue by observing them, but any serious field trialer will eventually get to know a lot of judges personally. If for no other reason than being braced with these gentlemen from trial to trial. By so doing, he can compare his philosophy of breeding and training and know accordingly what adjustments to make when he handles his dog under that man's judgment.

The major difficulty for someone new is that no book or printed description can teach him how to start at the bottom and *win* in this sport. Even more confusing as he gets closer to

success, is to suddenly become aware of the fact that there are different standards for the various handlers and dog breeds at each trial. For the slightest miscue, real or imagined, on his part or that of his dog, he is out of contention. The "special" handlers will make disqualifying mistakes under any standard of judging, yet continue under judgment and often win. Since people are involved we should better understand that subjective judgment based on individual, or personal-prejudice, bias, complacency, conceit and self-deception will rule. This is what makes it such a great sport—you get both barrels, for often your dog is just as troublesome as the judges.

Judging calls for many good physical and personal qualities coupled with the handlers and dogs. Why men continue to accept judging assignments is a mystery, for it is a tough thankless job—as if the people are not enough of a problem. Other enemies to judging are weather, bad horses, poor bird planters and dangerous gunners.

As the judges go about their assignment, some use a scratch pad and others depend strictly on their memories. Did you ever try to remember something that occurred ten hours or a day earlier when you were so physically "dog tired" that your brain just seemed to quit functioning? Did you ever get so wet, cold and miserable that you lost all interest in anything but your misery? Did you ever watch an event or happening and not really know or believe that it did happen?

A study was made by a group of researchers in an effort to determine why hunters were mistakenly shot for deer and the conclusion was that the hunter looked so long and hard for a deer that somehow he created a condition with his eyes and brain which caused him to see the hunter as a deer. This same situation can be created in judging field trials when the judges get too much sun or too much cold, or at least I would like to attribute some of the decisions to this phenomena. We all have our minds return to normal the next day and we can see things much clearer after trying to see and remember something at the time it was so important.

When I first became interested in field trialing, I never had any help. Everything was so secretive. By owning a minor pointing breed, and joining the national club I read in *The Vizsla News* that I was welcome to enter in their field trials and that it took no special qualifications except that the dog had to be registered in the American Kennel Club and be over six months of age. As long as the dog hunted, pointed, retrieved, and was reasonably steady to shot it was a cinch for him to win—so after fourteen hours of driving I arrived at my first field trial. I was the first brace out without getting a chance to see what it was all about, and I know this has happened to several that I have introduced to the sport.

When I got back home it was obvious to me that just a few tricks of the business could be learned and I would easily become a winner. But there were not any Vizsla trials and that one Vizsla trial had also been open to the German pointing breeds. This gave me the clue needed and sure enough I was able to enter some of those trials right near home.

I learned. Now I am treading where only fools would, in an effort to document my experiences and observations, but if I did not do it now, it is possible that I too would become like all the others and gloss over this area of judging that is so important to the new dog owners.

A judging check list will not be accepted by those with judging experience. Maybe they believe that this is too artificial. I am a serious believer that judging can be improved and the place to start is by letting the handler know what he and his dog are expected to do in order to win. The best method is to let the handler see the evaluation made by the judge whether it was a good or bad one. While in some cases the handler may become upset with the evaluation, he deserves to know privately what another person's impressions and evaluation of his dog were, other than the fact that his dog did or did not have a placement. It is too time consuming for the judges if all the handlers were to seek out each judge and talk to him. Unless he has a fantastic memory, and some do, he will remember neither the handler nor the dog. Those with the superior memory are few and far between, and a judge would be foolish if he related his true opinions since it was not an evaluation put in writing as the performance was observed. He would likely relate the performance of another dog and cause a question in the mind of the handler as to why he was not placed, or confuse him because he did not remember his dog being so bad.

The usual judging procedure follows a pattern where the first two dogs out are either put first and second or deemed non-worthy of a placement. At some point in the running, each judge will have four dogs that they consider worthy of placement either with or without discussion between them as the stake progresses. There is seldom a major problem as long as neither one recognizes any further contenders. But if they do, as a better dog runs he will displace one of these and shift the order and it becomes extremely important to forget





At Vizsla field trials you will often see lady handlers, field trial marshals as in this picture and also judges. But even in Vizsla trials the lady handler is not always placed as she perhaps should be with her Vizsla. Discrimination? Left to right: Cynthia Hibler and Hilda Boggs derby handlers, Patrick Walsh and Larry Ludt judges and Shirley Rothan marshal.

memory and use the pencil. In the event that the overall quality of the stake is poor, both judges may be looking for a first placement when the stake is concluded, or maybe other placements too. Sometimes a discussion between the judges will raise one or more of the dogs even though the performance was not exactly as much as they would like for such placements. If there should be enough disagreement between the two dogs they believe are worthy of first place, they can call those two dogs back and run them again, but even after the second time I am sure that the one judge would still be so hard headed that he would not be willing to concede that the other dog was better.

It does happen though that the finer points that make one dog have a slight edge over the other are not witnessed by both judges and it is in these cases that both judges should readily agree to further evaluation.

Because of these situations and the subjective and negative judging methods, I am firmly in favor of all judges using a judging sheet that can be used to evaluate performance as it occurs—not after the brace or even worse after the stake. I have prepared one and have used it with good success and I found it easy to use even in the rain. It is part of my Vizsla book—not yet published. Others I worked up earlier had so many factors that one could miss seeing some of the important performances of the dogs, but are still carried in the minds of those judging as important.

It would be an improvement to the present judging methods if a standard simple form was worked up and approved by all the pointing breeds conducting trials under sanction by the American Kennel Club. Some people do use forms of their own design, but most people tend to resist change and do things without any real plan, and it does seem to be the easier way. It lacks the formality and documentation that causes the mind to cease functioning and creates blind reverence.

Subjectivity is an element in judging that should be held to a very minimum. It should not be confused with "judgment" as such. As an example, suppose that two dogs scored the same, whatever the rating system was on an objective basis, but one dog actually was more pleasing to watch. That dog was superior to the other dog running in the opinion of one judge. The other judge disagrees, but the element of subjectivity of the one judge told him that he was right that the style and aesthetic manner of the dog's performance was an intangible asset that should be catalogued in the objective column. This is possibly one reason that some judges prefer not to use a checklist that they may face such a situation and create a problem that would not have been.

A knowledgeable professional and amateur does not depend on the judges' decision for him to know how well his dog did. You very seldom hear either one enter into a discussion of his dog's performance before the placements are announced or afterward.

I observe too many dogs that follow the horse tracks and the owner-handler thinks his ran the best race of the stake. He just does not know better.

The quality of performance of the back course run puts the dog in contention and the birdfield work causes him to keep or lose his chance for a placement. Individual judging factors are going to show slightly different personal preferences based on each individual judge's experience and personality. Handler or dog favoritism? NO!?

The "one strike and you are out" method now much in use for the Continental breed trials is *negative* and unfair to the field trial sport, but it sure simplifies judging for it guarantees that the best back course performance will most often *not* stand up. Such a dog runs on a thin weak thread that luckily does not break when he wins or places. We can only improve this by bringing in new judging blood and make every effort to insure that they are properly trained. Let's get on with this job with the Vizsla breed. Choose from our own ranks more and more each year until we become the most honest and respected judges in the field trial sport attested to by recognized objective judging standards and practices.

PROVEN LINE BRED VIZSLAS BELONGING TO THE BEHI FAMILY . . .

AT STUD TO OFA bitches:

Ch. Szekeres' Kelet Szel (Trump)
Field Trial Placements & 1969 VCoFA
Speciality Best of Opposite Sex
(By Ch. Hunor ex Ch. Szekeres' Kezdet)

A PROVEN PERFORMER . . .

Dual Ch. Behi's Csinos Csiny, C.D. (Trixie)
1966 VCoFA Specialty Winners Bitch
(By Haans V Selle ex Fld. Ch. Futaki Juliska)

FUTURE DUALS . . .

Ch. Behi Heves Hanos (Jinks)
Field Trial Win & Placements
(Fall breeding tentative)
(By Ch. Szekeres' Kelet Szel ex Lady Vizsta, C.D.)

Behi Csintalan (Pete)
2 show majors & 10 pts. and
Field Trial Placements

UNDER TRAINING & EVALUATION . . .



Behi Csecse Csiny (Csecse)
(By Ch. Szekeres' Kelet Szel ex Dual Ch. Behi's
Csinos Csiny, C.D.)
Behi Cserkesz Csiny (Scout) 12/12/69
One 4 pt. major
This male is of the *proper* Vizsla type and
is for sale to person having the proper
show credentials. Must be campaigned in
Specials Class when finished. Price open.
(By Ch. Szekeres' Kelet Szel ex Dual Ch. Behi's
Csinos Csiny, C.D.)

PEDIGREE SERVICE FOR AKC REGISTERED VIZSLAS ONLY

WORKING BREEDS OF HUNGARY

In every corner of the globe where there is an appreciable expanse of dry land—from the polar regions to the tropics, at every point of every latitude where people live—there you will find a domestic animal that has won universal respect and love. It is man's faithful friend and companion, the dog.

In the loneliness of the almost endless Hungarian steppes (Puszta), the shepherds were very dependent on the reliability and courage of their dogs against threatening dangers. Thus, for over a thousand years Hungarian shepherd dogs have been developed—three great Working Breeds, each with a separate job to do—the Komondor, the Kuvasz and the Puli. Undoubtedly as self-reliant as in the old days, these breeds have remained distinct to this day.

The Komondor and the Kuvasz are the Protector, not the herder, not the driver. They guard the flock, fighting their foes with keen intelligence that makes sure that in the battle for survival they are the fittest. Unsoftened by leisure living for centuries, these are the dogs to have on your side when the going is tough.

The Puli is the Herder. He is the extended arm of the shepherd working independent in his task driving and rounding up the flock. A few have been employed to herd sheep flocks on the Western and Northwestern plains and foothills of the Rockies where they have proven their heritage.

BEHI VIZSLA'S

Bernard and Hilda Boggs
51 Cherry Drive
Springfield, Ohio
(513) 325-2095

QUALITY NOT QUANTITY by Jack Hatfield

The Secretary has on occasions received letters asking information regarding the whereabouts of the closest stud dog in their locality. It is this subject I wish to discuss. When the owner of a Vizsla bitch obtained it, no doubt they sent some distance and went to considerable expense to obtain something different and worthwhile. How then, can this person be fair to their dog, or this breed, by being satisfied with the closest male dog they can find. Is it a "fast buck" they want? I, for one, would appreciate a letter with information regarding a suitable stud together with information regarding some of the things they would like to see improved on in the resulting progeny. For instance, if the bitch is inclined to be shy, why breed to another shy dog? Does the bitch have an excessive amount of white? Does she podder in the quest for game or does she go as though possessed? What about her temperament? Let's all try to up the quality and down the quantity.

If the owner of a Vizsla is to raise outstanding dogs he must be prepared to bring concentration and great endeavor to the task. He cannot expect to achieve startling results at once. He must exercise patience. **THERE IS NO SHORT CUT TO SUCCESS!** The breeder must first make himself thoroughly conversant with the Standard of the breed and ideals. He must be able to visualize how a perfect Vizsla would perform in the field. (I refer to instinctive actions.) To acquire this knowledge he must visit dog shows and field trials. He must discuss type, color and soundness with breeders more experienced than himself whenever possible. He should study books on breeding and become so well acquainted with his own dogs, that he knows to some extent, the desirable traits that seem to be dominant and also those that are recessive.

One thing that I have noticed in my many years of association with dog breeders is a tendency to become so loyal to their own strain of dogs that they are blind to the faults that they should endeavor to improve. I can remember when breeders actually asked that the Standard be changed so that the shortcomings in their dogs would not be penalized! When a man has really founded a strain of his own by the application of well proven essential breeding principals, then he will know that his best dogs not only look good but are good in the hunting department as well.

I want to stress the point that foundation dogs must be of sufficiently high standard, which means that their good points are much in excess of any faults they have, and the latter must be minor properties only. As time goes by he will develop in his mind a clear picture of the type of Vizsla he wants to breed. Just as surely as a car manufacturer re-designs his car, the dog breeder can mould and improve his strain of dogs. The breeder who will be successful can not spread his endeavors over the breeding of many breeds of dogs. He should be a specialist.

When selling dogs to prospective breeders I believe that the seller should discuss all the characteristics of his particular strain and should not be the least hesitant in discussing the things he would like to improve on. The dogs should never be mated together without a definite purpose. The owner should know full well why he has selected them as mates for each other. He should be able to envisage the sort of dogs which ought to be produced. If knowledge of the dogs appearing on the pedigree were of no importance, then it would only be necessary to mate the winner of a Field Trial to another winner and all the progeny of such a mating would also be winners. Or you could mate the possessor of a twelve generation pedigree to another such dog and all the progeny would all be truly great dogs!

Each year as the quality in your strain improves, there **MIGHT** come what breeders refer to as a Flyer (outstanding). When this happens I liken it to climbing a ladder. If you take too many steps up you can fall way back where you started (with injuries too!). When the flyer comes, the answer is to inbreed. I liken this to climbing the ladder of success and stopping on a platform for more strength rather than taking another step that might not be there. In inbreeding you have a subject that will require a great deal of information of which I will reserve for a future date. However, here are a few Maxims which the inbreeder or the line breeder **MUST NEVER FORGET**:

1. Inbreeding does not create anything. It only fixes that which is there; hence the need for having in your breeding material all that you require.
2. It can establish faults and weaknesses as easily as it can establish good points. **IF YOU LET IT DO IT**, which you should never do and need not do.
3. It enables you to eradicate failings quickly and desirable qualities with equal speed.
4. It must be accompanied by skillful selection in the manner I described about visual mating.
5. There must be ruthless elimination of all the undesirable. (Sports)

RAISE YOUR STANDARDS

The quality demanded by the owner in his breeding dogs should be raised every year, as he should have more dogs at his disposal, and which, we hope, are better than their parents, grandparents and earlier ancestors. Important as is pedigree—much more important is **KNOWLEDGE** of as many of the ancestors in the pedigree as possible.

Ignore the pedigree for the purpose of demonstration, there are certain guiding principals in mate selection which should never be ignored. First the mating must never be what I would call **AVERAGED**. That is, a moderate stud to an exceptional female (or vice-versa). No two dogs with the same fault must be mated together. It is better to have the best features on both sides of the mating. For example, good head to good head, rather than good head to weak head, which will only produce moderate heads. This is another form of averaging.

WHERE NOW BROWN DOG??

A few years back while attending the Vizsla Club of America Fall Field Trial at the Killdeer Plains Wildlife Refuge in Ohio, I listened with considerable skepticism while the editor of HUNTING DOG magazine, a magazine that I enjoy very much incidentally, told us that he could very clearly see the day when there would be two strains of Vizslas, exactly as there are two strains of Pointers, Setters (White and Red) etc. I felt like getting up and saying it wouldn't happen with our breed because their true heritage as a household hunting companion was the heart of their ownership appeal. How wrong can a person be? How naive can one be? In the span of a few short years I have come to see the emergence of some very real signs of difference within the breed.

It is one of life's facts that anything which is beautiful as well as useful will soon become coveted for its beauty and that those who so covet will soon outnumber those who treasure its utility. In my opinion the Vizsla is on that road.

Lest anyone get the impression that I am suggesting that the Vizsla is on the road to extinction, let me hasten to make some observations. In my opinion the advancement of the qualities of the Vizsla as a field dog have far outstripped the improvements in the breed as show dogs. There are very good reasons why this is so. In the field the dog has to be judged by the quality of its performance and there is a sharp upturn in this feature. In the show ring the dog is judged in some measure by the reputation of the person holding the lead and large measure by the ability of the person holding the lead to hide its faults and show off its good qualities. If the dog is a reasonable specimen at all it is a cinch for a "championship", whatever that is worth. I will refrain from comment on the actual judging for I have seen good judging so rarely that I feel I have limited observation to generalize from.

I have recently come back from a visit to Hungary and a conducted tour of Vizsla owners. I did not go to a dog show and hope to see some Vizslas. Instead I went to the President and the Secretary of the Hungarian Hunting Society and asked to be shown Vizslas, period. I was fortunate enough to see a hunting training session, the top winning show Vizslas and a goodly number of dogs which are both shown and hunted extensively. There is not a shadow of doubt in my mind that the Vizsla in Hungary is primarily a hunting dog. I did not see a large Vizsla in Hungary. The dogs I saw were all around the 23" to 24" size range. I did not see a red Vizsla in Hungary. The dogs I saw in several towns and villages, as well as in Budapest, were almost entirely of the golden rust color. Reddish or rust tint, yes, but Irish setter red, NO!! It was quite a surprise to find that Miklos Farkashazi, director of the Vizsla section within the Hungarian Kennel Club (M.E.O.E.) and I were unanimous in that the Vizsla field trial dogs as I have seen them in the U.S.A. and Canada are also close to that ideal. I also say that many show dogs are veering away from the real type of the breed. Tall dogs, straight shoulders, poor feet, funny gaits and rosy red color are becoming common in the shows. They couldn't hack it in the field.



It may be just a voice crying in the wilderness but I urge all of you to prevent the separation within our breed. We have the breeding stock to do it, but if we don't look we won't find it in time.

About the Author — Phil Wright is Professor and Acting Director of the School of Agricultural Economics and Extension Education at the University of Guelph. He has been a Vizsla owner for eleven years and a serious breeder for nine years. He has been fortunate in that one of his early litters produced the First Best in Show Vizsla in the U.S.A., Canada, and Mexico. At the same time dogs from his kennel have won more field trial placements than those from all other Canadian breeders combined. This can be credited to the very fine people who have obtained their dogs from him and whom he sincerely appreciates. The emphasis at Napkelte Kennels is on complete honesty with the buyer and complete objectivity in breeding. With a bit of luck, which we all need, there can't help but be a payoff in quality Vizslas.



"DANNY" wins BEST IN SHOW in MEXICO

Ch. Napkelte Vadasz Dalos, better known as "Danny", is the first Vizsla to have won Best in Show in three countries.

Danny won his first Best in Show in Canada, followed by three Best in Show in the United States and in September he won Best in Show in Ensenada, Mexico. Bill and Elsie Totton are the owners of Danny and his breeder is Dr. P.A. Wright who is a regular feature writer for Hungarian Review.



CH. SZEKERES' KELET SZEL

BEHI VIZSLA'S

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