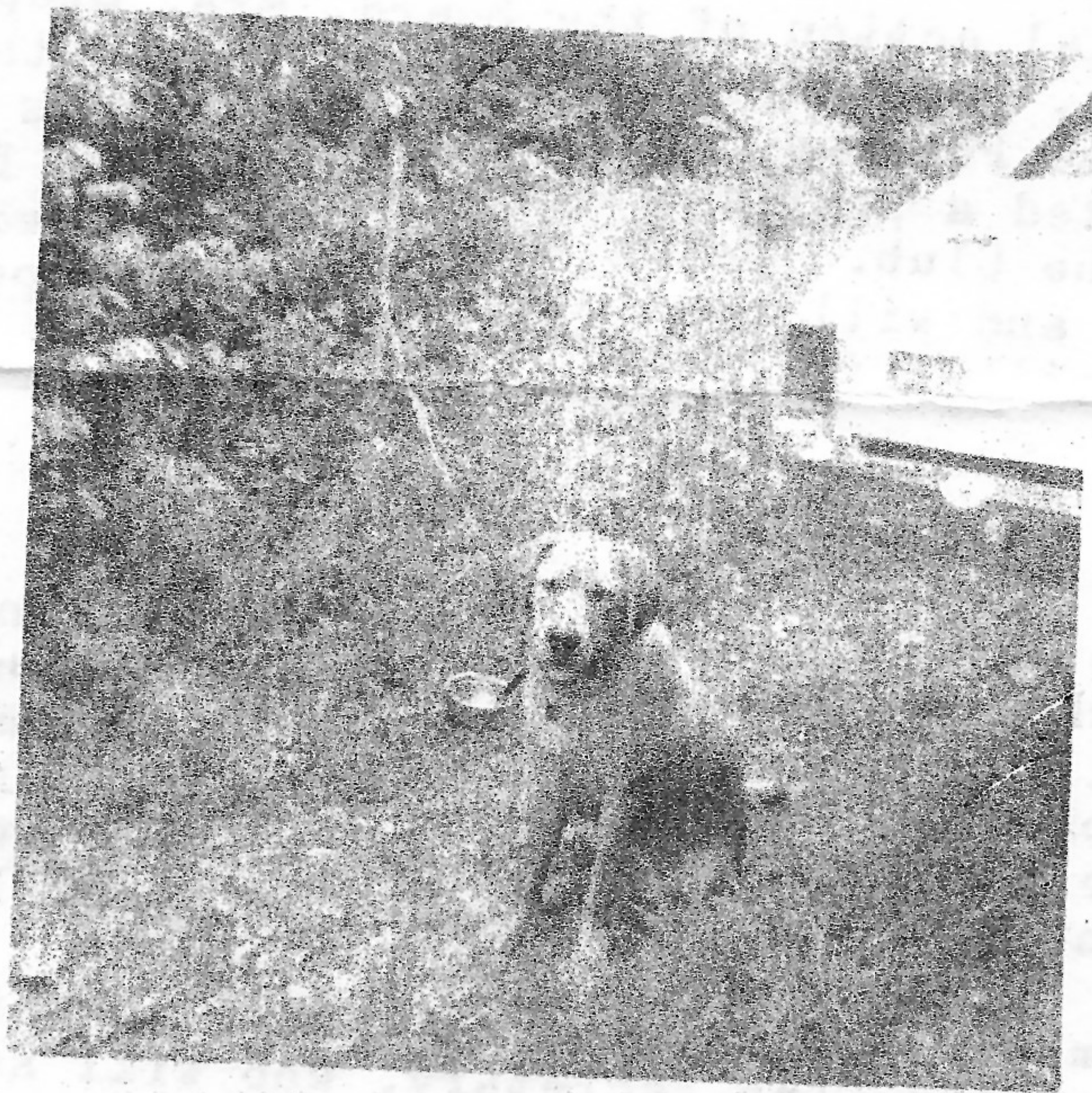


LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB of the Potomac NEWSLETTER

March, 1974



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SAVE GAS FOR LRCP ANNUAL MEETING FOLLOWING OLD DOMINION SHOW

LABRADOR RETRIEVER CLUB OF THE POTOMAC

President.....George Bragaw, Rt. 10 Box 81,
Frederick, Md. 21701
Vice-President.....Mrs. Robert V. Clark, Jr., Springfield
Farm, Middle burg, Va. 22117
Secretary.....Mrs. Deborah Kobilis, Hidden Valley, Box
29, Stafford, Va. 22554
Treasurer.....Mrs. Elizabeth Bragaw, Rt. 10 Box 81,
Frederick, Md. 21701
Director.....Mrs. Kendall Herr, Willow Brook Farms,
Catasauqua, Pa. 18032
Director.....Mrs. Sharon May, Rt. 1, Box 16A,
Walkerton, Va. 23177
Director.....Edward G. Squires, Rt. 1 Box 343,
Atison Rd., Atco, N.J. 08004
Director.....Allen F. Voshell, Box 5252,
Charlottesville, Va. 22903
Director.....Mrs. Betty Graham, 11817 Waples Mill
Rd., Oakton, Va. 22124

By special action of the Board, Mrs. Stephen (Betty) Graham of Oakton, Va., has been named a Director of the Labrador Retriever Club of the Potomac. Mrs. Graham replaces Mr. David McCurley, who has accepted a position with Jane and Bob Forsythe and resigned from the Club. Betty has served as obedience chairman for the past year and will continue to hold both posts. She serves until the elections in April.

SPECIAL NOTICE--ANNUAL MEETING

Because of the gasoline shortage, the annual meeting will be pushed back from the first week in April until the third week in April. The meeting will be held on Saturday, April 20, in conjunction with the Old Dominion Kennel Club show in Reston, Va. The move was undertaken to insure good attendance for this most important meeting. A tailgate party will follow the meeting.

Any members who expect difficulty in attending are asked to please contact the Club secretary, who will serve as a coordinator to set up car pools if it is practical to do so.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NEWSLETTER

The deadline for the June 1 Newsletter will be May 1. If you have suggestions or news (show or field trial wins, new litters, etc.) please try to submit the items by that date. Ideas for feature stories should be received by mid-April.

Obedience news, suggestions and ideas should be sent to Betty Graham, Obedience Chairman, 11817 Waples Mill Rd., Oakton, Va. 22124. Tel. 385-8339.

Send all other material to Louise Marsh, 606 Vierling Drive, Silver Spring, Md. 20904 Tel. 384-1910

PARENT CLUB MEETING George Bragaw

A New York meeting of members of the Labrador Retriever Club, Inc., seemed to clear the way for greater participation by local Labrador specialty clubs in national and, for the first time, regional shows conducted by the parent club.

A proposal of the National Club's new bench show chairman, Mrs. Helen Ginnel of Bedford Hills, N.Y., would divide the country into three zones with a specialty each year in each zone. On a rotating basis one of the specialties would be designated the National Specialty. Presently there is only a single National Specialty held each year on the eastern seaboard, usually in northern New Jersey or southern Connecticut or New York. The 1974 Specialty is scheduled for September at the Ox Ridge show in Connecticut with Mrs. Gwen Broadley of England judging.

The new plan, if adopted, would go into effect in 1975. Mrs. Helen Warwick, Little Silver, N.J., would be the representative for the eastern zone (Eastern Time); Mrs. Sally McCarthy, Waunakee, Wisc., for the mid-western zone (Central Time), and Mrs. Marianne Foote, Livermore, Calif., for the western zone (Mountain and Pacific Time). Local specialty clubs would assume a rough affiliation with the national club through the regional representatives and would submit proposals for the honor of hosting the various regional and national specialties. Thus, the parent club would use the organizational structures of the various local clubs in much the same manner as the National Field Trial Club uses various retriever clubs to host the National Championship Stake. The Golden Retrievers and many other dog clubs use a similar system.

The advantages to the local clubs are obvious: the prestige of a national event, an extra specialty show if desired, the opportunity to have the top examples of the breed exhibited in the local area. Also, local specialty clubs which are not yet qualified to hold a specialty in their own right could host one under the parent club banner.

Chm. Ginnel speculated on the use of local specialty club bulletins and newsletters to give wider access to news from the parent club that would be of general interest to all Labrador fanciers. She also encouraged members of local specialty clubs to make their views known to the national organization through the Bench Committee's regional representatives. Likewise she also expressed the that more members of local specialty clubs would seek membership in the national club. She indicated that processing of membership applications could be enhanced if channeled through the Bench Show Committee.

JUNE EDITION

Look for a report on the Crufts show, a summary of the LRCP's first year, new membership list and much, much more! Don't be left out. Be sure your dues are paid.

BULLETIN BOARD

Interested sportsmen and Lab-Lubers can order a lovely 5 color sporting dog patch, beautifully embroidered, measuring 4" across featuring a Lab with a mallard in his mouth and the words "Preserve Game--Use a Trained Dog." Send \$1.25 plus .50 handling to Sporting Dog Specialties, Inc., Box 68, Spencerport, New York 14559.

The following leaflets are available free of charge by writing to WARDS, 2225 Observatory Place, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20007.

"What to Do When Your Dog Is Lost"

"National Dog Registry"

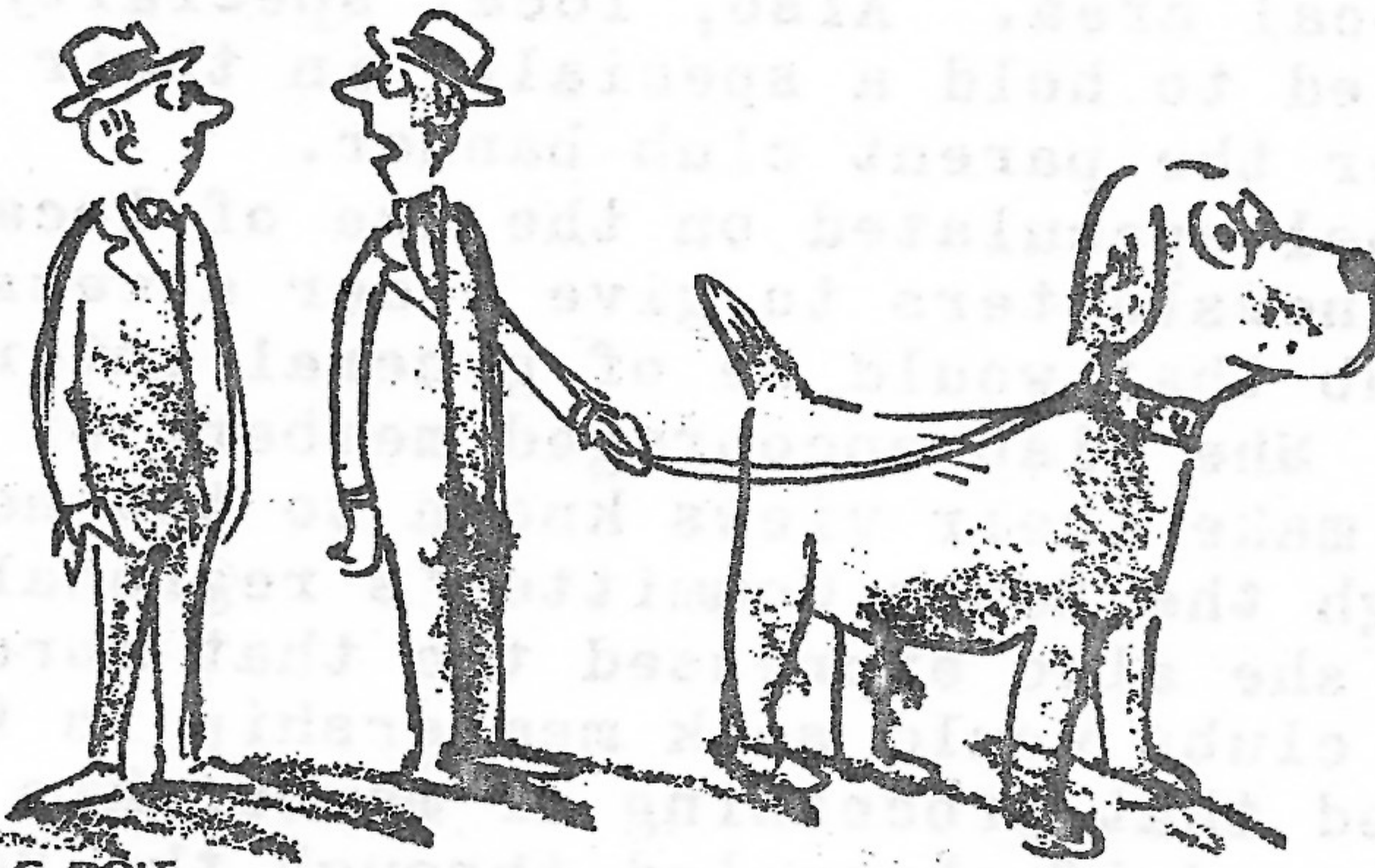
"USDA Dealers in Each State"

. For those interested in forming car pools for attending club events there will be available a complete list of names and addresses of Labrador Retriever owners at the March match.

Our Basket of Cheer has been a huge success thanks to the generosity of the members. To those who donated; many thanks and cheers!

Members, please remember to submit samples or suggestions for a club insigne to me before the April meeting. Thank you. (Mrs.) Deborah A. Kobilis, secretary, Hidden Valley--Box 29, Stafford, Virginia 22554.

Has your dog been certified free of hip dysplasia and/or clear of P.R.A.? Would members like to have this information available in the newsletter? If so, send data to the editor.



"What worries me, he's still a pup."

From The Retriever Review, Labrador Retriever
Club of Southern California

LABRADOR UTILITY DOG TRACKERS

CH. UNEVA SOOT, U.D.T.
 T.D. - November 21, 1948
 Champion - December 12, 1948
 U.D. - March 19, 1949

CH. DRUMMER BOY OF RODARBAL, U.D.T.
 T.D. - June 24, 1962
 Champion - March 3, 1963
 U.D. - March 1, 1964

CH. PHANTOMSHIRE'S BIG BEN
 T.D. - October 18, 1970
 U.D. - July 29, 1972
 Champion - October 25, 1972

JUDY MORTON'S BIG BEN ONE OF SELECT GROUP

According to AKC records three Labrador Retrievers who are AKC Champions have received a U.D.T. title. One of these is CH. PHANTOMSIRE'S BIG BEN, who belongs to LRCP member Judy Morton.

Her first Tracking Dog was Morton's Salty Baby, followed by Salty's son, Hero of Orion. It became evident, however that Salty was unsuited to go beyond C.D., T.D., and Hero was dysplastic. Two other dogs trained for C.D.X. unsuccessfully. At this point Mrs. Morton began to search for a dog who could compete in breed as well as in obedience. Big Ben, who was both conformation material and a willing worker, was the answer. She got him on a trial basis from John Broom at the age of four months. With her busy household, which included three teenage children, her husband's poodle and a cat in addition to Ben, Judy developed what she calls the "no train-training method."

The records compiled by her dogs give evidence of its effectiveness. Ben went to his first shows and obedience trials at thirteen months. He got a point in September, 1970, and his C.D. in three straight shows. In October of the same year he got his T.D. on his first try. All of her Labs, it should be noted have won their tracking degrees on the first try. Ben earned his C.D.X. in approximately 10 shows the following June. Even more remarkable is his passing the Winston-Salem Lost Child Tracking Test that same year. He is the only dog ever to pass the difficult Winston-Salem Test. Three weeks later he passed the Oriole Advanced Test. Mrs. Morton held back on showing him in conformation until she felt that he had matured enough to win. Then in the beginning of 1972 she began showing him again. Twice he got legs in Utility and Majors on consecutive days. In July of 1972 he finished his Utility degree and in October his Championship, two months after his third birthday.

"Labradors are great to work with in obedience though I think they are a little unpredictable in the ring," she

JUDY MORTON'S BIG BEN, cont.

writes. Her theory is that these dogs have the ability to see a bird fall 200 yards away and therefore it is natural for them to be very alert to what's going on around the ring. This alertness tends to detract from the performance. She prefers a happy worker and does not drill as much as necessary for an absolutely perfect performance.

In tracking she goes out once a week without fail, no matter what the weather. In her class she has found that most dogs can learn tracking well enough to go to a test in about six months. For Novice Judy trains about ten minutes a day until the dog knows the work, and then she cuts down. In Open and Utility she jumps the dog every day to keep him in condition but does not necessarily do all of the exercises daily.

It is her belief that a lot of people tend to over-train to the point where both they and the dog are bored. "It should all be fun with trophies as a bonus, not the target," she maintains.

Ben is a bit rusty now, but at the age of 4 is too young to retire, so we may hear more of him. In the meantime he has performed for Boy Scout troops and kiddie shows on TV. A grandson of Sam of Blaircourt on his dam's side and the son of Ch. Heibeau's Royal Punch W.C., Ben seems to have passed his ability on to the next generation. One of his sons earned his tracking degree at the age of 11 months, and one of his daughters may be ready for a March tracking test at the age of 9 months.

Mrs. Morton's work as a tracking judge consists mostly of certifying dogs for tests and helping clubs get started in tracking. She would be happy to help our members get started and believes that it could be done by mail. Of course if we could buy the gas.....

Louise Marsh

ON THE SAFE SIDE

From Progress, Fall, 1973, Gaines Dog Research Center
Reprinted with permission

Safety packaging for dangerous drugs is now under Federal regulation, but the requirements at present apply only to drug manufacturers and pharmacists. An editorial in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association points out that vets also should be guided by the regulations, which are aimed at preventing accidental child poisoning. Dangerous drugs must be placed in containers that cannot be readily opened by a child under age five, but can be opened and properly reclosed by most adults. The editorial urges veterinary practitioners to use the safety closure containers now available. There is no need to wait for Federal regulations to make them mandatory, nor is it necessary to memorize a list of regulated drugs, since "not a single veterinary preparation can really be considered good for children."

Working Dogs On Scent

The following material is excerpted from *SCENT AND THE SCENTING DOG*, by William G. Syrotuck; reprinted by permission of the author and Arner Publications, Inc.

The tracking dog's training is oriented to following footsteps. It should then be understood that the largest component may be the odor of crushed vegetation and soil bacterial action. When there is strict insistence that the dog work within a foot or two of the actual footsteps, any other similar odor along the route will confuse him. This is not to say that a tracking dog cannot or will not discriminate. It is only to say that the discriminatory elements last a short time. After that point, only the elements of "someone" being there are left.

Trailing dogs also are ground oriented (to the rafts—human dead cells—on the person's route). They are characteristic in following the general changes of direction along the route but may well be working some distance from the actual footsteps. The training has usually included the footstep cue along with a scent article. If one wishes to produce this kind of dog, then the animal must be allowed the latitude of distance away from the exact route. In some cases, as the raft vapors diminish, the dog will start to rely on the vegetative vapors. The dog that has thus switched may continue for quite some time, and if the vapors diminish to nothing, the handler may be at a loss as to where to restart.

The interpretation of performance is all too often incorrect. Handlers, not realizing that they have actually trained their dogs to vegetative vapors, interpret incompleting performances as though the dog was following raft

vapors, but the scent picture became interrupted. Not realizing that the dog may have switched to another similar vegetative vapor, handlers claim that the "victim" *did* travel as the dog indicated. Unless the dog leads the handler to a successful conclusion, such interpretations should be treated with extreme caution.

The victim is the source of scent; his route is only a sparse and fading trail of evidence. Furthermore, the longer the victim stays in his location, the more rafts are dispersed in the immediate area. Even if dead, bacterial action will still take place, reinforcing the immediate area with human scent.

Another method that can be employed in locating the victim is the use of air scenting dogs. These dogs may be referred to as "point source" oriented dogs. They are looking for the source of the scent. The point source oriented dogs deserve more examination as they fall into several categories:

Single Element—the marijuana and bomb detecting dogs fall into this category. These dogs do not follow footsteps to find the cache. They are seeking out one particular scent by methodically checking an area until they either locate the particular odor

or establish that such an odor is not present.

Human Detecting—these dogs are cued to "any" human being. The avalanche and disaster dogs are examples. These dogs detect the presence of a human being in a particular environment, whether it be snow or debris.

Human Discriminating—these dogs are oriented to a particular person via some cue, such as an article of clothing.

The point source oriented dog is more characterized by the head up and sniffing the air currents posture. The basis of training is to follow the increasing level of odor intensity until the dog has "homed in" on the source. This type of animal has the highest discriminatory potential as he must constantly discriminate the cue odor from the surrounding environment and then determine its point of strongest concentration.

Their one limitation is that they are not particularly ground oriented for precise tracking, but they can and do trail when this has been included as part of their training.

Problem Parameters

It is necessary to define the problem to be solved and apply the correctly trained dog (knowing the advantages and limitations) to solve the problem.

There are basically two categories to consider: human and chemical. The next question is, "Is it necessary to discriminate or detect?" The following questions are, "How much time has elapsed?" and/or "Are the problems associated with place or environment?"

Chemical detection such as marijuana, bombs, etc., are straightforward. The cue is a particular vapor, and the dog must search out the possible locations.

continued on page 6



Scents and the Scenting Dog may be ordered from Arner Publications, 8140 Coronado Lane, Rome, N.Y. 13440. The price is \$4.95 plus .60 for postage and handling (total \$5.55). Allow up to 5 weeks for delivery; all \$1.00 for each copy for faster first-class handling.

WORKING DOGS—cont. from p. 1

The human aspect is slightly different; however, the question remains the same: to detect or discriminate. In actuality there are very few applications that require precise discrimination. A policeman, when doing a building disaster search, does not ask, "Is Mr. Jones in there?" The question is, "Is anyone in there?" This, of course, is detection. The same parameter is applied to the avalanche. The handler asks of his dog, "If anyone is buried under the snow, find him."

Many feel that in order to locate a lost individual in a wilderness area, it is necessary to retrace the victim's footsteps to his final location (tracking and discrimination). This can be approached in two ways. Tracking/trailing is one method and does require discrimination. However, we can again apply "detection." We can reduce the entire search area into a smaller segment (such as one square mile) and ask the dog to "detect" any human in this segment. On a practical

basis, one dog cannot search out large areas, but a group of dogs, detection trained, can. In this method, each dog and handler is assigned a specific area; each of these areas then can be searched simultaneously. It is important to note that this method is detection and not discrimination.

Let us compare these two methods in locating a person lost in a wilderness area. For the discrimination method (tracking) the following conditions must be met: early dispatch to the scene (time), conducive atmospheric conditions (environment), available article of clothing (cue), etc. As it can be seen, if any one of these conditions is not met, the tracking dog cannot perform. Are these applicable to the detection dog? No. The victim is the source of scent and will be emitting it for a long period of time. Thus the searching dog is not limited to time. A heavy rain will wash out tracks but does not stop the source from emitting scent. Thus this dog is not limited by conditions.

An article of clothing is not required as the dog will detect any human being in the search path.

When, then, is discrimination required? The most likely areas are in police work (the scene of a crime). The dog must discriminate between the criminal and non-criminal (provided some cue is presented). This must be treated with caution as vegetable vapor trained dogs may point out the wrong person. For discrimination the dog must be entirely raft oriented as there is where the human discriminatory evidence lies.

In summary, it is necessary to define the problem to be performed (discrimination or detection) and then to train the dog accordingly. Or, once defining the problem, apply the correctly trained dog to the appropriate task. Once understanding scent and its properties, appropriate training techniques, and the pitfalls of associated cues, the handler can apply the dog's scenting abilities in many areas.

DEFINITIONS		
<p style="text-align: center;">Tracking Dog Orientation</p> <p>In the strict sense of the term, the dog should indicate almost each of the subject's footsteps. He should not vary more than one or two feet from these footsteps, despite the wind conditions. He is very characteristic in the head down posture, sniffing at the ground for the evidence. Bloodhounds are the traditional picture of the tracking dog.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Trailing Dog Orientation</p> <p>This dog is oriented to the rafts (human dead cells) which have fallen to the ground along the person's route. The dog may well be working some distance from the actual footsteps. He will appear to shortcut some corners and overshoot others. Some dogs will even stop and sniff at leaves of vegetation two to three feet off the ground, and in some cases thirty yards from the actual footsteps.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Air Scenting Dog (Searching) Orientation</p> <p>This dog is usually oriented to the airborne rafts. He is characteristic in that his head is held high, and he looks as though he is searching the air currents for the evidence. These dogs may completely ignore the ground deposits or move in on an airborne scent from the track.</p>

WORKING DOGS—cont. from p. 1

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AREA SHOW DATES

The star (*) indicates that an Obedience Trial will be held in conjunction with the show. The name of the Labrador judge is included in cases where that information was available.

Superintendents:

Crowe, Thomas J. P.O. Box 20205, Greensboro, N. C. 27420
Fernandez, Mario 2009 Ranstead St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19103
Keller, Lewis P.O. Box 11, Mohnton, Pa. 19540

- *March 10 Nat'l Capital KC, National Guard Armory, 2001 East Capitol St., Washington, D.C. (benched) Fernandez
Judge: Mrs. D. A. Beckett
- *March 16 Harrisburg KC, Pa. State Farm Show Bldg., Maclay & Cameron Sts., Harrisburg, Pa. (benched) Fernandez
Judge: Georgia Buttram
- March 17 Tidewater KC, Norfolk Scope Exhibition Hall, Norfolk, Va. (unbenched) Crowe Judge: Marion Mangrum
- March 24 KC of Northern New Jersey, Paterson Armory, 475 Market St., Paterson, N.J. (unbenched) Fernandez
Judge: Mrs. Arlene G. Thompson
- *March 30 Western Pennsylvania Kennel Ass'n, Civic Arena, Auditorium Place, Pittsburgh, Pa. (unbenched) Crowe
Judge: Mr. Hayden H. Martin
- march 31 Laurel Highlands Kennel Ass'n, Cambria County War Memorial Arena, Johnstown, Pa. (unbenched) Crowe
Judge: Mr. Robert Braithewaite
- April 6 Virginia KC, State Fair Grounds, Laburnum Ave., Richmond, Va. (unbenched) Crowe
- *April 14 Mason & Dixon KC, Hagerstown Fairgrounds, N. Cameron Ave., Hagerstown, Md. (unbenched) Crowe
Judge: Edward Squires
- *April 17 Warrenton KC, Marshall Jr. Fairgrounds, Marshall, Va. (unbenched) Mrs. Harry Bryant, Show Sec'y., Rector-town, Va. 22140 Judge: John D. Rementer
- *April 20 Old Dominion KC of Northern Virginia, Reston Park, Rt. 606, Reston, Va. (unbenched) Crowe
- *April 21 Baltimore County KC, Timonium Fair Grounds, Timonium, Md. (unbenched) Fernandez
- *April 28 Penn Treaty KC, Sun Center, Concord Rd., Feltonville, Pa. (unbenched) Crowe Judge: Mrs. E.A. Churchill
- May 4 Bucks County KC, Tinicum Park, Erwinna, Pa. (unbenched) Fernandez Judge: Edward E. Stevenson
- *May 5 Trenton KC, Washington Crossing State Park, Washing-ton Crossing, N. J. (unbenched) Fernandez
Judge: Mrs. James Warwick
- *May 11 Chester Valley KC, Ludwigs Corner Horse Show Grounds, Routes 100 & 401, Ludwigs Corner, Pa. (unbenched)
Crowe Judge: P. Carl Tuttle
- *May 12 Lancaster KC, Lampeter Community Park, Lampeter, Pa. (unbenched) Keller Judge: Edward C. Snyder
- *May 19 Carroll KC, Carroll County Agricultural Center, West-minster, Md. (unbenched) Keller
- May 25 Butler County KC, Butler Farm Show Grounds, 4 miles south of Butler on Rt. 68, Butler, Pa. (unbenched)
Crowe Judge: Mrs. E. N. Hellerman

SHOW DATES, cont.

- *May 25 Monmouth County KC, Wolf Hill Farms, Oceanport,
N. J. (unbenched) Crowe
May 26 Plainfield KC, St. Joseph's High School, Metuchen,
N. J. (unbenched) Crowe Judge: Elsworth S. Howell
*June 9 Upper Marlboro KC, Upper Marlboro Fair Grounds,
Upper Marlboro, Md. (unbenched) Crowe
*June 16 Burlington County KC, Doughboy Field, Ft. Dix, N. J.
(unbenched) Keller
*June 29 Upper Potomac Valley KC, Cumberland Fairgrounds,
Cumberland, Md. (unbenched) Crowe Judge: Clark
Thompson

OBEDIENCE TRIALS

- March 16 Hampton Roads Obedience Training Club, Virginia
Beach Civic Center, 19th & Pacific Ave., Virginia
Beach, Va. (unbenched) Crowe
March 17 The Dog Owners' Training Club of Maryland, Baltimore
Civic Center, Baltimore at Howard Sts., Baltimore,
Md. (unbenched) Crowe
April 13 Richmond Dog Obedience Club, Richmond Arena, 2911
North Boulevard, Richmond, Va. (unbenched) Crowe
May 5 Golden Triangle Obedience Training Club, Castle
Shannon Memorial Hall, Library Rd. & Grove Rd.,
Castle Shannon, Pa. (unbenched) Janet M. McConnell,
Trial Sec'y, R.D. 1, Box 74, Clinton, Pa. 15026
May 26 Mid-Jersey Companion Dog Training Club, St. Joseph's
High School, Plainfield Ave., Metuchen, N. J.
(unbenched) Crowe
Sept. 22 Hyattsville Dog Training Club, Adelphi Manor Recrea-
tion Center, University Blvd. & West Park Drive,
Hyattsville, Md. (unbenched) Mrs. John L. Morris,
Trial Sec'y, 3909 Holly View St., Olney, Md. 20832

TRACKING TESTS

- March 10 Golden Triangle Obedience Training Club, Mingo Creek
County Park, R.D. No. 1, Eighty Four, Pittsburgh, Pa.
Ms. Eleanor McMaster, Sec'y, 4015 Provost Rd., Pitts-
burgh, Pa.
April 7 Philadelphia Dog Training Club, Richard L. Freeman,
1348 Sugartown Rd., Berwyn, Pa. 19312

FIELD TRIALS

- March James River Retriever Club, Bowling Green, Va., Mr.
29-31 Lewis W. Brothers, Jr., Sec'y, 4100 Bremmer Blvd.,
Richmond, Va. 23228
March
29-31 Talbot Retriever Club, Easton, Md., Mr. Richard M.
Roberts, Jr., Sec'y, P.O. Box 97, Quimby, Va. 23423