

# *The Gun Dog Supreme*

NEWSBULLETIN of the WIREHAIRED POINTING GRIFFON CLUB OF AMERICA  
EDUCATION & RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Website: <http://www.wpgcaerf.freesevers.com>

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December 2000

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## Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow...



## A Dog For All Seasons

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## **A LETTER FROM THE EDITOR**

It is hard to believe that 2000 is just about over. By the way, whatever happened to the Y2K bug? In the end 2000 has been just another year. Okay, except for the presidential election, but I won't talk about that.

It is also hard to believe that for some of us the upland hunting seasons are coming to a close. Here in Wisconsin, in a normal winter, ruffed grouse season usually comes to an end once the deer rifle season arrives the weekend before thanksgiving. This is not because the season closes, but because we usually have so much snow that we can't get to our favorite coverts, let alone walk in them. We have been fortunate that the last few winters have been mild and snow fall minimal which allowed us to hunt the entire season. I hate to say it but we could sure use a snowy winter just to top off the water table and besides snow is good for the grouse on those frigid winter days. I hope everyone has been able to get out with their Griffons as much as they wanted to and go bird hunting.

The past fall has been exciting for our club. First, Vice-president/senior judge John Pitlo and treasurer/senior judge Jim Seibel traveled to the Czech Republic and spent two weeks observing the hunting tests held by the Cesky Fousek Club and talking with the club's breed warden, who is also a professor of genetics. Read about it on page 3. In September a writer from National Geographic came out to see our Griffons in the Northeast Chapter. Joan has a write-up about it on page 5.

Rounding out this issue is election results of national club officers, dates for the 2001 regional chapter spring hunting tests, and the latest financial statements for the WPGCA and WPGCA E&RF from treasurer Jim Seibel.

Lastly, this issue is getting out a little later than I had planned, but I hope that, as you read it, you will find it worth the wait and that it finds you celebrating this wonderful holiday season with family and friends.

*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year !*

*Mike Lockauke*

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### **NO ELECTION IS REQUIRED**

**By: Joan Bailey**

No further nominations were received by November 1st, so the slate of officers nominated by the board of directors is elected by acclamation. For the next three years, 2001—2003, our elected officers will be:

<b>Gary Pool</b>	<b>President</b>
<b>John Pitlo</b>	<b>Vice President</b>
<b>Jim Seibel</b>	<b>Treasurer</b>
<b>Judy Coil</b>	<b>Secretary</b>

The additional board of director members appointed by the executive will be:

**Joan Bailey, Warren Webster, and Glenn Lehrer**

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**COVER PHOTO: BINTI OF CLOUDY SKIES (Prairie Storm's Beau x Champagne Blaze of Dutchman's Hollow) out having fun on Christmas day 1998. (Photo by: Jane Webb)**

## **THE TRIP TO THE CZECH REPUBLIC – FOUSEKLAND**

**By: Jim Seibel and John Pitlo**

On September 6, 2000, we began our long planned and anxiously awaited visit to the Czech republic, the home of our imported Fouseks. The trip exceeded our expectations.

Our most gracious host Dr. Jaromir Dostal met us at the airport in Prague. For those of you who do not know of Dr. Dostal, he is a professor of animal genetics at the research institute for animals located in Lebachov, about 40 kilometers north of Prague. Even more importantly, Dr. Dostal is the breed warden and in that capacity has been responsible for selecting the breeding stock within the Fousek breed for the past 20 years. During that time the breed has been stabilized with regard to the genetic pool. Dr. Dostal has also been very helpful to the WPGCA, through Joe Nadeker, in identifying and arranging for the dogs that we have imported from the Czech Republic.



*Pictured on the right is Dr. Jaromir Dostal, breed warden of the Czech Fousek Club. Next to Dr. Dostal is Vaclav Panacek, the original owner of ERIK OD JEZERAK. (Photo by: Jim Seibel)*

Fortunately we were able to identify each other from pictures we had seen in the GDS and Joan's book, Griffon, Gun Dog Supreme and we became friends in a very short time. Dr. Dostal is the ultimate host, a gentleman and a dedicated "dog" man. We were frequently bombarding him with questions about the science and art of developing and maintaining a breed of versatile gun dogs. He was always open to probing question and we will be forever indebted to him for our education.

Our week began with the Dr. Kuhn's Memorial Universal Competition, which is the European Pointing Dog Championship, held near Stoky in east central Czech Republic. There were 25 dogs entered in the competition, 12 Czech Fouseks, 12 German Drahthaar, and 1 Wirehaired Vizla. We will discuss what we saw at this event in the next issue of the GDS. For us, the most interesting part of the competition was the forest work. More on that later.

The days spent with Dr. Dostal were of such value that we cannot overstate it. We discussed the various Cesky Fousek lines, ten in all, to achieve a better understanding of how and why they came to be. The dogs that we have imported come mainly from lines 3 and 4, however Axa came from line 2 and Flora from line 1. Griffons were used to re-establish these lines after they were nearly destroyed during World War II. These two lines (3 & 4)

have proven to produce dogs that meet the breed standard on a consistent basis. We will continue to draw mainly from these lines in the near future.

The most promising and exciting aspect of our trip had to do with how the WPGCA will attain the blood of the best dogs available from these lines. As we talked, it became clear to all that the best way to get the best blood is via frozen semen from truly proven males. These stud dogs would be very expensive to purchase and import to the United States if they were available at all. The collection of frozen semen became a possibility when we learned that Dr. Dostal's son, Pavel, had been trained (at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee) to collect and store semen. Pavel Dostal is very enthusiastic about helping us in this endeavor. We are currently working on the details of importing the frozen semen and storing it with Synbiotics, the same group that has provided that service for us domestically. We expect to receive our first shipment of frozen semen early in 2001. We are not counting on having semen available for our 2000-2001 breedings, but we will keep the option open should a good match of a dog and bitch become apparent after the semen arrives.

The breeding committee and the Board of Directors of the WPGCA have unanimously endorsed the plan. This opens up an opportunity to further improve the breed and stabilize the gene pool.

We cannot complete this first article on our trip without recognizing the value of the groundwork done by Joe Nadeker and Joan Bailey (both of whom were planning to make the trip but could not). This opened the door for us to get access to the people we needed to see there. Dr. Dostal was very pleased and surprised when we presented him with a leather bound copy of Griffon, Gun Dog Supreme. Joan had inscribed a personal message on the fly leaf.

More later as we will discuss the 10 lines of Cesky Fousek, the 24 different tests in the Dr. Kuhn's Memorial Universal Competition, differences between our Natural Ability and Intermediate Hunting Dog Tests and those in the Czech Republic, and our discussions with Dr. Dostal regarding having him come to the US and participate in our Judges Seminar and testing weekend.



*John and Jim did get to relax some of the time while visiting the Czech Republic. Pictured here are (from left to right) Dana and Jiri Kropik, John, Jim, Dr. Dostal and his wife, enjoying drinks before a lovely dinner. Jiri, who is a forester, took Jim and John, on one of the days, for a tour of a state owned preserve where they got to see many trophy deer and other wildlife. (Photo by: the restaurant owner)*



## **WITH THE NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC IN MAINE AND THE NORTHEAST GRIFFON CLUB**

**By: Joan Bailey**

It was a long and wonderful weekend in late September, testing our dogs with the NEGCG, plus a fun day with Donald McCaig, writer for the National Geographic, all hosted by the Molt family and other members of this chapter. It all began one morning last July when I answered my phone and a mans voice asked for Joan Bailey. He said he was writing an article for the National Geographic magazine on the evolution of dogs and that he had read my book on Griffons and would like to interview me and to see some of our dogs. Donald and I talked dates, locations, logistics, trying to find a time and place that would work for each of us. Without making a firm date we said we would talk again soon. A few hours later he called back and said, "I'll be in Maine September 21<sup>st</sup>," which was the day before testing would begin. Perfect!

I called Rick Molt, explained what we would need and Rick and I did some brainstorming and came up with a game plan. Donald would be with us for about six hours and in that time we needed to present a valid portrait of who we are and how we got here. I decided that it was imperative to have dogs that would be of interest, specifically for his proposed article. I made up a list of dog owners and began calling their owners. Every person said they could come. The owners and their dogs whom I wanted were:

**Bailey of Ocean House (Dan x Amy of Dutchman's Hollow), 9 yrs**

**Rick Molt**

**Auger of Alderbrook (Ariko vom Erik x Bailey of Ocean House), 5 yrs**

**Ralph Stuart**

**Bristol of Alderbrook (Chyte x Bailey of Ocean House), 2 yrs**

**Ted Silver**

**Prairie Storm's Alder (Dan x Brittany of Dutchman's Hollow), 6 yrs**

**Jane McKenna**

**Merrymeeting's Bogan (Chyte x Prairie Storm's Alder ), 6 months**

**Jane McKenna**

**Daicey of Iamonia (Chipper de los Altos x Flora) 15 mos**

**Peter Myer**

**Eliza of Dutchman's Hollow (Bart de los Altos x Callaj of D.H.) 3 yrs**

**Phil Bennett**



**BRISTOL OF ALDERBROOK (Chyte ze Zaplav x Bailey of Ocean House) eagerly retrieves a pheasant during the live track to owner Ted Silver. (Photo by: Andy Rupp)**

I asked Bob Hinckley, of course, with his **AMY OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW**, which would have presented three generations of dogs, but Bob had a conflict.

What we had decided to do with the time available was to demonstrate small portions of each of our three tests: NAT, IHDT, UFT. We began with **DAICEY** (who would be tested in IHDT the next day) doing about a 10-minute search through grouse and woodcock cover. Then we did a short search for six-month-old **BOGAN**. Next we wanted pointing, so decided **ALDER** would do this as an IHDT (though she is 6 years old and she did her IHDT when she was under 2 years). Because she is a seasoned hunter on wild game I wondered if she would point the pen-raised bird. Not to worry, she came onto an instant, intense point, holding steady until Jane and Rick got to her and Jane walked in front and flushed the bird. It was totally impressive (see photo). Next we had **AUGER** demonstrate the "whoa" for UFT. He simply came to a screeching halt when Ralph said WHOA.

Then we moved to the tracking field near the old Sears Roebuck barn, where **BRISTOL** did an impeccable track of a live pheasant, retrieving it to hand to Ted. Standing beside Donald, I told him, "We'll be breeding her in February." Then we did a little exposure track for

young **BOGAN**. To demonstrate more UFT we had **AUGER** do a drag of dead game. Just as is always done in a test, Rick dragged a bird and carried a second one. When he got to where he wanted the drag to end, he placed the carried bird on the ground and continued to drag the other bird into the bushes. There he untied the string, left the bird and went to hide out of sight of the dog. The dog can pick up either bird and retrieve it. Ralph released **AUGER** with a "Fetch!" and **AUGER** made a beeline down the drag track. When he got to the bird he was out



**AUGER OF ALDERBROOK** (Ariko vom Erik x Bailey of Ocean House), returning from the drag of dead game, sits beside Ralph Stuart and almost seems to be saying "Boss, please take these birds, it's a heavy load." (photo by Andy Rupp)

of our sight, although Rick could see him from where he was hiding. He came running back to Ralph at full speed, slowed and circled around Ralph's left knee, sat and waited for the "give." What dropped into Ralph's hand were both birds! Rick had seen **AUGER** scoop up the first bird, then continue on the track and scoop up the second bird. Amazing, I've never



seen a dog do that in all my years of testing. Again, Donald was impressed.

Next we drove to the water, a wonderful Maine swamp on property owned by a neighbor, Bill Clark. Bill raises and trains black Labs, and we are all so grateful that Bill welcomes us there each September. When I thank him he responds, "I'm only the steward of the land." Nice man.

In the woods at the edge of the swamp the first duck was released for **ELIZA** who meticulously worked out the track, a lot of it out of our sight, and returned with the duck to Phil. Then **AUGER** did a very long and spectacular track, reminding me of his track in IHDT, when he received a 4H. Donald was very impressed with both dogs and with this particular task required of a versatile hunting dog.



At the water **ELIZA OF DUTCHMAN'S HOLLOW** (Barton de los Altos x Callaj of Dutchman's Hollow) Perseveres on a long track and brings the bird to owner Phil Bennett. (Photo by Andy Rupp)



**BRISTOL OF ALDERBROOK** (Chyte x Bailey), shows how a versatile dog would track a wounded pheasant—and get it in the bag. Her owner, Ted Silver is about to take a pheasant from her. (Photo by: Andy Rupp)

I had wanted **BAILEY** to do a duck track, but she was stoved up, recuperating from some hard hunting the previous days. So we let her demonstrate UFT steady at the blind, at Bill Clark's big pond, down from the swamp. **BAILEY** did it all, sitting beside the blind, holding while the shots were fired and the duck thrown. Right after the shot and when Rick released her, about 20 Canada geese took off from the far shore! **BAILEY**, of course, old hand that she is, brought the duck right to Rick.

Last we judged conformation and coat on one dog as Donald was interested to see how we do it. Then we all went back to Molts for a lunch at the picnic tables in the big, open garage, Donald asking me a few last questions and then he was on his way by 2:00 p. m. to head for his next assignment.

One of the many things that impressed him, besides the dogs of course, is our dedication: the agreement to test one's dog twice; the breeders who make a two year commitment to a litter with their follow-up, checking on the new owners, etc.; and our newest idea, the breeder coaches who also make a two year commitment to the breeder and the litter.

It was a lovely day; the dogs (and of course their owners) were wonderful. I have a sense that the dogs (except for 6 month old **BOGAN**) knew it wasn't a test, but that it was something important. After Donald left and we began rehashing the day, we all realized that we'd had a lot of fun, that Donald was fun and interesting to hang out with (he's a real dog lover and his passion is herding dogs, specifically Border Collies), so I think his passion and our Griffon passion fed on one another.

I want to thank all the dog owners who participated. Each gave up an extra workday. Without them we would have had nothing to show the magazine. Many thanks.

The National Geographic photographer assigned to this story was not able to make it, as he was delayed on another story in Israel, I was told, so he will go somewhere else to get photos of our dogs, we hope.

NO, no one knows when the article will run. We'll all just have to wait and see.

## **DUES INCREASE TO \$40 PER YEAR**

*By: Jim Seibel*

Dues for membership in the WPGCA have been \$30 for as long as anyone can remember. So, it is probably no surprise that the inevitable has arrived, that is, it is time to raise the dues to \$40 per year. The BOD voted to do so at the annual meeting in Idaho in March. As can be seen in the annual treasurer's report, the income from member dues barely covers the cost of the GDS.

The Gun Dog Supreme is the major tool by which we communicate with the members not only with news, but also equally as important the GDS is also our tool for education. Through the Education and Research Foundation of the WPGCA we decimate information that will increase the knowledge base of our membership with regard to breeding and training of versatile hunting dogs. This activity will require adequate resources of knowledgeable people and money to cover the costs.

We want the GDS to continue at the quality level that has won it national honors for breed club publications.

This an exciting time in the life of the club and we need each member to support the efforts of the WPGCA in whatever way he/she can. Many of you already give a great deal in the form of both monetary and free time. We all agree that we do it for the love of the breed and would not have it any other way.

By the time you are reading this you may have already sent in your dues. Please take the time to send the extra \$10 so that we are all at same level.

## **2001 SPRING HUNTING TEST WEEKENDS**

<b><u>Club/Chapter</u></b>	<b><u>Location</u></b>	<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Contact</u></b>
<b>KDK—USA</b> (Klub Deutsch Kurzhaar-USA)	Oroville, CA	January 27 <sup>th</sup> , 28 <sup>th</sup>	Rolf Benseler (925) 376-6726 rbenseler@aol.com
<b>Rocky Mountain Chapter</b>	Jerome, ID	March 31 <sup>st</sup> , April 1 <sup>st</sup>	Vic Jaro (208) 736-9381
<b>Northwest Chapter</b>	Silver Creek WA	April 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup>	Dennis Carlson (541) 386-4830 carlson@gorge.net
<b>Heartland Chapter</b>	Baraboo, WI	April 20 <sup>th</sup> -22 <sup>nd</sup>	Jon and Judy Coil (218) 647-8451 Jcoil@paulbunyan.net
<b>Northeast Chapter</b>	Desden, ME	May 18 <sup>th</sup> -20 <sup>th</sup>	Jane McKenna (207) 666-8260



**IF YOU NEED TO FIND A LAST MINUTE TAX DEDUCTION FOR 2000**  
**LOOK NO FURTHER!**

**Our WPGCA Educational & Research Foundation is up and running and awaits your donations!**

**By: Joan Bailey**

If you are looking for a place to get some last minute tax relief for 2000, what better way than helping the dogs you love so much. It took a lot of hours of work by two of our club members, Bill Madden and Glenn Lehrer both of Bozeman, Montana, for us to achieve nonprofit status. So let's use this!

We have two immediate upcoming projects that directly effect our breeding program, which means continuing to help us produce good dogs. The next part of this equation means there will always be another good dog ready for YOU when the time comes.

You have read elsewhere in this newsletter about the fine trip Jim Seibel and John Pitlo made to the Czech Republic in September on behalf of our breeding program. I was suppose to go too, but couldn't make it. One of the many things they learned was that Dr. Dostal's son has been in the United States for three years, studying how to collect and freeze semen and how to use it. We can now purchase the semen from three different males in the Czech Republic, put it all in one special container and have it shipped to us. This is far cheaper than if we had to purchase three adult, tested male dogs and pay to ship them here. So that is one area where we will need extra financial help, especially so because we believe we may receive the semen as early as February.

The second project we need funding for is to bring Dr. Dostal over here so he can see our dogs and give us any advice he might have. His trip would occur either in the spring of next year (2001) and he would attend some of our spring tests, or in the fall when he would attend fall tests. It will be his decision as to which time will work best for him. Dr. Dostal's profession is a geneticist. He has been breed warden for the Cesky Fousek club there more than a decade, and was involved in procuring "our dogs" - ERIK and the others. The breeding committee feels it would benefit our breed here if Dr. Dostal could see our dogs work, and especially to see all the different kinds of terrain our dogs are required to work in, to produce game.

He was so extraordinary kind and gracious to Jim and John, it would be wonderful for us to bring him here and extend our welcomes to him. Please send your donations to:

**Jim Seibel  
17550 Seventeen Mile Rd  
Marshall, MI 49068**

(If you have any question call Jim: 616-789-1020.)

Make your checks payable to: **W.P.G.C.A. Education and Research Foundation.**

You will receive a receipt from Jim for tax purposes.

The WPGCA E&RF  
is on the World Wide Web!  
Check out the website at:

**<http://www.wpgcaerf.freesevers.com>**

You will notice, when visiting the homepage, that a couple of pages are still under construction. We hope to have them up and running shortly.

With this site we hope to raise awareness about what the foundation's purpose and goals are. So that it may help other versatile dogs

Dear Ms. Bailey

Thanks again for the warm welcome extended to us and our pup, **KORT**. (Fall NAT at Silver Creek, WA) We had a really great time and met some very nice people who went out of their way to make sure we felt comfortable with them.

The icing on the cake for us was the way in which **KORT** performed--having never been to any kind of a field test, I didn't know what to expect. The judges were very supportive, knowledgeable and fair. Special thanks to Dennis Carlson for encouraging us to bring **KORT** for the NAT. Had I not read your books, I would not have ever considered bringing **KORT**--I just wanted another great gun dog.

I am very glad we came and hope to be back soon.

Gean and Carol Lale, WA



**LANCE HILLS KORTHAL** (Lance Hills James x Tonights Midnight Rendezvous). (Photo by: Gean Lale, owner)

## **WPGCA - TREASURER'S REPORT - 2000**

**BALANCE - SEPTEMBER 30, 1999** **\$6,308.57**

### **INCOME**

Membership Fees	\$4,000.00
Merchandise	218.90
Back Issue GDS	120.00
Heartworm Medicine	611.55

**TOTAL INCOME** **\$4,950.45**

### **EXPENSES**

Postage	\$ 73.60
Printing	55.00
Advertising	876.25
Secretary's Office	1,600.00
Merchandise	449.80
Web site	360.00
Telephone	156.40

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **\$3,571.05**

**BALANCE SEPTEMBER 30, 2000** **\$7,687.97**

Remember....December is membership renewal month. Be sure to mail a check for **\$40.00** payable to **WPGCA**, in the enclosed envelope To:

**Jim Seibel**  
**17500 17 Mile Rd.**  
**Marshall, MI 49068**

### **WPGCA – E&RF TREASURER'S REPORT – 2000**

**BALANCE – SEPTEMBER 30, 1999**      **\$ 910.98**

#### **INCOME**

Member Fees	\$ 4,000.00
Field test entry fees	4,195.00
Puppy fees	3,510.00
Donations <sup>1</sup>	6,905.00
Memorials <sup>2</sup>	125.00

**TOTAL INCOME**      **\$18,735.00**

#### **EXPENSES**

Gun Dog Supreme	\$ 8,465.01
Field Tests	5,125.34
Montana registration of E&RF	10.00
Refund for "B" of Iamonia litter	1050.00
Registrar expenses	130.29
Green books	165.00
Semen storage	65.00

**TOTAL EXPENSES**      **\$15,010.64**

**BALANCE – SEPTEMBER 30, 2000**      **\$ 4,635.34**

1. Donations include a generous gift from Bob Hinckley for the purpose of defraying expenses of Jim Seibel and John Pitlo when they traveled to the Czech Republic.
2. In memory of Elle of Dutchman's Hollow, given by Doug and Jean Vickstrom. In memory of all the wonderful dogs lost this fiscal year, given by Jim and Arlene Seibel.

#### **DONATIONS:**

Bob Hinckley	E.M. Ellingson	Brad Meyen	John Bosi
Gordon Young	Al Canaris	Roger Schladetzky	Jeff Lanaghan
Northeast Chapter	Lee Fulton	Steven Meuter	James McCarty
Rocky Mountain Chapter	Ted Coon	Donald Hennies	Ken Washburn
Terry Charland	Leon Wittig	Elaine Nicholson	George Wright
Jeff Hogenson	Hank Carriger	Joe Kuzmak	Mike Rackouski
Marla McIntyre	Mike Branigan	Fraser Sherrard	Charles Otterstedt
Rick Molt	Tom Coon	John Pitlo	Warren Webster
Dick Austin	Gordon Hartunian	Sandy Cushman	Jim & Arlene Seibel



**PRAIRIE STORM'S ALDER** (Dan Cerniky x Brittany of Dutchman's Hollow), 6 years old, showing our man from National Geographic "the right stuff." For a picture of ALDER as a pup see the last few pages of the Griffon book. (photo by: Andy Rupp)