

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

24 / 1 / 2020

ONLY THE SECOND YEAR OF PBGVs having CCs at Manchester and the entry was down by 6 on last year and, with 19 present, was only two more than at Boston the week before with no CCs. It was a welcome third CC for Jane Brown's Soletrader Valentino Rossi (Ch Soletrader Noble Kinsmen ex Soletrader Bumble Bee) with RCC going to Ceri McEwan's Marunnel Orinoco (Vilauddens Isaak [imp SWE] ex Maudaxi Coco Chewnel from Marunnel). BCC, her third, went to Erin & Oliver Robertson and Lizzie Greenslade Cadmore's Soletrader Beatrix Potter (Ch Soletrader Magic Mike ex Soletrader Simply Suzy) and the Reserve went to Kyle & Lizzie Cadmore's Soletrader Dancing in Deli. BP was Brown's Erylan Chaud Comme Hades (Ogham des Terres du Templier with Soletrader [imp Fra] ex Clonallan Just Beginning with Erylan).

In Denmark this week, Aksel Hansen celebrates his 90th birthday. It is 10 years ago since his partner, former Bassetklubben Chairman Mogens Hansen passed away. Mogens, who always took the leading role in the dog world, was known predominantly for his striking Axmo Bassets. However, in the 1980s, Per Knudsen had introduced him and Aksel to PBGVs and, in 1982, Neige des Rives de la Garonne (Laron du Val d'Orbieu ex Jenny du Grangeot de Callou) became their first PBGV. The following year Per and Mogens went to France and two more PBGVs, brother and sister Ursin and Urfa des Rives de la Garonne (Rabio des Rives de la Garonne ex Perine du Clos Garnachois), arrived in Denmark. Then, at the Specialty in Le Puy-en-Velay, the Hansens bought a dog and a bitch, Tonus and Turaine des Rives de la Garonne (Poly ex Ch Noisette des Rives de la Garonne). The first litter by Tonus was out of Dk Ch Neige des Rives de la Garonne. He was also mated to a daughter of Neige, Axmos Altair de la Garonne, whose sire was the outstanding Salto. Turaine had one litter sired by Ursins and puppies from these three litters were exported to Sweden and America. Without doubt, many breeders in the States were grateful to Kennel Axmo for giving early, sound foundation to their breeding programme and, in 1989 at the San Rafael California Nationals, I awarded Best in Sweeps to Barbara Wickland's Axmos Ghostwriter (Dk Ch Chouan Hens Dream ex Dk/Nor Ch Axmos Altair de la Garonne). The following year, Mogens Hansen judged the Regional Specialty at Kansas City, where at the same show Ghostwriter gained top score in obedience.

Of course, many will remember the controversy when Mogens judged our Club championship show in 1999 and withheld many places. At the time exhibitors felt that, being a Club show that members support, he should not have penalised so heavily. At 2004's Very Special Show, Mogens explained to me that under our UK judging system, by withholding this was the only way he could demonstrate the distance between those he found to be excellent and those that did not merit such a high placing.

With Aksel not on facebook, many of his good friends are sending him birthday wishes to his email address axmo@mail.tele.dk.

I was extremely sorry to hear from Geraldine Dodd that, due to a combination of circumstances, she feels unable to continue on the BGV Club committee. Although now out of hospital, Geraldine is still recovering from a bombardment of serious health problems and has to go back in some time for a further operation. I know everyone will join with me in wishing her well.

For the time being, to ensure the Club gets all annual Points Trophy forms before the end of this month, please send them to Lynn Wood at 55 Middle Crockerford, Vange, Basildon, Essex SS16 4SE. Alternatively email them to her on wood_stephen9@sky.com. The points claim forms can be found on www.bgvclub.co.uk/membership-voice-lod. If you have already emailed any to Geraldine, it would help if you could now forward your email to Lynn.

Club Membership Secretary, Martin Bishop, has taken over doing the Limited Odds Draw so any annual LOD payments due should go to him at 1 Longship Way, Maldon, Essex CM9 6UG. Or you can contact him on 07779 300761, vendeen48@gmail.com.

Most importantly Martin is rounding up the final few outstanding payments for annual subscriptions as, unless paid by next Friday you will not be entitled to a vote at this year's AGM.

LINDA SKERRITT, 01375 673922, monkhams@outlook.com