

Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

20 / 4 / 2018

HOUND ASSOCIATION OF SCOTLAND proved to be a clean sweep for the coated bassets and Griffon Vendéen breeds, with Ch Soletrader Magic Mike being beaten into RBIS by the GBGV Ch/Ir Ch Tarmachan Cartier. G3 went to the Fauve and G4 to the Griffon Fauve de Bretagne. The judge was Pam Marston-Pollock.

Ed Casey was the judge for the breed classes with one absent from the good entry of 17 which was boosted by the Soletrader and Maudaxi PBGVs travelling up from Oxfordshire. Standing second to Magic Mike, BOS went to the Reid's Fox's Nightmare Jessica Biel at Maudaxi (imp Rus), with Reserves going to their Maudaxi Oddjob and the Wyllie's Tangaer Calvera avec Callydena. There were no puppies. In the Stakes classes, the Wyllie's Ch Tangaer Rhapsody at Callydena ShCM topped the Veteran Stakes under Mrs Irene McManus (Metexa) and in the Good Citizen Dog Scheme Stakes Mr Gordon Haran (Magregor) awarded the Gilluley's Haliston Didier ShCM third. I gather the Breeders Stakes was somewhat less than serious, with the Tarmachan Grands romping in first and third place going the Reid's PBGVs, headed by Maudaxi Pussy Galore. The judge was Mrs Irene Macmanus.

At Suffolk Agricultural Association judge Bridget Bodie awarded BP, BOB and Puppy Group 3 to Steve & Lynn Wood's and Jette Ramvad's Beaujons Velvet and, with just one class at Selkirk & District CS, Claire Gilluley's Haliston Didier ShCM went BOB and G1 under Johnny Morgan and Ali Morton.

A shock entry for the PBGVCA National in Reno, Nevada with just 28. As with the state of dog shows worldwide, there are probably countless reasons why entries are down but it is disappointing for the committee that has worked hard to mount a comprehensive programme of events over 24 -28 April. With a predominance of PBGVs living on the east coast or in the mid-west, west coast entries (and Nevada is included within the area covering the coastal states of California, Oregon and Washington) have always been traditionally lower, though this is a dramatic drop from the 97 when I judged at Sacramento in 2006. There the show included classes such as Stud Dog, Brood Bitch, Brace and Team and, even a Pack Class. Reasons for not entering this year have ranged from the expense, to unwilling to fly dogs cargo to unable to drive such a long way or to get the time off work. It does seem that the glory days of the breed shows have all but passed, which is unfortunately a deterrent for anyone thinking of travelling a long way even be a spectator.

Also in America, the death has been announced of Ch/Am Ch Soletrader Donald Duck (Ch Soletrader Dunc n Disordely ex Ch Afterglow Penelope Pitstop). He was born on 20 December 2004 and sired eight litters here before a show career in the States. Janice Hayes said "He was a great ambassador of the breed, the best companion, and loved his girls and toys equally".

With the recent fun event having filled up the day following the Club Open Show, the BGVC AGM was moved to this Sunday, 22 April. It takes place at Dry Drayton Village Hall, near Cambridge, starting at 10am. There were no nominations for Secretary, so I remain in post and, with seven vacancies and six candidates for committee, there was no requirement for a membership ballot. Neither was there a ballot for future Club show judges this year as it became apparent that the system operating since 2004 was unsatisfactory on several counts, so a different method of selection was trialled. Judges for 2020 and 2021 will be announced as will the winners of the Club show trophies for 2017. Refreshments will be provided so, even though the weather has finally changed for the better and I am sure you would rather be enjoying the sunshine, you will be welcome to come to Dry Drayton for the morning.

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