

## Basset Griffon Vendéen (Petit)

7 / 9 / 2018

THE WEEKS ROLL BY and now we are into September. No seasonal fresher weather though. At the time of writing there has been a welcome return to blue skies and higher temperatures. With five absent, City of Birmingham saw 18 present for Ron James to go over so this proved to be yet another show this year with a dismal entry of less than 20. DCC and BOB went to Robertson & Doherty's Ch Soletrader Magic Mike, RDCC to Reid's Maudaxi Tommy Holedigger. BCC was O & E Robertson's Ch Around Zlightly Different With Soletrader (imp Swe), RBCC Blake & Reid's Vilauddens Midsummer Madness (imp Swe). BP was Bartley's Erylan Zeus Roi Des Dieux and Best Junior McEwan's Marunnel Orinoco. There were no veterans. Magic Mike gained another Hound G1, this time under Geoff Corish, but it was a lap of honour for him instead of competing for BIS under good friend Mark Cocozza.

Following Liz Cartledge's unfortunate ill health, replacement judge Graham Hill has picked up her entry of 38 for Darlington.

Some have been wondering what was happening following the Animal Health Trust's work last year to measure the height of PBGVs that had been DNA tested. This was to pursue the theory that there might be a link between the Primary Open Angle Glaucoma (POAG) mutation and height in the PBGV. The POAG mutation is in a gene called ADAMTS17. Humans that have mutations in this gene are invariably of short stature, as the gene also affects bone development.

The information collected enabled the AHT to pull data together showing whether PBGV height is correlated with genotype. In other words, were the affected and/or carriers slightly shorter than the clear/normal dogs.

Prior to submission to a scientific journal for publication, an early abstract of the findings was presented at the May 2018 European College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists (ECVO) Conference in Florence. Further details on this will be in the Winter 2018 Voice.

I have just learned of the death of Am Gr Ch/Can Ch Monkams Famous Grouse (Ch Willowbrae As You Like It JW ex Jamars Saffi of Monkams), known to everyone as Fabio. Born on my birthday in 2004, he was 14 and lived with Juli Lacey, co-owned with Donna Bruce and Jill Neuscheafer. Juli also invited Jenna and me to have our names on him so it was something like a firm of solicitors. And a rare opportunity presented itself at the PBGVCA National Specialty, Orlando 2008, for Jenna to handle him, a moment to be treasured. He was a special dog who won himself into the hearts of many. He earned his place in American PBGV history, being owner handled and having countless top awards to his name.

Joan Robertson is working hard preparing for the BGV Club's third fun day of this anniversary year, which takes place at Steventon Village Hall OX13 6RR on Sunday 30 September. Entries for the fun classes will be taken from 12 noon onwards, with judging starting at 1pm. Joan says sponsors for the event have been more than generous and her house is now being taken over by prizes, though her fortunately well behaved BGV has been barred from her bedroom which she says resembles a pet shop at the moment. For a chance to claim one of the superb prizes, make this a date in your diary.

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