

Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America

2025 SPRING-SUMMER Edition Newsletter

SONNY

Photo submitted by J. Milaschewski



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Stay GRAND...Stay Cool!

A Message from the President:

Dear GBGVCA Members,

Summer is in full swing and as they say, "the heat is on!" We speak about this every year, but please stay mindful of keeping our 4-legged family members cool, hydrated and out of harm's way. A good source of information is an article by Stanley Coren, PhD titled "Is The Weather Too Hot For Your Dog To Handle" which was published in our 2022 Summer Newsletter.

We have several new contributors to our Newsletter Team that I know you will find engaging and show the versatility of our noble breed. We welcome a new column authored by Joy Schneider titled The "Scent"sational GBGV in this edition. Joy shares a new element to our newsletter in the celebration of our hounds.

I am pleased to report that the 2025 GBGVCA National & Regional Specialties and Sweepstakes were a huge success and a sincere thanks to our show committee for a job well done. In addition to the events, there were many opportunities for our members and GBGV enthusiasts to spend time together celebrating GBGVs, visiting with old friends and making new ones. The results and candid's from the events are published later in this issue so make sure and read on.

The icing on the cake for this edition of our newsletter is that everyone should have received a GBGVCA eblast, on June 16, 2025, announcing the success of identifying the DNA variant that results in the Long Leg trait in the GBGV. This study was officially titled the GBGV Tall Variant by the University of Missouri College of Veterinary Medicine. I will not go into great detail for all should have received the announcement with a copy of the report from the Canine Genetics Lab at U of M. If anyone did not receive this announcement, please email Brent at treasurer@gbgv.net and another announcement will be emailed to you. This is a milestone for the breed and will be a valuable asset to our GBGV breeders at home and abroad. Congratulations to the parent club and the GBGVCA Foundation for the success of their collaboration.

In closing, watch for our recently created new Facebook page titled Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America (GBGVCA) which will go live very soon. This is another platform by which we can celebrate our happy hounds together.

Stay safe...stay healthy...stay Grand!!! *Corey*
Corey Benedict
GBGVCA President

Please share photos, stories,
& updates to our email
newsletter@gbgv.net

GBGVCA Officers

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GBGVCA Directors

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Jane Jonas

Laura Offerdahl

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Cindy Wilt



Rip's GRAND Caribbean Adventures

You wouldn't believe the amazing day I had! My humans took me, a Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen (but you can just call me Rip), on a fantastic boat ride around Utila. Now, we GBGVs were bred for hunting rabbits in France, but after three years of island living, I've become quite the Caribbean hound!

The morning started with me prancing down to the dock, my long ears flopping in the warm Caribbean breeze. The water was so clear I could see straight to the bottom! At first, I wasn't sure about this whole boat thing (we're hunting dogs, not sea dogs, after all), but once I got my sea legs, there was no stopping my excitement.

As we cruised along, I kept my nose high in the air, catching all sorts of familiar tropical scents - salty sea spray, exotic flowers from the shore, and something deliciously fishy in the water. My humans kept talking about whale sharks, whatever those are, but we didn't see any. That's okay though - I was too busy watching the flying fish skipping across the waves and the colorful parrotfish swimming beneath our boat.

The best part? We stopped at a quiet cove where I got to splash in the warm, crystal-clear water. Did you know the water here is so blue it looks like my neighbor's swimming pool, but it goes on forever? And the coral reefs! I've never seen anything like them - all sorts of shapes and colors under the water.

By the time we headed back to shore, I was one tired but very happy hound. The gentle rocking of the boat nearly put me to sleep, but I had to stay alert - you never know when you might spot a tropical rabbit! (Do they even have those here?)

What an adventure for a French hunting dog in the Caribbean! I can't wait to see what tomorrow brings on this magical island that I now call home.

Until next time,

Rip



In The Ribbons

Thank you to those who reached out with photos and feedback in response to this column. And to those who are "in the rings" with or without Ribbons as a result. PLEASE share those journeys with us. That is the goal of this community page. In this issue, we will focus on the accomplishments of a remarkable Junior Handler, introduce a new writer for our access into the wonderful world of USING THAT NOSE !, and open a discussion for USING THAT HUNT DRIVE.

Please meet Addison Lancaster, with North. This photo is not about just ONE kind of Ribbon...it involves two journeys they have been sharing together. Please allow me to first focus on the Junior Handler process, with a bit of brief history.



As early as 1920's mentors encouraged children in handling and exhibiting in AKC shows, and it was called Children's Handling Classes. In 1951 the name was changed to Junior Showmanship. In 1971, AKC recognized the virtues of this and officially made it a titling event. The requirements and regulations went through some adaptations; quote from the AKC Website...

"While the Junior Showmanship program itself has gone through changes, the concept and reasons for its implementation have remained the same: to encourage participation in the sport by young purebred dog enthusiasts; to teach good sportsmanship, win or lose; and to educate the next generation of the fancy. So the next time you find yourself at a show with a few moments to spare, stop by the Junior Showmanship ring to witness the AKC's commitment to its mission statement and the future of our sport."

In Junior showmanship, it is the handler who is judged, NOT the dog. The class is open to young handlers, aged 10 to 18. Addison started showing Affenpinschers when she was 5. Then when old enough to enter Junior Showmanship, she showed 3 more Affenpinschers and a Chihuahua. It wasn't until September 2024 that she was introduced to this GBGV, whom she was told needed a job...and to quote her:

"It is hard to put into words exactly what North means to me because he has helped me in so many ways. I wanted a dog that would be enjoyable but also challenging. I wanted a dog that would really bring me out of my comfort zone. I wanted a dog that I would really have to learn how to present and condition...but I also wanted a breed no one had.... North has been everything I could have wanted him to be. We have a great bond. He has challenged me in more ways than I can describe, and he has been a wonderful pet as well."

She and North joined forces, and he went to live with her. She learned to condition him, and groom GBGV's, and does this all herself. Then the amazing journey began, for the Junior Showmanship part of this and then also into the breed ring as a Special. North, CH Sidekick's Courage Of The North At Crossroad, was already a champion, but the Ribbons they earned together, after that, in just 6 short months, were just beginning. IN BOTH ARENAS simultaneously.

The Jr Showmanship journey included earning enough points and placements to get invited to Westminster. To qualify to show in juniors at Westminster she had to be awarded seven best juniors, either all breed or specialties with two or more competing classes. They did that and made the final cut for winners at this competitive, prestigious event! After that, in future months, their accomplishments in Jr Showmanship have included more wins and first places. However, the Westminster experience was not JUST about Jr showmanship, but Jr Showmanship is where they started together.

(seen here, at the Garden)



THERE IS MORE...

The other "In The Ribbons" is all about the dog, being judged, garnered Many BOB's including handling in the special's classes at WESTMINSTER, and winning BOB , and THEN showing him in the Groups! It's not often a Junior handler goes into the ring at Westminster among so many professional handlers and does such a remarkable job of presenting her best friend.



Here she is proudly congratulated by her dog's co-owner, Laurie Green, with another Ribbon!

The Ribbons continued after that, all the way to the Perry shows, where she and North not only won BOB/BISS at our Regionals AND Nationals, but they also grabbed another BOB, OS, and 2 SEL dog awards, during that cluster of All Breed shows. All this with a dog who is LESS THAN TWO YEARS OLD. Addison deeply acknowledges her wonderful mentors, Laurie Green and Jody Paquette. It looks like, together, they have amazing chemistry that probably wasn't anticipated to be this dynamic for two really young team members! But it surely is obviously a great bond, and an admirable collection of Ribbons...the oversized kind, as well!! Applause! Applause! to Team North and his amazing handler...Addison Lancaster!

2025 GBVCA REGIONAL SPECIALTY

11 April 2025 ~ Honorable Judge: Ms. Molly Martin



BEST of BREED
CH SIDEKICK'S COURAGE OF THE NORTH AT CROSSROAD

Owned by: A. Lancaster, L. Green, B. Humphrey, J. Garcini
Bred by: B. Humphrey, C. Benedict, & C. & P. Wilt



BEST of OPPOSITE – BEST VETERAN
GCH CH SIDEKICK'S ICE QUEEN AT R-N-B CM

Owned by: L. Green, B. Humphrey, & B. Miller
Bred by: B. Humphrey, C. Benedict, & L. Offerdahl

2025 GBGVCA REGIONAL SPECIALTY

11 April 2025 ~ Honorable Judge: Ms. Molly Martin



BEST of WINNERS – WINNERS BITCH – BEST PUPPY SIDEKICK'S DANCING IN THE RAIN

Owned by: B. Humphrey & C. Benedict
Bred by: B. Humphrey & C. Benedict



WINNERS DOG LIFETIME ALWAYS DIP ME IN COFFEE

Owned by: J. Morales, Z. Stewart, & A. Reeves
Bred by: A. Reeves, M. Reeves, T. Cannon, & M. Clark

2025 GBGVCA REGIONAL SPECIALTY

11 April 2025 ~ Honorable Judge: Ms. Molly Martin



SELECT DOG – BEST of BREED OWNER HANDLED **GCH CH SIDEKICK'S SECRET WEAPON**

Owned by: L. Green, E. Jesseman, B. Humphrey, & J. Garcini
Bred by: C. Benedict, B. Humphrey, S. Green



SELECT BITCH **CH ARAGONEZ DU GREFFIER DU ROI**

Owned by: L. Green, B. Humphrey, J. Garcini, & J. Huisman
Bred by: J. Huisman

2025 GBGVCA REGIONAL SPECIALTY

11 April 2025 ~ Honorable Judge: Ms. Molly Martin



AWARD of MERIT CH SIDEKICK'S FORTUNE FAVORS THE BRAVE

Owned by: B. Humphrey & S. Green
Bred by: C. Benedict & B. Humphrey



NOT PICTURED

BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR LIFETIME ALWAYS SURPRISE INSIDE

Owned by: A. Reeves & T. Cannon
Bred by: A. Reeves, M. Reeves, T. Cannon, & M. Clark

RESERVE WINNERS DOG ETHOS GRAND SLAM AT DESPERADO

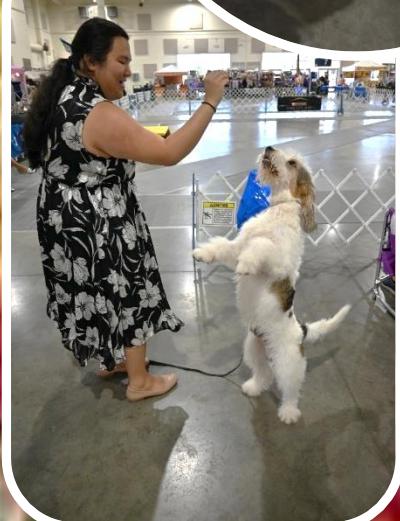
Owned by: T. Jumbleck & R. Jumbleck
Bred by: C. Stretch, N. McLean, & C. White

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH SIDEKICK'S YEAR OF LE GRANDE CHORALE CGCA RN BN

Owned by: A. Prokopczyk, B. Humphrey, & C. Benedict
Bred by: B. Humphrey, C. Benedict, K. Kellum, J. Rose

AWARD of MERIT CH SIDEKICK'S ULTRA TRUE GRAND

Owned by: B. Humphrey
Bred by: G. Sievert, B. Humphrey & C. Benedict





Hunt Test Opportunities

It's often been said that there is no greater thrill than watching a dog doing what he was bred to do and doing it well. The probability is low that any of us will hunt Wild Boar with our Grandies, or watch them trail a deer, or even flush a hare and "open" with voice. But in 2019, The Basset Hound Club of America successfully had AKC approved a recognition title for Performance Test for Scent Hounds, which includes Bassets, Beagles, Dachshunds, PBGV, GBCV, Harriers, and Basset Fauve de Bretagne. (See link for those Rules, and the goals for titling.) <https://basset-bhca.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Guideline-Hunt-Test-2019.pdf>

Hunt test rules for hounds focus on evaluating a dog's hunting ability and obedience in a controlled environment, typically using a "pass/fail" system. Hounds are judged on their ability to find and track game, use of voice, line ability, adaptability, and determination, according to the Basset Hound Club of America. Judges assess these skills against a scale of 1 to 10, requiring a minimum score of 5 in each category, according to the Basset Hound Club of America.

It can be challenging to find Hunt Tests since they are provided by parent clubs. Titles are then recognized and recorded by AKC when documentation is sent in but not listed on the AKC website. Another "challenge" is that clubs may host Hunt Tests, and then also have the options to decide if they will open them to just their specific breed or include other Scent hounds. Given Beagle clubs have had many years in developing BOTH Hunt tests and Field trials for their breed, most Scent Hound Hunt Tests will be held in those fields that Beagle clubs have nurtured so that there is a reliably established colony of cottontails or hares. Thus, if you live where Beagle trails may be, you are in luck! Possibly Scent Hound Hunt tests may also be held there.

For any with immediate interest to go, observe, and learn...here are links and possible opportunities.

1) BHCA of Western PA holds Hunt tests for Bassets. Their chair, Gene McDonald has said all observers are WELCOME. They may give you a job as gallery that beats the brush to kick up bunnies, so you'd get to watch dogs at work, too. Their last one was at the end of May, and future ones will be held, sporadically. Here is the contact person if you have interest in observing one in this area. Robert "Gene" McDonald, kaskadebh@aol.com

2) Consult the websites of BHCA, PBGV, and BFDB, since they all host Hunt Tests.

<https://basset-bhca.org/>
<https://pbgv.org/>
<https://bassetfauve.org/>

3) NEWS FLASH... this year after the Perry show, the Fauves did hold an introduction to Hunt Tests, at a nearby Beagle grounds, the Monday after the shows. Next year, they will hold a Hunting Instinct Test in conjunction with their Nationals in Perry. It would be a wonderful opportunity to go and learn!!

4) OUR Breed's Rules and Regs were lovingly written some years back, by club member, Clair Stretch!!! Here is the link to OUR RULES and REGS, as it would pertain to our breed's specific skill set and style of hunting.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1uytHB9N-ndglx7eK-EvCV1LSPvv-5wM4/view?ts=6817c9dc>

I have no doubt OUR HOUNDS would be very good at this. It may take some training to get them to come in for a recall, I recommend training that to a whistle...three short tweets often gets their attention (maybe...LOL). But other than that, this should be natural. It might be fun, too.

If there is any interest in learning more about this activity, please share that interest with me, or any member of the board, or officers. Maybe we can find a way to showcase what our breed was bred to do and earn a pretty green ribbon doing it!!

Till next issue...SMILE...your dog makes everybody who sees them smile, you should too! Congrats to all who venture into any ring. Jane Jonas

2025 GBGVCA REGIONAL SWEEPSTAKES

11 April 2025 ~ Honorable Judge: Mrs. Sydney Good



BEST in SWEEPSTAKES LIFETIME ALWAYS DIP ME IN COFFEE

Owned by: J. Morales, Z. Stewart, & A. Reeves
Bred by: A. Reeves, M. Reeves, T. Cannon, & M. Clark



BEST of OPPOSITE in SWEEPSTAKES LIFETIME ALWAYS SURPRISE INSIDE

Owned by: A. Reeves & T. Cannon
Bred by: A. Reeves, M. Reeves, T. Cannon, & M. Clark

2025 GBGVCA REGIONAL SWEEPSTAKES

11 April 2025 ~ Honorable Judge: Mrs. Sydney Good



BEST VETERAN in SWEEPSTAKES
GCH CH SIDEKICK'S ICE QUEEN AT R-N-B CM

*Owned by: L. Green, B. Humphrey, & B. Miller
Bred by: B. Humphrey, C. Benedict, & L. Offerdahl*

NOT PICTURED

BEST OPPOSITE VETERAN in SWEEPSTAKES
GCHB CH SIDEKICK'S LIFE IN THE FAST LANE

*Owned by: B. Humphrey & L. Offerdahl
Bred by: B. Humphrey, L. Offerdahl & C. Benedict*



**2025 GBGVCA REGIONAL
SWEEPSTAKES AWARD TABLE**

2025 GBGVCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

12 April 2025 ~ Honorable Judge: Mr. Randy E. Garren



BEST of BREED CH SIDEKICK'S COURAGE OF THE NORTH AT CROSSROAD

Owned by: A. Lancaster, L. Green, B. Humphrey, J. Garcini
Bred by: B. Humphrey, C. Benedict, & C. & P. Wilt



BEST OF WINNERS – BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR – AWARD of MERIT ETHOS WALKING ON AIR

Owned by: N. McLean
Bred by: N. McLean

2025 GBGVCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

12 April 2025 ~ Honorable Judge: Mr. Randy E. Garren



AWARD of MERIT CH SIDEKICK'S THROUGH THE YEARS

Owned by: G & G Tanenbaum, & B. Humphrey
Bred by: B. Humphrey, C. Benedict, K. Kelle, & J. Rose



BEST PUPPY SIDEKICK'S DANCING IN THE RAIN

Owned by: B. Humphrey & C. Benedict
Bred by: B. Humphrey & C. Benedict

NOT PICTURED

2025 GBGVCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

12 April 2025 ~ Honorable Judge: Mr. Randy E. Garren

WINNERS DOG

LIFETIME ALWAYS DIP ME IN COFFEE

Owned by: J. Morales, Z. Stewart, & A. Reeves

Bred by: A. Reeves, M. Reeves, T. Cannon, & M. Clark

BEST OF OPPOSITE

GCH CH SIDEKICK'S ICE QUEEN AT R-N-B CM

Owned by: L. Green, B. Humphrey, & B. Miller

Bred by: B. Humphrey, C. Benedict, & L. Offerdahl

RESERVE WINNERS DOG

ETHOS GRAND SLAM AT DESPERADO

Owned by: T. Jumbelick & R. Jumbelick

Bred by: C. Stretch, N. McLean, & C. White

SELECT DOG – BEST of BREED OWNER HANDLED

GCH CH SIDEKICK'S SECRET WEAPON

Owned by: L. Green, E. Jesseman, B. Humphrey, & J. Garcini

Bred by: C. Benedict, B. Humphrey, & S. Green

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH

LIFETIME ALWAYS SURPRISE INSIDE

Owned by: A. Reeves & T. Cannon

Bred by: A. Reeves, M. Reeves, T. Cannon, & M. Clark

SELECT BITCH

CH ARAGONEZ DU GREFFIER DU ROI

Owned by: L. Green, B. Humphrey, J. Garcini & J. Huisman

Bred by: J. Huisman

2025 GBGVCA NATIONAL SWEEPSTAKES

12 April 2025 ~ Honorable Judge: Jolanda Huisman

BEST in SWEEPSTAKES

LIFETIME ALWAYS SURPRISE INSIDE

Owned by: A. Reeves & T. Cannon

Bred by: A. Reeves, M. Reeves, T. Cannon, & M. Clark

BEST of OPPOSITE in SWEEPSTAKES

LIFETIME ALWAYS DIP ME IN COFFEE

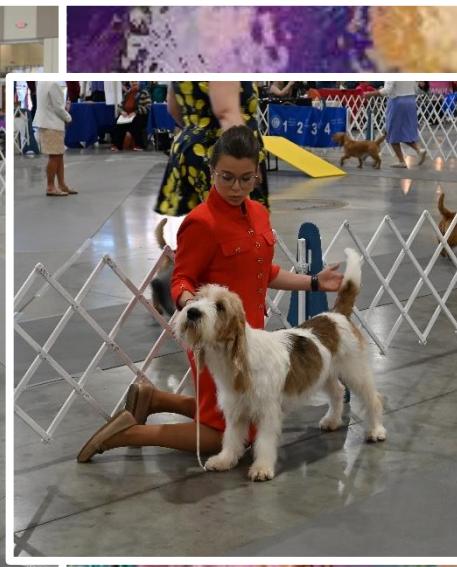
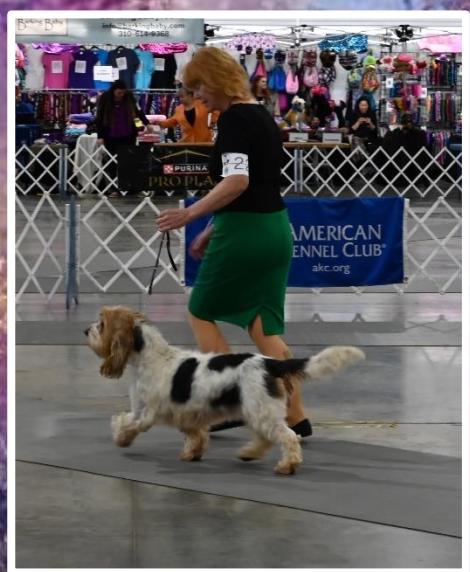
Owned by: J. Morales, Z. Stewart, & A. Reeves

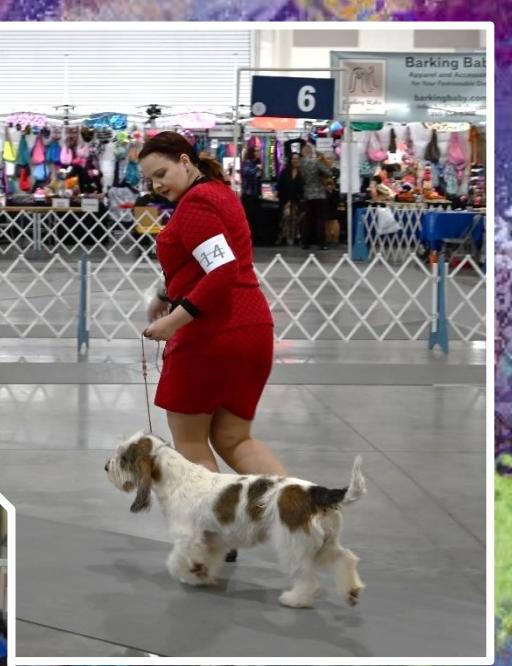
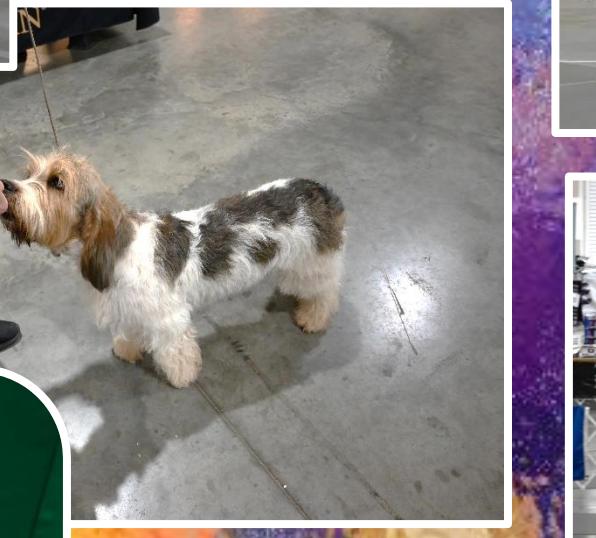
Bred by: A. Reeves, M. Reeves, T. Cannon, & M. Clark

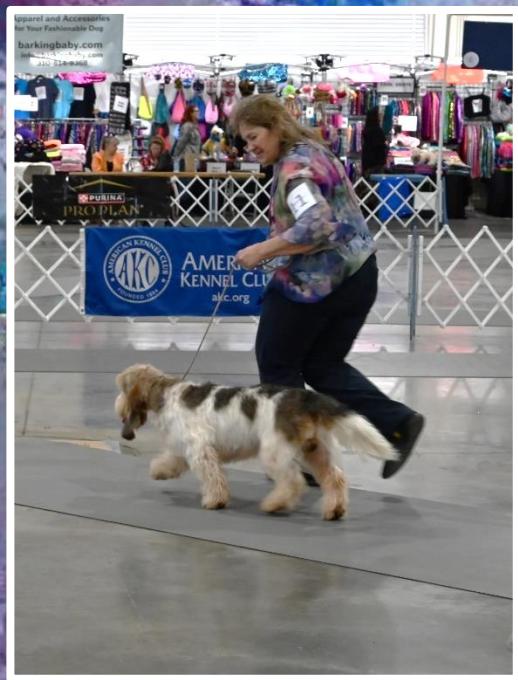


2025 GBGVCA NATIONAL SWEEPSTAKES AWARD TABLE











1 BOND
GCHB CH Sidekick's Secret Agent



3 BRANCA
GCH CH Aragonez Du Greffier Du Roi



5 NORTH
GCH CH Sidekick's Courage
of the North at Crossroad



2 TRUE
GCH CH Sidekick's Ultra True Grand



4 PHIL
CH Sidekick's Amour The Groovy Kind

The 'Scent'sational GBCV

Welcome to my new column which will be all about dog sports with GBCV's, but not just any sports, sports that this magnificent breed will love and excel at, **SCENT SPORTS**. How can I best explain how scent sports work?

Someone hides stuff.

My dog finds the stuff.

We have a blast and earn lots of titles and pretty ribbons.

To give you a bit of intel on me and my Grands, I got my first one from Vivien Phillips in 2006. My next four are from Nancy McLean, in 2013, 2016, 2019 and in 2022. Currently I have three, two of which are my sports hounds. I have done scent sports with all five of my Grands, but it wasn't until the two youngest came along that I unlocked the secret to successful training the GBCV for scent sports.



Meet my six-year-old **Olivia**, Ethos Loving The Northland SWM SWD RATO FCAT3 TKN CGC ELT-P SMT L2C L2E L3V L3I

This is the guy who loves his snacks! Meet three-year-old **Nelson**, Ethos Let's Go Crazy TD SWE SCM SEM SBM RATO FCAT2 TKN CGC ELT3 L2C L1V L3I

My personality is that of a hound in a human body. I do not like to be told what to do and if someone pressures me, I do the opposite of what they want. Hounds are pretty much the same. Repetition is also extremely boring for me, and I find my hounds feel the same way. Training a GBCV is different from the typical Lab or Golden who aim to please their human. GBCV's want to know, "What's in it for me?" Now I train my hounds myself taking an occasional class or seminar that would be beneficial for me and my hounds. The path I am taking to train them myself has resulted in my now six-year-old earning the highest titles in AKC Scent Work and NACSW Nose Work by the time she was five. My youngest is also following that same plan and possibly will earn those titles about a year sooner.

We do AKC Scent Work, NACSW Nose Work, Tracking, Barn Hunt, and FastCAT. I love this breed! Competing with them

creates such a special bond and we have so much fun playing together and traveling around the country for trials. Each of my dogs has its own color for sports and I also dress to match for the real "team" feeling. It is sad that we never see another GBCV at



©Julie Lawrence

our trials. People love seeing us when we show up and everyone wants to know all about the breed. I would love to see more people take up scent sports with their Grands.

What makes scent sports so intriguing? Scent sports are about 90% dog driven while most dog sports and activities are roughly 90% handler driven. A good example of dog driven is a scent work search. You enter a classroom full of desks and stuff, and you have three minutes to find an unknown number of hides. It seems impossible until you have the correct mindset, the dog is the boss, and you need to rely on them. Your dog doesn't see all the stuff; they see with their nose. You follow them. Trust them. Read their body language. They will show you where all the hides in the room are and let you know when they are done. It is amazing!

How does a dog find the odor hidden in small vessels with so many things to smell in the room? Think about going into a flower shop to buy roses. At first, with all the floral smells, you can't smell roses specifically but after a short time you are able to smell the roses. Dogs are trained on specific odors, and they seek out those odors in their search areas. Scent work and nose work are patterned after K9 detection dogs. In fact, a lot of trial judges are K9 handlers or retired K9 handlers. I never tire of watching my hounds searching, finding hides and having so much fun doing it.

Another wonderful thing about scent sports is there is no age limit for dogs or handlers. Even handicapped dogs and people can compete. I've watched blind dogs, deaf dogs, old dogs, young dogs, dogs with three

legs, all compete and be successful. I also see handicapped people competing with their dogs. Recently I found out a blind person is doing nose work with their dog. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun.

Another fun thing about scent sports, excluding barn hunt, is that you can practice anywhere, any time. Take your odor kit along, put out hides, let your dog find them. Each dog has their own way of searching. These trial videos show you how different they work. Olivia is like a tornado racing through the search area picking off hides. We love to run, and we run a lot at our trials. Nelson has a good pace, but he is much more thoughtful and methodical. There is no right or wrong way to search. Both dogs are very successful at their trials.

My goal is to get more GBCV's competing in scent sports. I want to help people get started and learn how to be successful with a GBCV. My hounds start as little puppies learning about the value of odor, but a dog can start scent sports at any age. I would love to be a resource for anyone who wants to find out how to get started in scent sports. If you have questions about scent sports, feel free to email me and we can set up a call or maybe even meet depending on where you are located and where I may be traveling.

Till next time...Sniff on!

Nelson Link

<https://youtu.be/xztwMU9ckeE?feature=shared>

Olivia Link

<https://youtu.be/2Y11FVQ16K8>



2025 GBGV AKC Titles of Record

In chronological order by date title earned from January 1, 2025 through June 30, 2025

AKC Title	Registered Name	Owner(s) of Record
Companion Dog	Talus Sidekick Ace Of Hearts CD BN CGCA TKN	Bonnie Alonzo
Champion	CH Sidekick's Red Badge Of Courage	J Briscoe, C Benedict & B Humphrey
Champion	CH Ethos Walking On Air	Nancy E Mclean
FCAT2	Ethos Let's Go Crazy TD FCAT2 SWE SCM SEM SBM RATO CGC TKN	Joy Schneider & Nancy E Mclean
Canine Good Citizen	CH Sidekick's Through The Years CGC TKN	G Tanenbaum, G Tanenbaum & B Humphrey
Trick Dog Novice	CH Sidekick's Through The Years CGC TKN	G Tanenbaum, G Tanenbaum & B Humphrey



Mission Statement....

The Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America Foundation, Inc., was established to protect, support, defend, promote, educate, and preserve the health, breeding, well-being, and integrity of the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen through the receipt and administration of funds for charitable, scientific, or educational purposes through contributions from the general public.

The club's Health Survey has gotten 31 submissions so far, but we're hoping to get even more participation. To make it easier for members to access the survey, we've created a QR code that links directly to it. You can find this QR code in the newsletter and on our social media pages.

We're also reaching out to club members individually and asking breeders to encourage their pet owners to complete the survey. With your help, we can get a strong response and gain valuable insights into the health of our beloved breed.

In other news, Jolanda's recent presentation on the history and characteristics of the breed was a huge hit. The video of her talk, along with her PowerPoint slides, will soon be available in the members-only section of our website. This is a great resource that can be incorporated into the Meet the Breeds event in NYC in 2026.

We want to extend a big thank you to Gretchen and Laurie for their dedication, hard work, and financial support in making this presentation a success. Their efforts are truly appreciated by the entire club.



OFFICERS

*Lara Latshaw, President ~ Gretchen Tanenbaum, Vice President
Julie Hamilton, Secretary ~ Brent Humphrey, Treasurer*

DIRECTORS

Laurie Green ~ Gretchen Tanenbaum

Monetary and like-kind contributions can be made as follows:

By check, made payable to the GBCVCA Foundation,

mailed to Brent Humphrey, Treasurer

3495 US Hwy 27/441 Fruitland Park, FL 34731

Through *PayPal* by sending funds to treasurer@gbgv.net noting in the remarks section "FOUNDATION"



GBGVCA, Inc. Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes ~ March 19, 2025

Roll Call: Corey Benedict, Brent Humphrey, Barbara Miller, Cindy Wilt, Jane Jonas, Kitty Steidel, Micky Ford
Excused Absence: Tiffany Cannon

Report of the President: Corey reported that AKC sent out a list of lowest breed entries, this led to a conversation that perhaps we need to go with Gretchen's idea to do a global breed format. In Europe hunters are not aligned with the rules and cannot decide on a size, different countries are going by different rules. Discussion ensued on the need to have global communications with a Facebook page. Brent suggested Instagram as an alternative.

Report of the Vice President: Nothing new to report.

Report of the Secretary: The minutes for January 29, 2025, board meeting was circulated to the Board members prior to the meeting for review.

Motion #01-03-25 Barb moved to accept the minutes as circulated. Jane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Report of the Treasurer: The report reflected an operating balance of \$10,580.50. All expenses for the show in Perry have been paid. The report will be committed to file.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

2025 National/Regional: Brent is finalizing the arrangements for the Nationals in Perry. Corey reported that there may be 22 GBGV's showing. Today, Brent sent an email reminding everyone to submit their money if they will be attending the dinner. A room has been secured for the welcome gathering and meeting on Thursday night. Barb reported that we are short of funds this year for trophies, usually we have between \$1800 and \$2500 per year and this year we have \$800. It was discussed to have nicer rosettes versus trophies. Corey mentioned too much emphasis put on what winners are walking away with and offered to supply Purina prizes as this year's trophies.

Foundation: Barb stated that there is nothing new to report.

Membership: Brent reported that we have one new member. We have had three new members join in the last three months none of which are of Sidekick dogs. We now have about eighty members we are down from 120 members.

Newsletter: Corey mentioned that it is not good if the Newsletter is not being read. People are asking questions, and the information is in the Newsletter. More content is needed; Jane is ready with content for her next article. Kitty suggested that Corey draft an article on grooming and name it "Groomers Corner." Cindy suggested that we start a section for recipes for biscuits and one for questions about the breed from owners. Two suggestions for the breed section were "Living with your GBGV and "Gran Living." Corey made note that the section should be positive addressing common issues in a positive way that issues are manageable, the breed is not a generational house dog, they are not the typical dog, they are true to their inherited purpose. Brent suggested the recipe section be named "Gran Delights" with recipes for both cookie treats and frozen treats and requested recipes for the next Newsletter. Corey suggested that the Newsletter be added to the club website.

Judges Ed: Although Kitty has not done shows, she has answered questions online. Corey received a letter from judges in Arizona inquiring how to get more Grants to Arizona to do more seminars. Corey did a ringside mentoring with a judge named Fred who asked a lot of good questions.

Health: Nothing new to report.

Breed Preservation: Corey brought up that there have been low global entries in both the US and in Europe. More young people like junior handlers need to get involved. We need to be positive and show why the breed is a good dog to own. The issues are the same, people do not know the breed, the breed is not being shown enough and the rules for hunting and size are different in many countries.

Unfinished Business: Brent announced that the foundation recently issued the first clinical trial results of long leg research. The researchers in Missouri think they have located the affected mark and are asking for FTA mouth swabs to see if the tissue and blood match, they are hoping to have a test to isolate the affected mark by April. Most of the dogs from the blood draws of 15 years ago have passed but Sidekick has some younger dogs that might qualify for the testing.

New Business: The foundation voted to invite Jolanda Huisman to be the Sweeps judge for the Nationals and they are requesting help to pay for her airline ticket and some expenses while she is here. Jolanda will also be doing a power point presentation at the Welcome Gathering. The club would split the expenses fifty-fifty with the foundation up to \$1500.

Motion #02-03-25 Cindy moved to approve the expenses. Kitty seconded the motion. All approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Corey began discussion about the foundation and club task force regarding breed presentation which has been very productive. It would be beneficial if the foundation would help with expenses to maintain what we want to do with the website; having a member only section on the website, creating a new Facebook page (which Terry is willing to do) and possibly creating an Instagram account which Terry and Laura will maintain. Any changes need to be sent to the parent club prior to posting.

Jane mentioned marketing the breed through Joy Snyder who has the credentials and highest level in scent work. Joy would like to do a presentation for those who want to get involved with scent work, she asks that she be compensated for lodging at the Bluegrass Classic. Discussion began about pursuing the license to do scent work for the club, it needs to be in conjunction with another group. Brent said that we already have the approval to do it. Corey brought up that Bluegrass would not be the best place to have a presentation due to lack of GBGVs at that location. Brent suggested the National in Perry would be better, there would be more GBGVs and more GBGV people. Jane is going to talk to Joy and see if Joy can do a presentation at the National in 2026. Jane noted it would bring in revenue for the club to have our own scent work events. Brent volunteered to look into whether we would need a license.

Announcements: None currently.

Adjournment: 8:12pm

AKC Canine Health Foundation:

Your organization's 2025 FIRST quarter Donor Advised Fund (DAF) statement with the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) is attached, showing activity through 3/31/2025. Your support of good health for dogs through CHF enables us to work together for research grants that impact better health for dogs.

Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America Donor Advised Fund

1ST Quarter 2025 Statement (1/1/2025 – 3/31/2025)

1/1/2024 Balance	\$1,264.51
Contributions	\$0.00
PPCPP Contribution	\$0.00
Investment Earnings/(Losses)	(\$20.42)
Research Support*	(\$113.02)
3/31/2024 Balance	\$1,131.07

*To obtain a history of your organization's research support or to learn about research areas in need of sponsorship, please email chfgrants@akcchf.org.

GBGVCA, Inc. Committees

Awards: Barbara Miller, Chair; Julie Hamilton, Jackie Briscoe

Breeder Referral: Cindy Wilt, Chair; Tiffany Cannon

Breed Standard: Corey Benedict; Kitty Steidel

Breed Preservation: Gretchen Tanenbaum, Chair;
Rita Day, Laurie Green, Terry Howell

Companion Events: Claire Stretch, Chair;
Judy Wickliffe, Jean Finnegan

Events: Corey Benedict, Chair; Cathy Miskelly-Benedict, Joy Schneider

Health: Gail Sievert, Chair; Brent Humphrey,

Lara Latshaw, Lynn Sabin-Comstock

Judges Education: Corey Benedict, Co-Chair; Kitty Steidel, Co-Chair

Public Education/Meet the Breeds: Brent Humphrey, Chair

Membership: Brent Humphrey, Chair;
Barbara Miller, Lynn Sabin-Comstock

Newsletter: Lara Latshaw, Chair; Brent Humphrey, Laura Offerdahl

Nominating (2025): Barbara Miller, Chair

Policies & Procedures: Brent Humphrey, Chair;
Kitty Steidel, Laura Offerdahl

Rescue: Cindy Wilt, Chair; Deborah Howd

Website/Social Media: Terrence Howell, Chair; Lara Latshaw