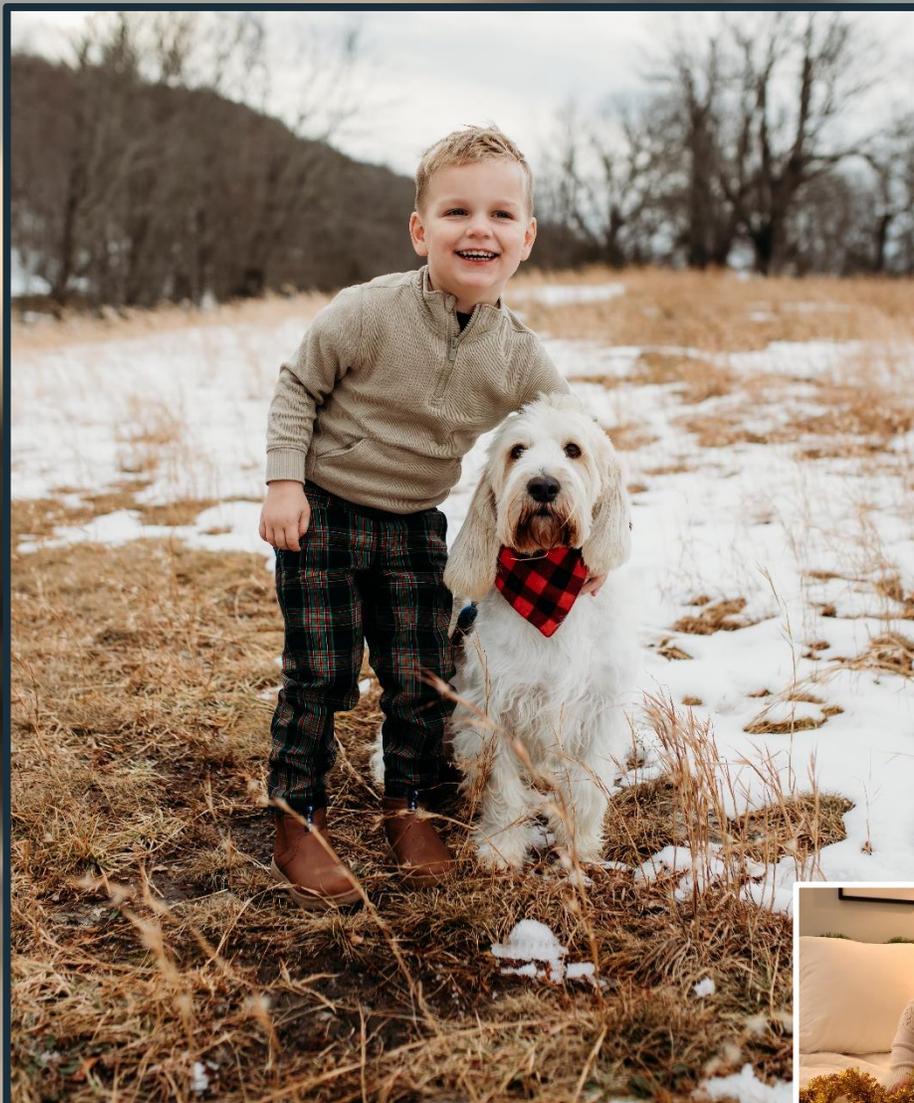


Grand Bassett Griffon Vendéen Club of America

Jan 2026 EDITION ✦ WINTER NEWSLETTER



Finn & Homer 2023

Finn & Homer

Photo submitted by H. Fetters

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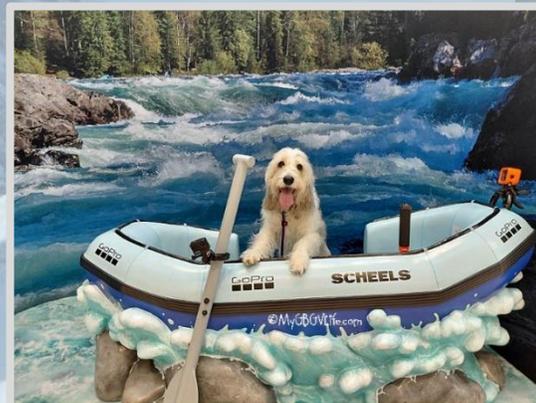
A GRAND New Year !!!

A Message from the President...

Dear GBGVCA Members,

With Winter in full swing, we need to be mindful of keeping our 4-footed family members warm and out of harm's way. Old man Winter has definitely thrown many of you a punch...or a snowball...this year.

The 2026 GBGVCA National & Regional Specialties and Sweepstakes are just around the corner so read on to see further details later in this issue regarding the schedule of events, accommodations, etc. I wanted to point out that in addition to our Annual Awards Reception, we will be hosting a special event this year in conjunction with our Welcome Party on Thursday, April 9, 2026, at 6:30 pm. Joy Schneider will be giving a seminar/presentation entitled "Stepping Stones To A Scent-sational GBGV." Please make plans to join us for this educational and informative event which will be held in the MMH Building at the Georgia National Fairgrounds and Agriculture Center.



Have Facebook? I encourage all members to please follow and join the new club Facebook page GBGV-Grand Basset Griffon Vendeen Club of America (GBGVCA.) This is perfect spot to be up to date on current club affairs and events as well as support one another by sharing fun stories and accomplishments

In closing, we have recently commissioned a GBGVCA Fundraising Committee, chaired by Laurie Green. The Board of Directors have made the commitment through the years to keep our dues affordable for our club members, however there is an additional need for resources to fund club promotions, events and operational needs. We sincerely thank Laurie and her team for spearheading this effort and appreciate everyone's support for the further promotion and preservation of our Grand ambassadors.

Stay safe...stay heathy...stay *Grand!*

Corey

Corey Benedict
GBGVCA President

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

GBGVCA Officers

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sidekickcb@aol.com

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Visit our website
at www.gbgv.net

GBGVCA Directors

Tiffany Cannon Jane Jonas Laura Offerdahl
Kitty Steidel Cindy Wilt



Rip's GRAND Caribbean Adventures

Life as a senior GBGV on a tiny Caribbean island was already pretty grand, if you ask me. I had my routines, my porch, my people, and my two senior sidekicks, Noriega the terrier mix and Bernard the Bichon.

My island life...

In case you forgot, I am Rip, a Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen, a French scent hound who somehow ended up living on Utila, a little island in the Bay Islands of Honduras. Instead of hunting through French fields, I patrol sandy lanes, sniff sea breezes, and supervise my humans as they head off to explore the reef while I manage important land operations from the porch.

I share the house with two other seniors. Bernard the Bichon is all fluff and charm, the official lap specialist who believes every human exists to admire him. Noriega the terrier mix is the security department—terrier types are alert, energetic, and full of opinions, so if a lizard moves three houses away, Noriega puts it on the record.

The day Heliconia chose us...

For a long time, I was pretty sure our pack was complete. One GBGV, one terrier mix, one Bichon, two humans – perfect. Then, about a week ago, something very “Utila” happened. The crew went out in the morning, and when they came back, there was a young dog asleep on our porch like she owned the place. Around here, dogs like her are called “potcakes”, island mixes who grow up on the streets and beaches and often pick their families by simply... showing up. This one was about 8 months old, just under 30 pounds, with long legs and bright eyes, and the humans started calling her Heliconia. Potcakes are known for being smart, loyal, and very good at adapting, and Heliconia clearly decided our house was worth the effort.



Teaching a potcake the rules...

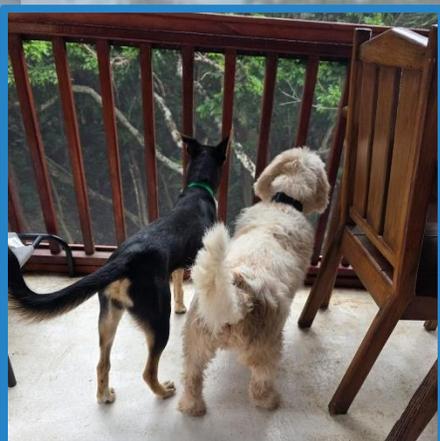
Heliconia is what the humans call a “typical Utila Hound,” which seems to mean she is equal parts sweet, bold, and extremely determined. Potcakes like her are used to figuring things out on their own, and she took one look at the baby gate at the top of our stairs and decided it was a personal challenge. I watched her try everything—nose pushes, paw taps, sideways squeezes, full-body wiggles—as if she could simply melt through the bars if she tried hard enough.

Noriega immediately began teaching her what to bark at and when, and Bernard started calculating how this would affect his lap time and snack opportunities. In multi-dog homes like ours, especially with seniors, it is important that we old-timers get to keep our rest and routines, so the humans are helping Heliconia learn when it is zoomie time and when it is “do not disturb the elders” time. The best news was that, for a young island dog, she tested negative for heartworm, which made everyone breathe a big sigh of relief.

My verdict as the elder hound...

I will be honest: I did not think Mom and Dad were going to get another dog. As a GBGV, I am a pack hound by design, but I thought my pack was already set in stone. Now, though, when the sun goes down and the island gets quiet, there are four of us dozing while the fans hum and the Caribbean air drifts through the windows: Bernard snoring, Noriega on guard (even in sleep), Heliconia curled in her new favorite spot, and me, the bearded French hound in the middle of it all.

So, if you are wondering how I feel about my “Grand Caribbean Adventures” these days, here is the truth: I still roll my eyes when Heliconia bounces off the baby gate, and I still expect first rights to the best bed. But when I see that little potcake who chose our porch now choosing our family every day, I think maybe—just maybe—this plot twist was exactly what an old island hound like me needed.



Until next time, *Rip*

IN THE RIBBONS



Sunpowered's And The Crowd Goes Wild CD BN RM RAE
CAA DCAT SCN RATN CGCA CGCU TKI...**ELLIE**



I first saw this dog's name and titles when I volunteered to write a column for our newsletter, I KNEW immediately I wanted to know more about her. I was specifically wanting to focus on her very advanced titles of RAE(Rally Advanced Excellent) and RM(Rally Master). But when I contacted her owner, Claire Stretch, asking for a photo or two from the Rally title progression, I was not prepared to receive this AMAZING photo of her, taken in 2018, at our breed's first conformation shows, in conjunction with the Peach Blossom Cluster! I asked Claire to share a few comments about Ellie and her and all these titles... Claire sent the following, which I will also share with you:

"Where do I begin with telling you about Ellie. Her registered name is Sunpowered and the Crowd Goes Wild (Will have to look up her titles). Ellie is quite the girl. She loves doing everything that you ask but she definitely has her way of executing it. I think what is so extraordinary about Ellie is that she lives and trains with me, but she did the Rally and Obedience events with Cheri White. I would do her training in all Rally moves and would give Ellie to Cheri ringside. Cheri would do the test and as a team they usually scored pretty high and would end up placing. She just loves working. Her highest achievement was placing 3rd in Versatile Dog competition at the 2018 GBGVCA Nationals in Perry, Georgia. She competed in a variety of events Conformation, Rally, Obedience, Agility, and Fast

Cat. All but 1 of her obedience and Rally events, which were all breed competitions, she placed 1st and a 4th due to human error on a sign. She has done Barn hunt and Scent work. But my lack of interest in scent work and her not liking the smell of rats stopped any more participation.

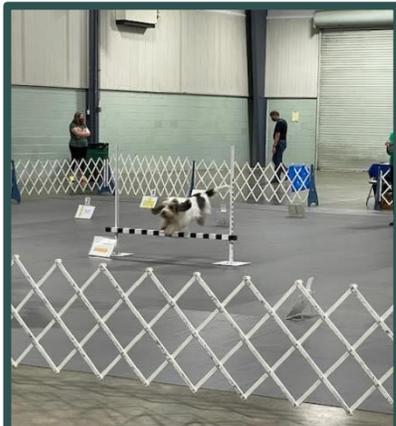
Training a hound can be done. One needs patience, enthusiasm, thinking outside of the box and keeping your sessions short and sweet.

Ellie is now retired since she is close to 10. On a few occasions she will do a few tricks and moves with me, and I am astonished at how well she remembers and performs. For those of you thinking they may want to give Rally a try with GBGV, it can be done just make it short, sweet and lots of fun."

I feel I need to insist on a round of applause!!!! And also expound on what a remarkable achievement this collection of RIBBONS represents for an approximately 2-year-old dog. To complete over multiple days, in multiple events, against and with "all breeds" and not only earn Qualifying scores, but also Class Placements. Then, after that, over the years she excelled to some of the highest levels in Rally.

In the last issue I promised to make RALLY the specific topic for this edition. I also have done some with my two Grands (and previously with two of my Bassets). Others in our club have also done Rally and earned titles. Of all the four Companion Events we have to choose from, I do feel Rally is possibly the best place to start. But it does depend on your ability to communicate to your dog that "fun games" of changing positions and navigating a course, is REALLY exactly that.....FUN GAMES! So, your job is to make it fun, keep it short, sweet, interesting, and most of all REWARDING....If you dog LOVES TO BE RIGHT! (and what hound doesn't?)...then this sport is a perfect one to engage with them. You can not only tell them, specifically, what you want them to do, you can then tell them "YES... good girl!", and heap praise all along the course as they complete each station. Your job, once you have trained the plethora of changes in positions, is to be able to read the signs, as you progress smoothly through the course ...THIS part can be vexing for the person. So be sure to train sans your dog, all by yourself through courses to

make sure YOU know what you are supposed to do. Your dog will do what you say... but she can't read the signs AND do this by herself. The Novice and Intermediate levels are all done ON leash... everything after that, is all off leash.



Here are some candid shots of Cheri and Ellie working an advanced level course.



I would encourage anybody who may consider this sport to watch a trial at a local show. Maybe volunteer to help. Read the regulations.

Find a class. OR often find a friend who has done Rally and have them show you some of the Novice level changes in positions required. Sometimes this may be better than hour long, formal classes! IF YOU Make this a Game! It's a wonderful way to build teamwork and bond with your hound, and it doesn't have the stress of the more ridged requirements of Competition Obedience. On that note, if you think you may enjoy this and may wish to continue to levels such as Claire trained, and Cheri handled... I would HIGHLY recommend that when you are training in the safety of you home, train WITHOUT A LEASH, right from the beginning! Both you and your dog will become a steadier, stronger, and more in sync team if you do not depend on a leash to come between you. Eventually that leash must go, anyway. The sooner you learn to not depend on it, the better YOU will become as a communicator, and now your dog is doing this by agreement, not by physically being tugged or held into positions. IN group classes, your leash is often required and can also become a safety feature to rely on. (You know your dog, but you don't know everybody else's!)

Rally is a fun game, and it's also a sport that bridges into Obedience. Plus, it is a BONDING sport. The Qualifying scores have a relatively high rate at the "on leash levels". So, if you are new to dog sports, this provides success for BOTH dog and handler since you can qualify even if you make a FEW mistakes. Perfect score is 100, but a 70 still earns a green qualifying ribbon (and gives you an idea of where your weaknesses are). But as with all AKC venues, the higher you climb the ladder, the more communication skills you will need to be successful with your dog. RAE was earned by two of our GBGV's (Claire's Ellie and Megan Echerick's Juno).

Only Ellie has earned an RM!! ... and if you want to go one step further there is a RACH ...

The "RACH" title is the **Rally Champion** title in the American Kennel Club (AKC) dog sport of Rally Obedience, signifying a dog and handler team's highest achievement in the sport, earned by accumulating points and achieving multiple "triple qualifying" scores (Advanced B, Excellent B, and Master classes at the same trial). It's a significant accomplishment requiring high-level performance and consistency in navigating courses with obedience exercises.

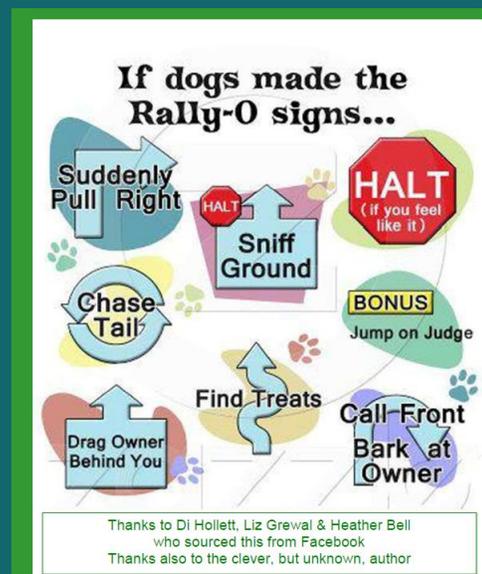
In ending....ONLY embrace a sport with your dog that BOTH of you can find fun. And it is your job to convince the dog this IS FUN. So keep a sense of humor, accept mistakes(you will probably make more than the dog does) and TELL THE DOG HE IS RIGHT! The great thing about Rally is you can do that continually as you move through the course!

Your dog may actually decide to do some of these things 😊

Keep smiling! This is a hobby, not rocket science, and our GBGV will make the crowd smile, too ... Go for it!

Happy New Year!

Jane



The "Scent-sational" GBGV

My two competition GBGV's and I had a fabulous fall! Each dog stepped up and hit some Grand milestones and titles!

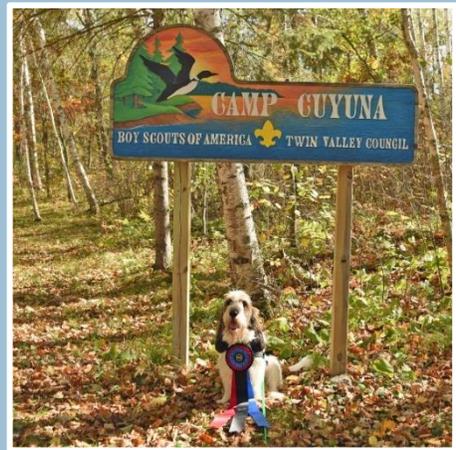


First, Olivia, Ethos Loving The Northland SWM SWD RATO FCAT3 TKN CGC FDC ELT-P SMT L2C L2E L3V L3I ELT-S took me to Ohio for the first annual AKC Scent Work Master National. I had no idea what to expect since it was the first one. All I really knew was everyone competing had a Master Title in Scent Work. We travel a lot, but I haven't been out west much, and I don't know how good dogs out there are. It was a three-day event, the first two were qualifying for the final on day three. 188 dogs entered and the top 100 would move on to the final. In our day 2 exterior search, we placed 2nd out of 188 dogs, it was such a fun search! We missed one hide the first two days and ended up in 6th place out of the 188 dogs, meaning we made the top 100 and advanced to the final. It was truly amazing as you don't know how you are doing until the end. The final day was a different set up with different judges. We did our best, although I was a bit slower to call finish than I would like to have been, but nerves do funny things in competition.

In the end, we missed one hide in the final, but we placed 15th out of the 100 finalists, a good representation for this smart sniffing breed. I'm darn proud of our accomplishment having never tried such a thing. Being the only GBGV, Olivia received the 1st in

breed medallion, qualifying ribbons for the searches the first two days, a ribbon for making the final and a huge ribbon for being in the top 25 finishers. It still is hard for me to believe it all happened!

Nelson, Ethos Let's Go Crazy TD SWM SWD RATO FCAT2 TKN CGC ATT FDC ELT-CH L2C L1V L3I, was not left behind as he finished some big nose work titles of his own, at just 3 years old.



He earned his NACSW Elite-Champion Title in October. This title is 1000 points. Each trial is a maximum of 100 points, meaning most dogs need at least 11 or 12 trials. He is the 2nd GBGV to earn this title right after Olivia.



At the end of October, he earned his AKC Scent Work Detective Title, SWD, also the 2nd GBGV to earn the title right after Olivia. A dog needs to pass 10 Detective searches without any errors. The searches have an unknown 5-10 hides and a time limit of 5-15 minutes.



Now I'd like to talk a bit about the beauty of nose sports with these hounds and how a different level of trust and companionship develops because of the hound really being the one leading the way in the sport, not the human. As you train and compete, your team gets stronger, and your dog knows she can rely on her person to let her work and you know you can trust your dog to do her job. It is an amazing feeling.

In all phases of their lives, our hounds have been studying us and learning to do what we want them to do when we would like them to do it. This is where the misconception that hounds are not smart comes into play. They are super smart, but they do not appreciate being told what to do and when to do it. How does one train a hound to find odor if they need to do it on their own?

I train my GBGV's starting at 9 weeks old to choose odor over food to get food, but a dog can learn scent at any age. It is not something I demand from them, they make the choice. They learn quickly that if they pick my hand that has food, they get no food but if they pick the one with odor, they get food, it is up to them. An odor tin is also next to their bowl at mealtime. Once they have this concept down, they are ready to start working on their own to find odor and get food. I've noticed that the earlier my dogs start on odor and then start to work puzzles, the easier it is for them as they move up in competitions.

My puppies always do some nose work practice before their mealtime, so they have the extra motivation of being hungry to find that odor. When they choose the odor, the reward is not a basic treat, I have the best of the best, something they only get when they do sniffing work. I want them to know to get special treats, they need to find the odor. Nothing else will give them the same treats.

As you grow in your team, you will learn how to support your dog in her work without taking over her search. Some dogs are not sure about working too much on their own. My hounds will work even if I leave the room and then they will wait for me to come and feed them.



If you would like to learn more about scent and nose work with your GBGV, I will be hosting a seminar in April at the 2026 GBGVCA National & Regional Specialties on the evening of Thursday, April 9th right after the welcome party. I'm planning 1-2 hours of information, some demos, and Q&A time. If you are interested in one-on-one time to get started, I will be available all three days. Let me know and we can get something on the schedule.

If you have never watched dogs search, you will be amazed and even more amazed to know that you and your dog can do it too. It truly does become addictive as well as so much fun for you and your dog.

Joy

MyGBGVLife@gmail.com



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.

Welcome Teri Turner!!

Teri Turner has been an owner and breeder of Italian Spinoni for more than 35 years, dedicating her life to versatile, purpose-bred hunting and companion dogs. Her background spans conformation, performance, and therapy work, with a strong emphasis on sound temperament and working ability.

Teri acquired her first Spinone in 1992, when there were only a few hundred Spinoni in the United States and the breed had not yet been recognized by the American Kennel Club. She was involved with the breed before AKC recognition and contributed as Spinoni entered the Sporting Group in 2000.

Among her Spinoni, one bitch became a multiple-year Top 20 show dog, earning her GCHG and adding hunt titles and therapy credentials before retiring as a beloved couch companion. Teri has served four years on the board of directors of the Spinone Club of America (SCOA) and chaired the Ways and Means Committee for approximately 15 years, bringing extensive fundraising and parent-club experience to her work with purebred dogs.

Dogs have been part of Teri's life since childhood, first as 4-H projects and family pets and later as partners in hunting, performance, therapy work, and conformation events. Her long-term focus has been developing well-adjusted, functional dogs who can succeed in the field and at home.

During her teaching career, Teri regularly brought her dogs into the classroom so students could read to them, giving children a calm, nonjudgmental audience while the dogs enjoyed quiet interaction. She also ran obedience classes for about 15 years, helping owners build better communication and manners with their dogs.

Approximately three years ago, Teri added her first Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen (GBGV) to her household. Moving from a large, personal hunting dog to a smaller French pack hound has been a significant but rewarding transition, deepening her appreciation for scent hounds and their unique temperament.

She was initially drawn to the GBGV because of its rustic appearance, reminiscent of the Spinone, and its more moderate size. After many years of keeping only females in her Spinone breeding program, living with a GBGV male has expanded her experience with behavior and management in a hound breed.

Teri is currently showing her GBGV dog, who has earned his GCHB as well as BCAT and DCAT titles, reflecting both quality of structure and athletic ability in performance events. She is working toward therapy dog certification with him; their current training focus is on developing polite, four-on-the-floor greetings instead of exuberant jumping.

Having personally experienced the challenge of campaigning a relatively unknown breed while safeguarding breed integrity, Teri is committed to helping the GBGV gain appropriate recognition in the United States. She is particularly interested in supporting reputable breeders and educating potential owners so that this engaging, fun-loving hound can thrive while remaining true to its original purpose and type.

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 GBGVCA 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"

Health Survey of the GBGV

Article
Submitted
by **Terry
Howell**

This health survey provides an overview of the current health status, longevity, preventive care practices, and disease trends within the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen population represented by participating owners and breeders. Respondents were predominantly experienced GBGV owners, with many having lived with the breed for several years and the majority obtaining their dogs directly from breeders. Most dogs were born and reside in the United States, and a high proportion of respondents reported membership in the national breed club, supporting the reliability and breed relevance of the data.

Overall, the findings suggest that the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen is a generally healthy and robust breed. Nearly 90% of dogs were reported to be in excellent or good health overall, and approximately three-quarters of dogs had no significant health problems. Dogs spanned a wide age range, including seniors, with multiple reports of dogs living into their mid-teens, indicating the potential for good longevity within the breed.

Preventive care practices were strong across the population. Core vaccination rates for rabies, distemper, and parvovirus were near universal, and the majority of dogs were maintained on heartworm, flea, and tick preventatives. Adverse reactions to vaccination were rare, with only a single reported event. Tick-borne disease prevalence was also low, with one reported case, underscoring the effectiveness of preventive measures while reinforcing the importance of continued vigilance.

Most disease categories showed low incidence. Cardiovascular, respiratory, liver, dental, orthopedic, and blood or lymphatic disorders were rarely reported. Cancer prevalence was low, and when present, survival times were often extended following surgical treatment. Gastrointestinal, neurological, eye, ear, and skin disorders were reported in a small minority of dogs.

One notable health trend identified in this survey was endocrine disease, particularly hypothyroidism. While overall endocrine disorders were still reported in a minority of dogs, hypothyroidism was the most

frequently identified condition within this category and occurred across a range of ages, including relatively young dogs. This finding suggests thyroid disease represents an area warranting continued monitoring, awareness, and consideration in breeding decisions.

In summary, the survey indicates that the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen is a healthy breed with strong preventive care practices, low prevalence of serious disease, and encouraging longevity. The most important opportunities for improvement lie in expanded participation in health testing and ongoing monitoring of thyroid disease, both of which would strengthen long-term health surveillance and support responsible breeding practices.

The data collected through this health survey was actively used by the GBGV Foundation to help guide strategic decisions regarding the allocation of research funding. By identifying areas of greatest potential impact on breed health, the Foundation was able to prioritize support for research that would most benefit the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen. In response to the survey findings highlighting hypothyroidism as a notable health concern, the GBGV Foundation directed a donation to the Canine Health Foundation to support ongoing research into thyroid disorders, reinforcing the Foundation's commitment to evidence-based decision-making and long-term breed health.

The continued participation of GBGV owners is vital to understanding and protecting the long-term health of the breed we all care about. Every survey response, whether from an owner of a young dog, a senior or a dog that has passed, adds valuable insight and helps build a clearer picture of GBGV health over time. All GBGV owners are warmly encouraged to take part in future health surveys, as broad participation strengthens the data and directly supports research, informed breeding decisions, and the ongoing wellbeing of the Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen.

<https://ofa.org/about/health-surveys/?breed=GBG>

2025 GBGV AKC Titles of Record

In chronological order by date title earned from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2025

AKC Title	Registered Name	Owner(s) of Record
Companion Dog Champion	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
Agility Excellent Preferred	Sidekick's Secret Femme Hors La Loi VCD1 BN RA AXP AJP ACT1 TKN	Jane Jonas
Farm Dog Certified	Ethos's League Of Her Own! FDC CGCA TKN	N Whobrey, N Mclean & E Whobrey
Farm Dog Certified	Ethos Just Like Heaven FDC BCAT CGC TKN	N Whobrey, N Mclean & E Whobrey
Scent Work Interior Master	Ethos Let's Go Crazy TD FCAT2 SWM RATO CGC TKN	J Schneider & N Mclean
Scent Work Master	Ethos Let's Go Crazy TD FCAT2 SWM RATO CGC TKN	J Schneider & N Mclean
FIT Dog Bronze	Talus Sidekick Ace Of Hearts CD BN CGCA TKN FITB	Bonnie Alonzo
Grand Champion	GCH CH Sidekick's Through The Years CGC TKN	G Tanenbaum, G Tanenbaum & B Humphrey
Farm Dog Certified	Ethos Let's Go Crazy TD FDC FCAT2 SWM RATO CGC TKN ATT	J Schneider & N Mclean
Farm Dog Certified	Ethos Loving The Northland FDC FCAT3 SWD SWM RATO CGC TKN	Joy Schneider
DCAT	GCH CH Sidekick's This Year's Eye Candy DCAT	T Turner & B Humphrey
AKC Temperament Test	Ethos Let's Go Crazy TD FDC FCAT2 SWM RATO CGC TKN ATT	J Schneider & N Mclean
Fetch Novice	Sidekick's Secret Femme Hors La Loi VCD1 BN RA AXP AJP ACT1 TKN FTN	Jane Jonas
Grand Champion Bronze	GCHB CH Sidekick's Courage Of The North At Crossroad	A Lancaster, B Humphrey, L Green & J Paquette Garcini
Scent Work Detective	Ethos Let's Go Crazy TD FDC FCAT2 SWD SWM RATO CGC TKN ATT	J Schneider & N Mclean
Tracking Dog Excellent	Always Sidekick Red Red Wine VCD1 BN RE TDX AXP AJP ACT2 TKN	Jane Jonas

GBGVCA, Inc. Committees

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Kitty Steidel, Laura Offerdahl

Rescue: Cindy Wilt, Chair; Deborah Howd

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

AKC Canine Health Foundation:

Your organization's 2025 THIRD quarter Donor Advised Fund (DAF) statement with the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) is attached, showing activity through 9/30/2025. 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

3RD Quarter 2025 Statement (1/1/2025 – 9/30/2025)

1/1/2025 Balance	\$1,264.51
Contributions	\$0.00
PPCPP Contribution	\$35.25
Investment Earnings/(Losses)	\$124.90
Research Support*	(\$113.02)
9/30/2025 Balance	\$1,311.64

*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. Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes ~ 23 July 2025

Roll Call: Corey, Brent, Barbara, Cindy, Jane, Kitty, Micky
Absent: Laura, Tiffany
Meeting called to order at 7:11 pm EST

Report of the President: The University of Missouri reported that they have found the long leg variant. It has taken about two years to complete; the project was started in the fall of 2023.

Report of the Vice President: Nothing to report at this time.

Report of the Secretary: Sent the May 21, 2025 minutes to the board prior to the meeting for review.

Motion #01-07-25 Brent moved to accept the minutes as circulated. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Report of the Treasurer: Brent reported the income as \$6501.36. There wasn't a lot of financial activity, the membership notice was just sent out. The notice included the \$5 increase per member. The report will be committed to file.

Committee Reports:

Regional Specialties: The Bluegrass Specialty in Lexington, Kentucky has added a sweepstakes event for veterans and puppies. There will be four show days. Gail and Brent are working on prizes. Only two groups will get trophies, the rest will get rosettes.
2026 National Specialty: nothing to report.

Foundation: They are meeting tonight and will be discussing mentoring and breed presentation.

Membership: Corey led the discussion on Jolanda's presentation at the National. He stated that a cutdown version is being talked about. That version would be sent to all hound group judges. Brent suggested sending Allison, who edited the presentation a gift card for \$200. Cindy seconded the suggestion. Brent and Corey are giving memberships to owners who get puppies from them. Discussion moved to the prisoner who applied for membership. *Motion #02-07-25* Jane moved to accept the membership, Cindy seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Newsletter: Brent is very happy with the way the letter is shaping up with new columns by Jane and Joy along with the column from Rip. There have been a lot of compliments from members. Members have been asking for Joy's contact information. Jane will be checking on Under the Sun in Denver as a future location for possible show events.

Judges Ed: Corey reported that judges have asked Janice Hayes a handler in California for mentoring. It was discussed that we would need to make sure that she's well-schooled in the conformation differences between Grands and Petites. We would provide her with the materials and information.

Motion #03-07-25 Brent moved to accept Janice as an honorary member with no dues but allowing her to mentor west coast judges. Micky seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Health: Brent noted that the report from University of Missouri was sent to all members.

Breed Preservation: This was covered in the President's report.

Other: Nothing to report.

Health: Brent noted that the report from University of Missouri was sent to all members.

Unfinished Business: Nothing to report.

New Business: Discussion began with the suggestion to have Joy attend the specialty in Perry, it would be helpful for scent work. Jane volunteered to reach out to Joy. Corey suggested doing a pre-entry to see how much interest there would be for all hounds/breeds. Cindy noted that the last PBGV specialty opened it all breeds, it was overwhelming with the number of people who came, dogs came away with parvo. It was suggested of possible limitations to just show people. Discussion continued with a suggestion of training with Megan, a premiere trainer in agility and scent work. Other suggestions included possible Zoom seminars with Joy (for a fee). Brent is going to check with AKC on what we can do for pet owners with general education Zoom seminars. Cindy brought up a minor situation where GBGVs are popping up in rescues. She suggested that a committee of club members across the country be formed to monitor this and get any possible information on any GBGVs in rescues.

Announcements: Nothing to report.

Adjournment: Brent called for adjournment at 8:23pm.

GBGVCA, Inc. Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes ~ 1 October 2025

Roll Call: Corey, Brent, Barbara, Cindy, Jane, Micky, Tiffany, Kitty
Absent: Laura
Meeting called to order at 7:10 pm EST

Report of the President: At the Morris & Essex show 6 of 10 dogs entered were shown. Corey gave a brief history of the event which takes place every 5 years in a public park in New Jersey.

Report of the Vice President: Nothing to report currently.

Report of the Secretary: Sent the July 23, 2025, minutes to the board prior to the meeting for review. *Motion #01-10-25* Brent moved to accept the minutes as circulated. Jane seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Report of the Treasurer: Brent reported the income as \$7590.73. We are in the middle of the renewal period so not all the monies are in from the August and September pull. Not all members receive renewal emails, but they did renew. There were expenses from the Midwest Regional Specialty in August and not a lot of trophy donations in the last couple of years.

Committee Reports:

2026 National/Regional Specialties: The judges have been selected and approved. The Specialty judges should be confirmed in the next 30 days. Corey suggested that to keep expenses down, rosettes be awarded in place of trophies. Brent said that with the board's approval he will get the hotel set for Perry.

Motion #02-10-25 Barb motioned to have Brent take care of the hotel details. Cindy seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Jane initiated a discussion on Rally and Companion events and Dock Diving with AKC vs Club recognized events. Discussion turned to scent and barn work and whether they can be added. The club is not licensed to hold these events which could bring in a lot of money for the club. Tiffany offered information on what it takes to participate in some of the trial events like scent work and agility. AKC would need to approve the license for the club to do scent work trials, and a specific number of experienced entrants are needed. Corey suggested that Jane chair a committee to get information for the club to be licensed for scent work events. Brent suggested that Corey appoint Joy and Tiffany to form the committee and call it "Performance Committee." It was decided that Jane will chair the committee and work with Joy and Tiffany.

Foundation: Cindy asked to have this tabled until the next meeting.

Newsletter: Brent reported that the next newsletter will be coming out on time, it contains really good content; good articles, it is evolving nicely. The Foundation sent Brent an email request and stating that they think they are being buried in our newsletter, they want to be in the front part of the newsletter. Brent would like to respond that unless they want to produce a specific article to put at the front, it stays at the back like any blurb.

Motion #03-10-25 Brent motioned that unless the Foundation produces a specific article for the newsletter, their standard blurb will remain at the back of the newsletter. Barb seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Cindy continued the discussion, suggesting that the club needs to have a conversation with the foundation about issues like this, to discuss submission of an article.

Judges Ed: Corey reported that we have a request to do mentoring at the ANA show in Kentucky in March of 2026. Four dogs would be needed to participate

Breed Preservation: Nothing to report currently.

Unfinished Business: Money is needed to shorten Jolanda's video presentation so that it can be sent to judges. *Motion #04-10-25* Brent moved to approve \$500 to hire an editor to cut down the presentation. Barb seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

New Business: Cindy asked the board to discuss the AKC Semen Bank regarding their semen collection policy. Her concern is that AKC is soliciting semen from random non-breeders/pet owners without requiring health testing or DNA testing for issues in the breed. Cindy has a client who imported a puppy from another country, AKC sent the owner a letter asking for a semen sample and did not ask for any health information. Cindy would like Corey to contact AKC to find out their parameters and for AKC to not give GBGV semen to anyone in a universal sperm bank so "specialty" dogs can not be produced from GBGV semen. Cindy will ask her client for a copy of the letter from AKC, Brent and Corey will take over once they have a copy of the letter. Brent made two motions electronically for membership approvals, both were approved by the board. Brent announced that Laurie Green and Gretchen Tannenbaum will staff and supply dogs for a GBGV Meet the Breed in 2026 at the Javits Center. *Motion #05-10-25* Brent moved to approve this. Barb seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements: Nothing to report.

Adjournment: Corey called for adjournment at 8:29pm.

Upcoming Events

❖ **Thursday, April 9, 2026 @ 6:30 PM – 2026 GBGVCA National & Regional Specialties** ***Stepping Stones to a Scent-sational GBGV* by Joy Schneider**

What sports are GBGV's made for? They are scent hounds and they excel at scent sports. The question is how does one train a GBGV for success in scent sports?

I'll be hosting a seminar on Thursday, April 9th right after the welcome party at the 2026 National and Regional Specialty in Perry, GA. I'll be talking about:

- What scent/nose work is as a sport
- Why do GBGV's need specialized training
- How does one get started
- Purchasing supplies to get started
- Creating hides
- Make working seem like the GBGV's idea
- I will have my competition GBGV's to give some demos
- If you are interested in one-on-one instruction I will be available all 3 days

Who am I?

I'm Joy Schneider from Minnesota. My first GBGV came from Vivien in England in 2006 and I have received four more from Nancy McLean in Missouri. Currently, I have three GBGV's two of which are competing. I first started nose/scent work classes in 2014.

After my first three GBGV's I realized the training in ordinary classes wasn't working well for my hounds. Having taken various classes, attended seminars, and read a lot about training, I decided to "home school" my hounds as soon as I picked them up from my breeder.

Olivia is my first home schooled GBGV. Nelson is my second one. Previously, I only dreamed of winning placements and earning upper-level titles. Olivia completely shocked me winning placements even at the beginning levels of trialing in both AKC and NASCW events. She earned the top titles in AKC at two and three years old, NASCW at three and five years old. Nelson has done the same and has earned the top AKC titles at three and one of the two NASCW top titles at three years old.

I continue to modify my training and learn from others through drop-in classes and seminars. We are fortunate to have a lot of good trainers in Minnesota.

Why am I offering this seminar? I want to see other GBGV's competing in what they were born to do, give me some competition, and I want to share what I do and why it works better than traditional training.

I'm not an instructor, nor do I have any teaching credentials. What I can offer is how to train a hound to work independently, love their job, and have success.

❖ **August 29, 2026 – 2026 GBGVCA Mid-Western Specialty & Sweepstakes in Lexington, KY**

2026 GBGVCA National & Regional Specialties

April 8 – April 11, 2026



Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agriculture Center

401 Larry Walker Parkway, Perry, GA 31069

In association with the Peach Blossom Cluster & The Combined Specialty Clubs of Atlanta, Inc.

Show Committee

Barbara Miller, 2026 Show Chair, bmiller4740@centurylink.net

Brent Humphrey, 2026 Show Secretary/Hospitality Chair, bhumphrey@bairdcorp.com

Shari Green, 2026 Trophy Chairs, lufovaspringer@gmail.com

Julie Hamilton, 2026 Silent Auction Chairs, julie.hamilton365@gmail.com

Judges

Mrs. Linda Riedel - Regional Conformation (April 10, 2026)

Mrs. Robin MacFarland – Regional Sweepstakes & Veteran Sweepstakes (April 10, 2026)

Dr. Andrea Bradford - National Conformation (April 11, 2026)

Mr. Kent MacFarland – National Sweepstakes & Veteran Sweepstakes (April 11, 2026)

Host Hotel

Hilton Garden Inn – Perry, GA

112 Hampton Court, Perry, GA 31069

Our previous host hotel, Hampton Inn, in Perry, GA, is moving into their new hotel at the same address. Hotel room rate is \$149.00 plus tax. There is a pet fee of \$50.00 for up to 2 dogs. Reservations need to be made through the hotel at 478-313-1651, use **Booking Code: GBGVCA** when you make the reservation. The hotel is located less than 3 miles from the Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agriculture Center. The new hotel will have enhanced amenities including an onsite restaurant.

RV Parking

RV reservations can be made through the **Georgia National Fairgrounds & Agricenter** online at the GNFA website, www.gnfa.com. No mail in reservations will be accepted. RV reservation fees will be processed in full at time of reservation. Advance reservation is strongly advised. Limited spaces may be available during the show. If spaces are available, fees must be paid in cash at the gate. Limited 50-amp circuits are available.

Designated Grooming

A designated grooming area has been assigned for the **GBGVCA** exhibitors. Enter EAST GATE to unload for grooming in the Sheep Barn. There will be 24-hour security. Please review the following guidelines requested by the All-Breed Cluster:

Crates must be stacked – name & local contact required on all crates
No living rooms. No rugs. No Lounge Chairs
No strollers in exhibitor buildings

One X-pen per four dogs
NO SOFT-SIDED CRATES IN GROOMING AREA.
Dog bathing facilities with hot & cold water provided

GBGVCA Annual Awards Reception & Silent Auction

Please join us for the **GBGVCA Annual Awards Reception & Silent Auction** on Friday evening, April 10, 2026, at 7:00 PM in association with the 2026 GBGVCA National and Regional Specialties. We invite you, along with your friends and family, to join us for a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our noble hounds, acknowledge GRAND accomplishments, and show support to our parent club and foundation.

FURTHER DETAILS TO FOLLOW SOON WITH LOCATION, COST AND PAYMENT INFORMATION

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

[WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026](#)

Atlanta Kennel Club All Breed Show

[THURSDAY, APRIL 9, 2026](#)

Valdosta Kennel Club All Breed Show

GBGVCA Welcome Party & PRESENTATION – 6:30 pm

Stepping Stones to a Scent-sational GBGV by Joy Schneider – [\(See Informational Flyer in Upcoming Events\)](#)

[FRIDAY, APRIL 10, 2026](#)

Valdosta Kennel Club All Breed Show

2026 GBGVCA REGIONAL SPECIALTY: The Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America, Inc., will host a concurrent specialty, in conjunction with the **Valdosta Kennel Club**, for Conformation as their Regional Specialty

2026 GBGVCA REGIONAL SWEEPSTAKES & VETERAN SWEEPSTAKES: The Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America, Inc. will host Sweepstakes and Veteran Sweepstakes, in conjunction with the **Valdosta Kennel Club** as follows. Sweepstakes is open to dogs and bitches, 6 months & under 18 months. Dogs shown in Sweepstakes must also be entered in one of the regular classes at the regular entry fee and on the regular entry form. Veteran Sweepstakes is open to dogs and bitches 7 years & older. Dogs shown in Veteran Sweepstakes need not be entered in one of the regular classes at the regular entry fee.

GBGVCA ANNUAL AWARDS RECEPTION & SILENT AUCTION – 7:00 pm

[SATURDAY, APRIL 11, 2026](#)

Atlanta Kennel Club All Breed Show

2026 GBGVCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY: The Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America, Inc., will host a concurrent specialty, in conjunction with the **Atlanta Kennel Club** for Conformation

2026 GBGVCA NATIONAL SWEEPSTAKES & VETERAN SWEEPSTAKES: The Grand Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America, Inc. will host Sweepstakes and Veteran Sweepstakes, in conjunction with the **Atlanta Kennel Club** as follows. Sweepstakes is open to dogs and bitches, 6 months & under 18 months. Dogs shown in Sweepstakes must also be entered in one of the regular classes at the regular entry fee and on the regular entry form. Veteran Sweepstakes is open to dogs and bitches 7 years & older. Dogs shown in Veteran Sweepstakes need not be entered in one of the regular classes at the regular entry fee.

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING – 6:30 pm or 30 minutes after Best in Show