Brags & WAGS

Volume 3, Issue 1
January, 2025

Welcome to the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen Club of America's monthly newsletter. Our goal is to celebrate our members' successes of all things PBGV.

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Upcoming Deadlines

Application for PBGVCA Award Recognition

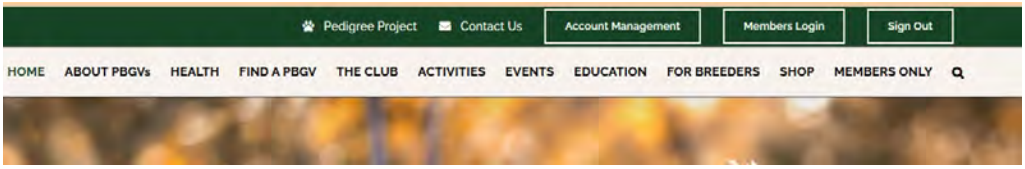
Accepting applications January 1, 2025 through February 3, 2025

This is not a "mail-by" deadline but a receive-by deadline. No exceptions!

Download Application

PBGVCA Membership Dues

Friendly reminder to pay your PBGVCA membership dues if you haven't. Go to PBGV.org and select the Members Login on the top green bar.



Select the **Account Management** text to log in and renew.

Select the Renew button and pay. After completion of your payment take a moment to update your profile, especially if your address or email address is new.

Newsletter Editor

Please contact pbgvcanewsletter@gmail.com with pictures and accomplishments of you and your PBGV to be included in the next issue of **Brags & Wags**.

We want to celebrate all things PBGV!!

What's in a Kennel Name by Teri King

Let's get this party started!

First I would like the Members who have agreed to share their information.

Gloria Swaine- Atlandia

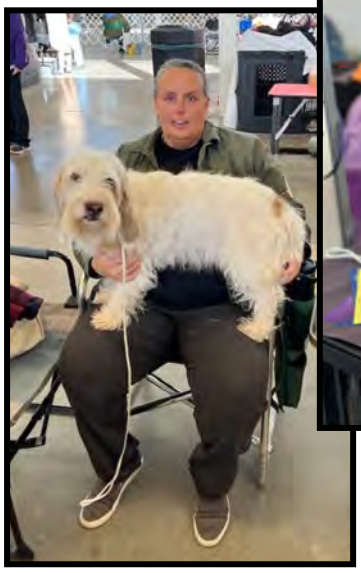
It was not an easy selection. I wanted something that was related to wonder or outdoors. Tried many only to realize these were already being used by other breeds. My business name (accounting) is Atlantis Business Resources. I decided to figure out how to meld them. Years ago, on a vacation in San Diego, we stayed in a hotel named Ilandia. I thought that was a cleaver play on a word Island and never forgot it. So I used the same play on a word and came up with Atlandia. I have had the name since my first litter of PBGVs in 2013. I don't want to change the name.
My kennel name isn't used for other breeds however, Aussie's who have me listed as a cobreeder have the kennel name of Genesis.

Angie/Charlie puppies 2013

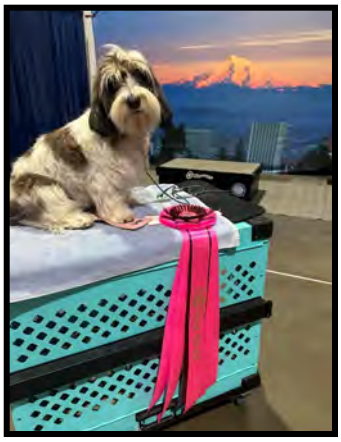
George and Betty Barth-GEBEBA

This kennel name was a combo as in GE- George BE Betty, BA Barth. The name was established in 1976.

In the Ring



CH Amivelu Hot to Trot , Findley won Winners Bitch, Best of Winners and Best of Breed for her Championship on January 19th at the Central Iowa Kennel Club. Owned by Shea Braune.



GCH Black Majesty Ballet de Chantilly , Tilly won Best of Breed and Owner Handler Group 1 and Group 2 On January 17th and 19th at the Dog Fanciers Assn of Oregon Inc. Owned by Bayje Pomeroy.

Amivelu Mirepoix Dash O Pepper, Rip, won Winners Dog and Best of Winners on January 19th at the Central Iowa Kennel Club. Owned by Denise Carroll.

CH M & M's Stellar Hot Mess Express "Britney" was awarded Group 2 on January 5th at the Kennel Club of Palm Springs. Owned by Janice Hayes, Thomas Sikora, Eric Ciceron and Maggie Peat.

CH M & M's Stellar Mayhem and Madness, "Hemi" was awarded Group 1 at the Santa Clara Valley Kennel Club. Owned by Janice Hayes, Donna Moore, and Eric Ciceron.

Speed Chasers, Sniffers and those that are Obedient

Rowan finished his FCAT on January 19th in Jackson Springs, NC. Owned by Coady Egan

Conway earned a Q and 1st place in Agility on January 5th. Owned by Cheryl Champion.

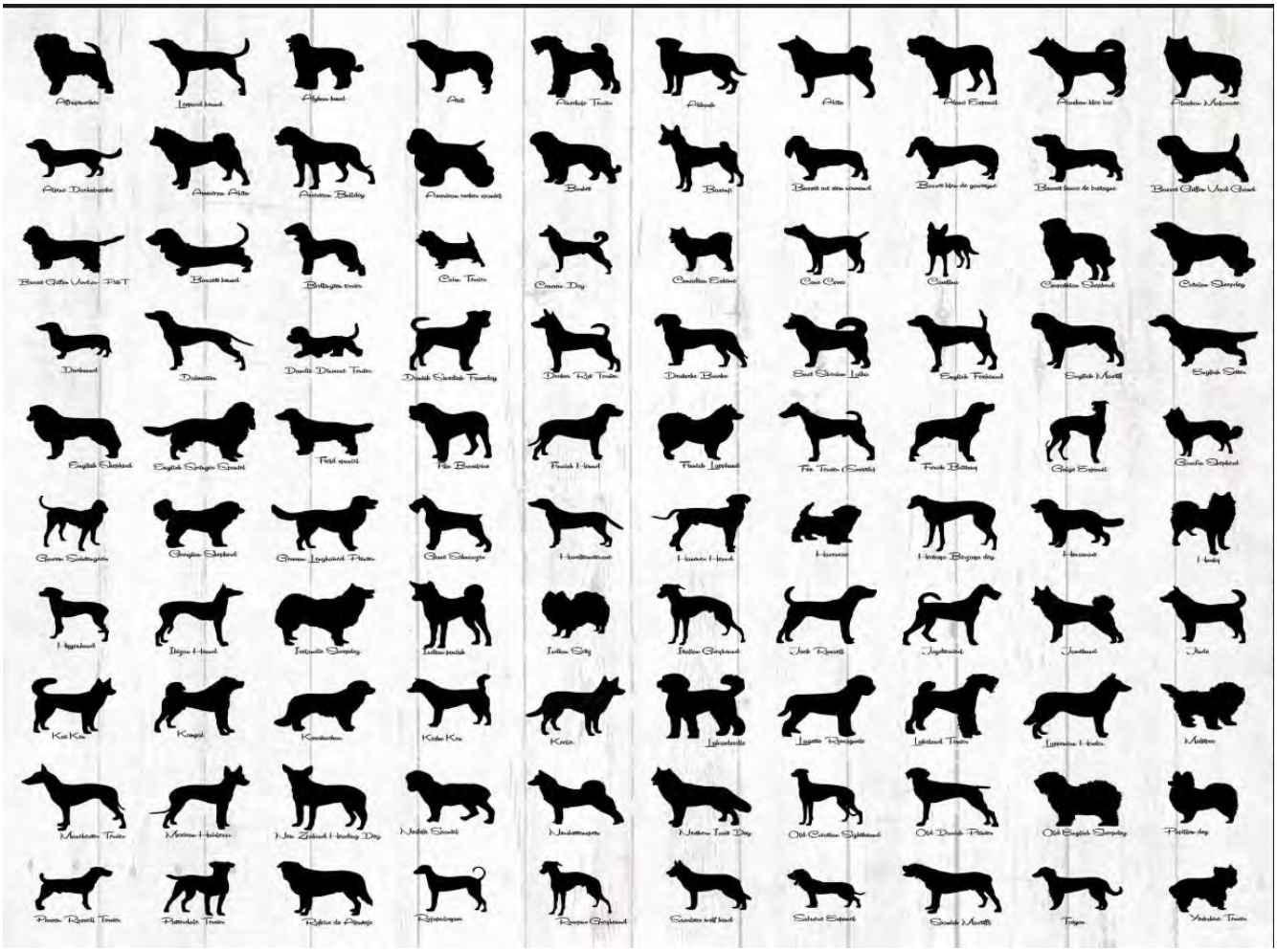
Conway and Porter owned by Cheryl Champion ; Tito and Reba owned by Paul and Carol Urban after hunting at the Tar Heel Beagle Club, NC on January 12th.

Buddy Holly trading cards, part of the Stars of the Show The Westminster. 2024 Topps Allen & Grinter.

National Purebred Dog Day-April 2nd

Coady Egan has been in contact with National Purebred Dog Day and the PBGV will be featured on April 2nd. For those unfamiliar with the purebred of interest feature, every Wednesday a different breed gets featured. NPDD will post prompts asking for information about how it is living with our dogs, grooming, sharing puppy photos, health testing/longevity, etc. You can look through previous weeks to see the questions being asked. These features always go better when there's a lot of involvement, so mark your calendars and be ready to share photos of our lovely hounds.

Coady hopes we can get as many breeders and owners of our silly little hounds commenting and sharing their experience with the breed. It's a great opportunity to be advocates for our dogs and share what makes them so special!



Lone Star Dachshund Conservatory, Ladonia, TX Hunt Test-January 17th-19th, 2025

Rabbits, Puppies, & Daring Rescue - The January Texas Hunt Brought It All!
By Sharon Kimble

The January Texas Hunt was a full experience. You expect many of the same things you would encounter at any hunt test: early morning starts, getting lots of steps while walking the field trying to keep an eye on your dog, PBGV tall tales from fellow handlers, and tired pups at the end of each day. What you don't always expect is an X-pen full of exuberant 10-week-old puppies, 20-degree temperatures and a frigid wind whipping across the plains, delicious home-cooked food every day, and having to rescue a PBGV from a metal tunnel out in the field. The January Texas hunt delivered all of this and more.

Runs started on Friday to accommodate braces and solos and to allow us to finish a little earlier on Sunday and avoid bad weather. Handlers running Friday enjoyed breakfast provided by Jessie and Brianne Major-Weber. After the hunt test stakes concluded, handlers enjoyed open run time on the field which was helpful for those new to this field or those who wanted to exercise their hounds after traveling. Jessie and Brianne also surprised us with lunch on Friday; delicious grilled cheese sandwiches and tomato or chicken noodle soup, which hit the spot on such a cold, dreary day.

Saturday started early with breakfast at 6:30 am followed by roll call at 7:00 am. The first run went out at 7:30am. We needed all the time we could get to allow everyone time on the field before the sun went down. Throughout the morning, handlers brought items to the clubhouse for the raffle and Sharon McKee was busy labeling them. There were all types of raffle prizes including a framed picture of a PBGV chasing a rabbit in the snow, the coveted PBGV Christmas pillow, dog treats and toys, handmade measuring cups and spoons, a Dog Stories book, a lovely small quilt with a rabbit design, a pretty rabbit décor item, a bottle of wine and a basket of candy, and PBGV jewelry. Raffle tickets were $20 for as many tickets.

As Chief Marshal, Sharon McKee ensured the runs stayed on time, took pictures of the hunting party before they went out, and kept the starter pistol loaded. This made things run very smoothly and kept the runs on time with few delays.

The hunt field at the **Lone Star Dachshund Conservancy (LSDC)** has tall clumps of grass where the rabbits like to hide and mowed lanes around the sections of the field, creating quadrants. Rabbits bumped from the grass preferred to run down the lanes to get away. This made for easily visible rabbit sightings and pursuits that were fun to watch as the dogs raced down the lanes after the rabbits. There were quite a few rabbits, and it was satisfying to shout "Tally Ho!" and watch the dogs come running to the handler who shouted or to honor the hound who bumped the rabbit.

Throughout the field, there were assorted items for the rabbits to hide in, including wooden pallets, brush piles, feeders, little

Lone Star Dachshund Conservatory, Ladonia, TX Hunt Test-January 17th-19th, 2025

rabbit houses, and metal culvert tunnels. Most dogs enjoyed running through the tunnels making them a good photo spot. One tunnel had a bend in the middle and a small opening where the metal had been crushed. As it would happen, a rabbit was hiding in the small end of that tunnel when one of the dogs encountered it and wedged herself in the small space. Realizing the dog was not responding to the handler's call, we followed the muffled "yip!" to the scene. Unable to remove the dog easily from the tunnel, we leashed up the other dogs in the stake and called for reinforcements with tools to cut or bend the tunnel to get the dog out. Handlers were calm and after a few tries and various tools, the team radioed the clubhouse that the dog was free of the tunnel. A cheer of "yay!" went up and everyone felt relieved. We are still not sure how the rabbit got out! Even after being leashed, the determined hound tried to go right back into the tunnel. (This is how you achieve a score of 10 for determination!) Even on the following day, that hound went back to the scene to see if the rabbit had returned. Fortunately, the rescue team had secured the tunnel in a way to prevent entry at the crimped end.

When handlers returned from the field, a warm clubhouse waited where the score sheets were posted for easy viewing. Hunt Secretary Mendy Marshall entered the judges' scores quickly and placed ribbons near copies of the results for handlers. Judges were available and willing to answer questions about scores and, if requested, offered tips on how to improve handling or hound performance. When the handlers were ready to relax for a few minutes, they could grab coffee and enjoy a snack of homemade cookies of all varieties (even gluten free!), chips, or fruit.

We quickly learned that the best way to spend time in the clubhouse was to pull up a chair near the x-pen and watch the puppies. The puppies were sociable and happy to be picked up and cuddled although they did not want to hold still for long. If the puppies were sleeping, they were calming to watch, and it was quickly decided that if you woke the puppies you had to clean up after them so most of us let those sleeping puppies lie.

All weekend Lora Megli, Hunt Chair, monitored the weather closely to ensure that everyone could get on the road Sunday back to a warm hotel or head home. It was very cold both days; Sunday it was in the 20's. Tiffany Cannon brought in a bag of winter gear that she handed out to anyone needing something. All these items, even if they did not quite fit and needed to be removed out in the field, were appreciated.

During lunch on Sunday, the raffle prizes were awarded to happy winners. The group started to pack things up and say their goodbyes as the runs finished and people started for home. One puppy left for a new home with a handler and the others were bid a fond farewell. We thanked the hosts and caretakers of the LDC, Julie and Bill, for taking care of many details and being so welcoming.

The January 2025 Texas hunt was a lot of fun, and many teams had success in their hunt tests. We enjoyed the excitement that the runs (and the rescue!) brought and we made new connections in the PBGV community. It takes everyone doing a little bit to make hunts like these successful and the participation and camaraderie were evident throughout the weekend. This handler encourages anyone considering participating in a Texas hunt to enter and see for yourself how it is done in the Lone Star State. You will not regret the trip!

Lone Star Dachshund Conservatory, Ladonia, TX Hunt Test-January 17th-19th, 2025

Saturday-Pack
Roxie (owned by Doug and Sharon McKee; Bullet owned by Mendy Marshall; Kyleigh and Daphne, owned by Tiffany Cannon.

Saturday-Pack
Sparks owned by Lora Megli; Shiner owned by Rick Walton; Snickers owned by Brianne Major-Weber; Kellie owned by Doug and Sharon McKee.

Saturday-Brace
Lego owned by Lora Megli; Whimsey, owned by Tiffany Cannon.

Saturday-Brace
Cosmo and Enya owned by Gloria Swain, Eden Swain and Ezra Reed

Saturday-Pack
Etta, Elle owned by Vickie and Tim Willmann and Oliver owned by Sharon Kimble and Charlie Johnson.

Saturday-Pack
Riley owned by Val Casillas, GiGi owned by Jo Quintenz, Pepper and Willow owned by Gloria Swaine, Eden Swaine and Ezra Reed.

Saturday-HIT
Pato owned by Jo Quintenz, Ivy and Pearl owned by Clara and Mike Coziar, Queso owned by Lora Megli.

Saturday-Brace
Iceage and Shelby owned by Brianne Major-Weber.

Saturday –Solo
Echo owned by Sharon Kimble and Charlie Johnson

Lone Star Dachshund Conservatory, Ladonia, TX Hunt Test-January 17th-19th, 2025

Sunday-Solo
Bullet owned by Mendy Marshall.

Sunday-Brace
Lego owned by Lora Megli, Whimsey owned by Tiffany Cannon.

Sunday-Brace
Iceage and Shelby owned by Brianne Major-Weber.

Sunday-Pack
Riley owned by Val Casillas; GiGI owned by Jo Quintenz; Willow, Angie and Pepper owned by Gloria Swaine, Eden Swaine and Ezra Reed.

Sunday-Pack
Etta Mae and Elle owned by Vickie and Tim Willmann, Oliver Z owned by Sharon Kimble and Charlie Johnson.

Sunday-Pack
Kellie owned by Doug and Sharon McKee; Cosmo, Enya, Willow and Patience owned by Gloria Swain, Eden Swain and Ezra Reed.

Lone Star Dachshund Conservatory, Ladonia, TX Hunt Test-January 17th-19th, 2025

Submitted by Val Casillas

The temperatures were frigid, the wind was fierce, and the bunnies were plentiful at our first Texas hunt of the year.

Both the hunters and the hounds were anxious to explore the field at the Lone Star Dachshund Conservancy. We had 4 overflow stakes on Friday morning, plus a Novice Learning Experience, where Lora Megli, Trial Chair, gave a talk and a demonstration on the field with a bunny pelt. Some of us got to the site on Friday afternoon to let our dogs run during the open time. The weather was a bit warmer the first day, with some sun and the dogs got to chase rabbits, so everyone had a great afternoon!

We kicked it in to high gear early Saturday morning for a home-cooked breakfast made by Jesse and Brianne Weber and roll call. Lora Megli and Trial Secretary, Mendy Marshall, had everything organized for the hunting teams, with head Field Marshal, Sharon McKee, assisting the marshals in the field, plus running the raffle. The judges were kept busy with 8 ½ hours of judging on Saturday and 6 ½ hours on Sunday. The stakes included a good mix of packs, braces, solos and a few HITs. This was our first time hunting under the revised hunt rules. Handlers were briefed on the new rules, and everything seemed to run smoothly, especially at pick up time at the end of each run.

Highlights of the weekend for me were getting to meet and watch Brianne Weber's adorable PBGV puppies that provided so many cute moments of sleeping and playing. I could watch those puppies all day! Also, I love to take photos and videos of the dogs on the field, and I was able to get a video of my dog, Riley, bumping a bunny from the field and chasing it down the lane!

Everyone went home with Q ribbons, raffle prizes and tired hounds. It was great to spend a weekend with friends, old and new and participate in one of our favorite dog activities.

Happy Hunting!

Puppies - Birth Announcements

Dehra PBGV (Nick Frost) welcomed a litter on New Years Eve.

Centerstage PBGV (Patti Whitlock) welcomed a litter on December 10th. Parents CH Centerstage Talus has a Party and GRCH Centerstage Hot Ticket.

In Memoriam - Alice McGowen

PBGVs lost a special friend this month. Alice McGowen, 77, of Jerseyville, IL, passed away on January 8, 2025, after a long illness. Alice's legacy will be defined by her remarkable contributions to disaster preparedness, particularly for vulnerable populations, and her lifelong commitment to volunteer service.

A Leader in Volunteerism and Disaster Preparedness

In 2018, Alice was honored with the Illinois Governor's Volunteer Service Award, recognizing her outstanding volunteer efforts. Her dedication to helping others was further acknowledged when she received the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award from President Obama for her lifelong commitment to service. These prestigious honors reflect Alice's deep impact on her community and beyond.

Her work in disaster preparedness extended far beyond digital volunteering. Alice became a digital volunteer with Humanity Road, where she led the Vulnerable Population/Service Dog Team. From the comfort of her home, Alice developed the Disability, Accessibility, and Functional Needs (DAFN) social media awareness program, which became an invaluable resource for tracking and disseminating critical information during disasters. Her work reached across the nation, improving the speed and effectiveness of disaster response and ensuring that those with functional needs received the attention and care they required in times of crisis.

Through her efforts, Alice laid the groundwork for future volunteer programs focused on disaster preparedness and response for vulnerable populations. Her leadership, innovation, and commitment to service made her a respected figure in the field of emergency management.

A Passion for Animals and the PBGV Breed

Alice's work also reflected her deep love for animals, especially the Petit Basset Griffon Vendéen (PBGV) breed, which she was passionate about throughout her life. Her service dog, Annie, a PBGV, was not only her loyal companion but also the mascot for the Disability, Accessibility, and Functional Needs (DAFN) team. Annie's role went beyond companionship—she was Alice's constant helper, reminding her when medications were due and picking up things she dropped. Alice's contributions to the PBGV community were also significant. A longtime dog trainer, breeder, and advocate for the breed, Alice played a key role in documenting its history and preserving its legacy for future generations. Alice had a reputation for her dog training, as evidenced when she was selected to train the iconic black spaniels featured in the famous 1990 Coppertone commercial.

A Life Devoted to Service

Alice's disability meant she spent most of her days at home, isolated from the public and her community. But rather than letting this limit her, Alice found inspiration to serve. Despite spending much of her life as a shut-in due to her disability, Alice proved that physical limitations would never hinder her determination to make a difference.

In Memoriam-Jeffrey Pepper

On January 25th, our breed lost a great supporter today with the passing of Jeff Pepper after a long illness. Jeff was a very active participant in the early days of the PBGVCA, helping the club during its formation and helping the breed to achieve formal AKC recognition in the United States. He served as the club president and bred some of the most influential PBGVs in the breed's foundational years here under the kennel name Pepperhill.

Jeff's journey alongside dogs began in 1968 with the purchase of his very first Golden Retriever. Through the years, Jeff owned and loved many different breeds and also successfully bred Golden Retrievers and Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. Jeff's love of the PBGV began in 1984; he actually imported one of the very first PBGVs to arrive in the US. Jeff bred over 65 Golden Retriever Champions and 55 PBGV Champions as well as an All-Breed Best In Show Winner and a National Specialty Winner in each of those breeds.

In 1984, Jeff began another illustrious career as an AKC Judge with approval for his original breed, the Golden Retriever. He went on to judge both the Sporting and Hound Groups, Best In Show and of course Cavalier King Charles Spaniels. Jeff had the honor of adjudicating at Westminster Kennel Club on multiple occasions including the Hound Group in 2018, the AKC National Championship, Best In Show at the Kennel Club Of Philadelphia and too many prestigious assignments all over the world to mention. Jeff also judged many National Specialties including both of his primary breeds.

Jeff's contributions to the sport of purebred dogs knew no bounds. Jeff was a founding member of Take The Lead, "a 501c3 dedicated to provide direct services, support and care for all qualified participants in the sport of dogs who suffer from the devastating realities of life-threatening or terminal illness." In addition to the PBGVCA, Jeff also served as President of the Dog Judges Association of America, Vice President of the Golden Retriever Club of America and Treasurer of Take The Lead. Jeff was a mentor to each and every fancier he encountered.

In his personal life, Jeff held a Masters Degree in Social Work and aided troubled children as a social worker for nearly 30 years. He also owned and operated Woods End Kennel for many years in the Northern suburbs of New York City. In his free time, Jeff loved to write and was a celebrated author of five published books on dogs, including the PBGV.

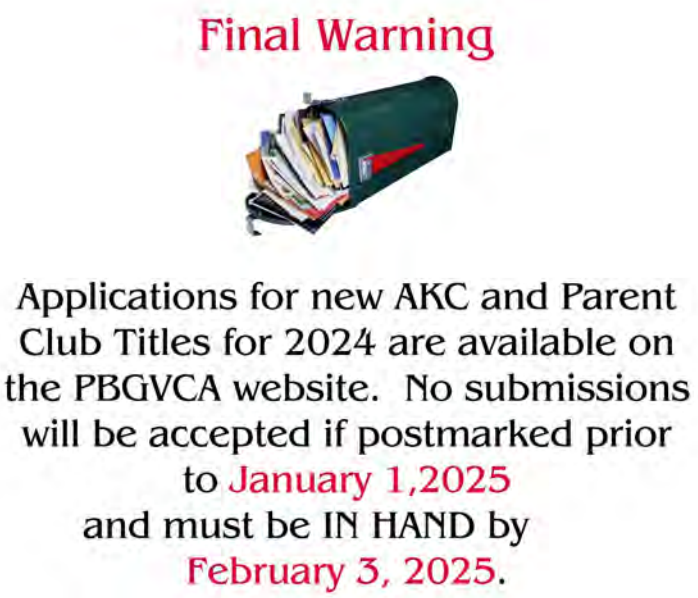
Jeff enjoyed orchids, African safaris, and all things dogs! He was an avid photographer and he loved to travel. Jeff will be remembered for his knowledge he gave so freely and his love of laughter and life!

Rest in peace, Jeff. Your kindness, wisdom, and smile will be deeply missed. We send our love and condolences to his family, friends, and the entire dog show community. We have lost an icon.

Upcoming Events

Event	Location	Date(s)
Hunt Test	**Texas PBGV Hunt Test** **Lone Star Dachshund Conservancy**	**February 14th-16th**
Hunt Test	**Carolina PBGV Club** **Tokenna Beagle Club** **Seneca, SC**	**March 7th—9th**
PBGVCA **National Speciality**	**YO Ranch Hotel and Conference Center** **Kerrville, TX**	**March 18th—22nd**

Pbgv.org



Please notify Sandy Bustin at sbustin1@verizon.net if you know of a member who has passed away so that we can include their name.