

THE LOWDOWN

Potomac Basset Hound Club

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2018 Holiday Party

The Potomac Basset Hound Club held it's 2018 Holiday Party at Melinda Brown's home on Saturday, December 29th. We had a fun afternoon featuring a delicious lunch with sweet treats and a very spirited gift exchange! Thank you to everyone who attended, participated, and brought a dish to share & a special thanks to Melinda for graciously hosting us!



Upcoming Events

January 9-13: Fredericksburg Cluster All-Breed Show (closed)

January 25-27: Richmond Cluster All-Breed Show, including a double Potomac Hound Club Show (entry close date: January 9)

February 2 - PBHC meeting will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019, at the Central Rappahannock Regional Library Branch at 1201 Caroline St. in Fredericksburg, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Spring Specialty Note:

Our Judge will be Dr. Norbert Dee

Tracking Brag!

by Madeline Wilson

On December 9, 2018, Bliss and her human dad Larry drew Track #2 in the Mattaponi Kennel Club Tracking Test at the Oatlands in Leesburg. Larry followed Bliss along the 480 yard, 4 turn track on the cold, dry day to earn a TD. Pending AKC approval, GCH Kuuipo's Olives Pimento Perpetual Bliss Halia', CD, RE, BN can add TD to her name. She is co-owned with Melinda Brown, but Bliss worships her dad and tracking handler. As Bliss' Breeder and co-owner, I am beyond excited and so proud of Larry and Bliss!



Field Trial News - The 2018 Season Draws to a Close

by Ellen Ripper

Lenape Basset Hound Club hosted the final field trial of the season at the Swatara Beagle Club in Elizabethtown, PA. Veteran's Day weekend saw the entry of 6 males, 14 Champions and 17 bitches. Competitors came from MA, CT, NY, PA, VA, and NC. It rained all Friday night, making the grounds a challenge for both dogs and handlers alike on Saturday. The 20 mph wind kept the rabbits sitting tight. The gallery had to work hard to keep things moving.

John Tirado from PA with his handsome Walter took first in Dogs. Unlike the other classes, Champs can run dogs and bitches together if that is how the draw shakes out. It took three series to determine the winners with all four places going to the bitches. Sunday dawned sunny and cold with a serious frost. Seventeen bitches had a spirited competition requiring three series to determine the four placings. Only four females were called back for second series. The first brace flipped thus requiring a third series. Fireball owned by Ellen Ripper earned a fourth place giving her a six placement toward the required eight.

The last 2018 field event was a Hunting Performance Test (HPT) held the following weekend at the Central Jersey Beagle Club in Flemington, NJ. The HPT gives trailers a chance to run their bassets as a solo, brace, or pack. The 30 minute time limit for each dog to find and run a rabbit provides a different type of challenge. Lenape BHC hosts both tests on Sat. and Sun. which gives everyone a chance to earn two qualifying scores in one weekend. The weather gods completed the trifecta of hail, rain and then 2-4 inches of snow. Most (if not all) dogs have never experienced trialing in such conditions. Entries for both days were as follows: Saturday had 9 Solo, 7 Brace, and 2 Pack, while Sunday had 10 Solo, 4 Brace, and 2 Pack. Fireball had earned the Hunting Hound title earlier in the year. Saturday running with Annette's Ella they completed a successful Q in Brace.

It's a wonderful way to spend time with friendly hard working people in the great outdoors. Whether holding dogs for each other or helping to retrieve them, it definitely takes good group participation. Trialing will take a hiatus until Spring. With a year more experience, the 2019 season promises to be an exciting one.