

# THE LOWDOWN

## POTOMAC BASSET HOUND CLUB

NOVEMBER 2021

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

---

Page 1

- ❖ Upcoming Events
- ❖ Discord Instructions

Page 2

- ❖ Field Trial News

Page 3

- ❖ Field Trial News

Page 4

- ❖ Brags

Page 5

- ❖ Brags

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**November 6 & 7** - Designated specialties with Warrenton Kennel Club and Old Dominion Kennel Club in Doswell, VA. For our designated specialty with Old Dominion Kennel Club, we will be offering a Senior Sweepstakes for dogs age 18-24 months and 24-30 months. One-time COVID special! Champions allowed to compete.

**December 4** – 10:00am, socially distanced in-person meeting at 112 Juliad Ct., Fredericksburg VA. Dr. Samuel will give her ophthalmology lecture after the meeting.

#### **Instructions for Discord:**

You need to download the Discord app first and confirm your email with the app. Even if you don't wish to use the voice part of the app, Devon can see your typed comments and read them out during the meeting. If you need more information, please contact Devon Merritt.

## Berkshire Valley BHC Fall Field Trial

*By Ellen Ripper*

The Central Jersey Beagle Club in Sergeanville, NJ was scheduled to host the Berkshire Valley (BV) basset hound field trial on Halloween weekend. But due to heavy rains earlier in the month, which had washed out the road to the club preventing all but small vans and trucks to safely enter, Berkshire Valley BHC scrambled to find a different location and date.

Working with AKC on short notice, Wyoming Valley Beagle Club in Hunlock Creek, PA, stepped up to accommodate the trial on Oct 16-17. Another big storm was forecast for Sat. afternoon which made the rabbits hard to get moving. But handlers, dogs, the gallery, and judges worked together to make it possible for the competition to go on.

H.oH. VA Gentleman of Fireside (Bourbon) ran in the last brace. This little hound showed his stuff and was called back 'high hound' in Second Series running against one of his brothers. Bourbon held his place and came home with the blue ribbon—his first 1st place. Later, the eight Champions took the field. FC Branscombe Apple Country of Fireside, MHH ran like there was no tomorrow. She and her brace mate didn't want to stop, going up and over the hill and through the woods. They ran completely out of site of the judges. She managed a fourth place. Who knows what place she may have had if not so independent. Funny now, not so much then. Both dogs are owned, trained and loved by Ellen Ripper.

Field trial season is drawing to a close with only two more events: Lenape BHC on Oct. 23-24 and Susquehanna BHC Nov. 6-7. If you'd like to see what bassets are bred to do and how the BHCA was started, come out to Elizabethtown, PA in November to the Swatara BC where Nationals were held several years ago.



## Lenape BHC Field Trial

*By Ellen Ripper*

Hunlock Creek, PA was the site of the penultimate fall field trial. Brian Lawrence and Carrie Campbell both from the Fredericksburg, VA area judged 7 OAADs, 9 Champions, and 9 OAABs.

Saturday dawned overcast and wet from an overnight rain making first series a challenge. Gallery, dogs and handlers worked hard to get things underway. Once the rabbits came out, the dogs had some good runs. The young boys are coming along nicely.

Four series later, HoH Virginia Gentleman of Fireside (Bourbon) claimed second place in Open Dogs with tight line work and a beautiful voice. Owner and trainer, Ellen Ripper was pleased as Bourbon has had limited training. His enthusiasm and drive are exciting to see.

The afternoon brought the BHCA Champions class. What a pleasure to watch these bassets do what they love. With the rabbits running now, the judges gave the five braces plenty of time to run-a nice treat. Again it required four series to produce the winners. FC Branscombe Apple Country of Fireside, MHH (Fireball) started from the fifth brace and worked her way up to second place with four long quality runs. She will be six years old on Dec. 6.

The Champions class is not easy. It takes a determined dog to run and run and run against stiff competition. Fireball is up to the task. She was born to hunt and does so with skill, heart and desire—never quitting. This big girl who is a mother of five 16 month old pups has proven herself in the field and the whelping box. Ellen hopes to have one of her sons (Snowball) who is a XL version of his mama running by this time next fall. Time will tell.

The Lenape BHC awarded AKC ribbons to all dogs that placed along with a 15 lb. box of American made dog biscuits in all three classes. That may be a first: 225 lbs of biscuits! Has anyone else noticed these big boxes with large biscuits are hard to find now?

The field trial season concludes at Swatara BC in Elizabethtown, PA with the Susquehanna BHC trial Nov 6-7.

## Braggs

Jethro (Zen's On It Boss!; GCH Zen's Jug of Punch x CH Zen Dog's She Bee Stingin'!", bred by Robin Snell) got his first points towards his championship by going Best of Winners for a 3 point major at the National Capital Dog Show on July 11<sup>th</sup> and then was Best of Winners again at the Huntington Valley Kennel Club Show on August 12<sup>th</sup> for another 1 point.

*By Samantha Helton*



On Saturday, October 23, 2021, at the Weimaraner Club of America National tracking test, on the gorgeous grounds of Fair Hill Natural Resource Management Area in Elkton, MD, in perfect tracking conditions, Gunner passed his TDX under judges Stephanie A. Crawford and Gina DeAlmeida. GCH Obie's Shoot the Moon, RN, TDX was bred by Peggy O'Brien and is owned by me and Melinda. He has been trained by Team Kuuipo with guidance from our amazing tracking instructor, judge Judi Edwards, and was handled to both his tracking titles by Larry. We are incredibly proud of this achievement! On to VST? Perhaps....

*By Madeline Wilson*



Zen's Merlin the Magician (Mojo) was Winners Dog for his last point at the Catonsville KC show under judge Nancy Dougherty. Mojo is owned by Ning Fecher, Doyle Fecher, and Devon Merritt.

*By Devon Merritt*

Saranade N Zen's Here's Your Destiny at St Lo was Best of Breed 4-6 Month Puppy and Puppy Hound Group 2 at the Catonsville KC show under judge Gregg Kantak.

*By Devon Merritt*