



HUBBARD'S CUPBOARD

Well what can only be described as a 'dream start' to the year, the Dandie from down under sits as #1 All Breeds through to the end of June. This year alone he has collected 50 Group Is and 24 BISs. I am of course talking of Aust Gr/NZ/Am Ch Hobergay Fineus Fogg.

The quest for #1 All Breeds is quite fascinating to watch. There are probably 6 dogs in contention for the #1 spot this year, and their owners and handlers travel near and far to collect those valuable points. The points system most used is the Canine Chronicle system, which awards you one point for every dog defeated at the show.

And of course there are the American Dog magazines. The Dog News comes out weekly and features over 150 pages of advertising for people to 'show off' their dogs. There are at least 3 other magazines that come out monthly. Each again are full of advertising, and the odd good article to read. These include the Canine Chronicle, Dogs in Review and Showsight magazines. Each of the magazines has a website and do ship to Australia if you are interested in subscribing. Their websites are easily found on a 'Google' search.

The AKC have taken a stance and left nobody guessing after recently imposing two life time suspensions. Although the AKC aren't saying too much, officially, the AKC suspended Mr Davin McAteer (a popular professional handler) for attempting to influence a judge and submission of dog registration applications containing false certifications as to the signature of one of the owners. Mr Doug Shipley (multiple Group judge) was also suspended for life for attempting to influence a judge.

The talk around the ring is that a third judge may have been involved in setting up a situation where money was offered for a win. This third person turned them into the AKC and the rest is history.

The recent heat wave across much of the USA prompted the AKC to issue a press release, urging dog owners to be responsible during the hot conditions. Much of the USA suffered temperatures exceeding 36c for over two weeks, with some places in Arizona reaching 49c. Thankfully most of the shows are held indoors in the hottest areas in the USA, although some parts of the Midwest held their shows outdoors in the blistering sun and high humidity. One of the biggest shows for the year in Wisconsin at the beginning of August was temporarily ceased with the onset of severe weather, including tornado's. The 2500+ plus entries were asked to moved inside the main hall until the storm had passed over. Thankfully no-one was injured, nor did the tornado come through the show site.

Most people would be unaware that developing/new breeds in the USA are not automatically approved by the AKC. The AKC acknowledges that throughout the world there are several hundred distinct breeds of purebred dogs, not all of which are AKC recognized breeds. The AKC

does provide a path of development for a new breed, which may result in that breed's full recognition and appearance in the official Stud Book as an AKC recognized breed. The requirement for admission to the Stud Book is clear and categorical proof that a substantial, sustained nationwide interest and activity in the breed exists. This includes an active parent club, with serious and expanding breeding activity over a wide geographic area.

When in the judgment of the Board of Directors such interest and activity exists, a breed can be admitted to the Miscellaneous Class. Breeds in the Miscellaneous Class may compete but do not earn Championship titles. When the Board of Directors is satisfied that a breed is continuing a healthy, dynamic growth in the Miscellaneous Class, it may be admitted to registration in the Stud Book and the opportunity to compete in regular classes.

The AKC has approved a number of new breeds to move from the Miscellaneous Class to regular judging. The Plott Hound becomes eligible to compete in the Hound Group, effective 1 January 2007. The Tibetan Mastiff will be eligible to compete in the Working Group at shows held on and after the same date. The Beauceron will become eligible for competition in the Herding Group, effective 27 June, 2007. These three breeds have been competing in the Miscellaneous Class over the past few years and will now move up to regular judging effective on the dates mentioned.

Three new breeds are being introduced to the Miscellaneous Class, being the Norwegian Buhund and the Pyrenean Shepherd from 1 January 2007. The Irish Red and White Setter will be eligible to compete,



effective June 27, 2007.

The famous Airedale from the kennel of Anne and Ron Sorraghan, Aust/Am Ch Oldiron Margaret River has retired from the ring, having won a breed record breaking 32 BIS. She is pictured here with popular and respected judge Mr Edd Bivin from the USA. Until next month.

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The Plott Hound is a hunting hound, very quick of foot, of striking color that traditionally brings big game to bay or tree. The breed originated in the mountains of North Carolina around 1750 and is the only breed known to have done so and is also only one of four breeds known to be of American origin. Named for



Jonathan Plott who developed the breed as a wild boar hound, the Plott is a legendary hunting dog known as a courageous fighter and tenacious tracker. He is also a gentle and extremely loyal companion to hunters of North Carolina. The most common colors are brindle, slate blue, and buckskin, and he also possesses a spine-tingling, bugle-like call. The Plott Hound was officially adopted as the Carolina State Dog on August 12, 1989.

Uscar des Ombres Valeureux at 10 months Multiple AKC BIS Misc Class. Bred & owned by Debbie Skinner, Les Ombres Valeureux. The Beauceron is an athletic French herding/guarding breed which gives an impression of strength, freedom of movement and liveliness, without heaviness. The structure is similar to that



of the Belgian Malinois except the Beauceron is larger - about the size of a Doberman Pinscher. There are two coat colors, one is black-and-tan with specific tan markings, two lozenges above the eyes, tan on the bottom of the upper lip and throat, two tan spots on the breast, tan on the bottom of each leg and a tan marking in the shape of a lyre under his tail. The second is harlequin with patches of gray, black and tan.

Left: Aust/Am Ch Oldiron Margaret River