

OB/Rally at the PBGVCA 2012 National/Regional





National continued from page 47 Sitting ringside on Saturday I saw a number of amazing dogs and bitches. A first were littermates Clementine's Neon Moon going Winner's Dog, Best of Winners and Best Bred by Exhibitor as Clementine's La Luna went Winner's Bitch and BBE in bitches. Checking in with Vicki Clement later, I asked her about the breeding of this litter and her thoughts about the pups as she evaluated them early on. "Well, you really never know even after showing and breeding dogs for 30 years. I hope I have learned something from my mentors after all this time. Along the way you have to have an eye for a good dog. Then when they do well, it's one of your proudest moments," Vicki said.

When I spoke with Donna Moore after GCH Jodell's Boogie Back to Texas of M&M won Best of Breed at national, she replied, "It was one of our biggest thrills ever when John Wayne won the national. Then when his daughter, Texas, won it in 2011, we were so thrilled! For Texas to come back and win it again this year, two years in a row, was a dream come true for a breeder."

Handler and co-owner Janice Hayes was just excited. "I just want to thank everyone who has supported Texas and all of her accomplishments. I have had so many memorable moments with her and winning the national again just capped off her career perfectly. She truly is a special girl and has made me laugh on our whole journey together. I want to thank Donna and Donnie for trusting me with their dogs' careers and especially for allowing me to co-own Texas as well, she means so much to me. She has far exceeded our expectations and we look forward to what comes next!"

One of the fun things about national is always the dinner and auction on Saturday night. I was honored to be asked to act as auctioneer again this year and to be able to give out the awards. There were a number of "hot" auction items that brought big bucks for the PBGV club and Health and Rescue. The state baskets were a huge success, and "huge" was the word to describe a number of them. The Texas "toy box basket" was as big as the state itself and reminded everyone of where the national will be held next year.

Going to our national is so much more than showing your PBGV in conformation. It's about obedience, agility and rally. It's a place to meet other owners and breeders who have been in the dog world for many years, getting sage advice about training, breeding and educating oneself about the health of the breed. Sometimes national is about getting big ribbons and having an experience you may never forget. And yes, I paid to check a bag! ■

