

best of breed

What a thrill to watch Mrs. Goodin pull Christopher out of the line and send him to the spot marked “Best of Breed” at this year’s National! Beautifully presented by Laura King, this was a very special moment for a very special dog.

Christopher was Peggy Helming’s stud-fee puppy from a breeding LouAnn Lenner did with Ch. Pouch Cove’s Head of State to her bitch, Ch. Sunvalley

Something About Sophie. Chris came to live at Seabrook when he was about five months old. He was a happy and silly puppy, always smiling and acting the “doofus,” whether it was running around with his giant spider in his mouth, spider legs flapping in time with his strides, or playing his favorite game of “try and catch me” with his Portie friend, Elsa. Now he’s a big two-and-a-half-year old male, very full of himself, and still smiling, running around with his sixth giant spider (he dismembered the previous five), and still trying to catch Elsa.

The show ring thus far has been great fun for Chris. He finished quickly with the finale as a class dog being Winners Dog at the 2006 National. He was left home to mature for most of last year, then was entered in a few shows just prior to this year’s National to get back into show mode, and made an amazing return to National competition! Wow! Since the National, Chris has been shown on a limited basis and has several group wins and placements to his credit. He loves to “go” and makes a beeline for the van the minute he’s let down off the grooming table after his bath.

Chris is the product of many years of thoughtful and considerate breeding. Not only a lovely representative of our breed, he is a link in a chain of excellent individuals that have proven they can consistently produce quality offspring.

A defining National moment for me was seeing Chris’ son follow dad’s footsteps and go Winners Dog from the 9-12 class. The Maturity class with Jefferson, Chris, and this pup moving around together was a sight to behold. A very good omen that Chris just might be one of those rare individuals that are successful show dogs and can produce well.

Thank you Peggy for sharing this nifty guy with us. To Ed and Deb, thanks for all the “special ed” classes, and thank you Holly for being the best BB ever!

Christopher, you’re a clown that keeps me laughing. I love you for it.

—Kathy Griffin

2007 National Specialty Best of Breed
Ch. Sunvalley Petitions Pouch Cove
HG/L/HrC/CN



Best of Breed: **Ch. Sunvalley Petitions Pouch Cove** HG/L/HrC/CN (Ch. Pouch Cove’s Head of State x Ch. Sunvalleys Something About Sophie). Breeder: Lou Ann Lenner. Owners: Kathy Griffin & Peggy Helming. (photo by Erin Gimbut)