

It's impossible to attend every dog show. Wouldn't it be great if we could? Here is the opportunity to "Read All About It!"

Well...maybe it's not everything. When you go to your next show, here are lots of subjects worth discussing. Look around—there is a lot to see, hear, remember, or forget.

Isn't that the truth!

BY ELAINE J. LESSIG,

Your Faithful Correspondent



BEEN

THERE

DONE

THAT

Whimsy and Wisdom From the Dog Shows

— The Wine Country Circuit —

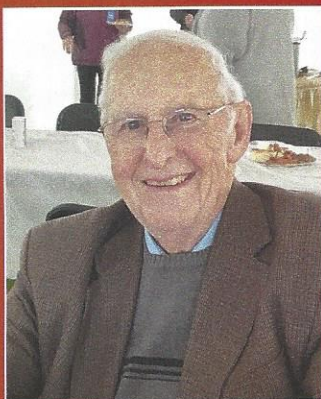
KANADASAGA, FINGER LAKES AND ELMIRA KENNEL CLUBS

SEPTEMBER 29–OCTOBER 2, 2022 · SAMPSON STATE PARK, ROMULUS, NY

The Finger Lakes, in the center of New York State, form the perfect backdrop for this popular four-day cluster of all breed dog shows, specialties, and Rally trials. Just as the season of fall begins, exhibitors flock to fill the rings which are surrounded by the colors of fall, changes in the weather, and the ever hopeful desire for a win. This cluster attracts exhibitors and attendees who love to camp on the exquisite grounds with the view of Seneca Lake ever present. They come, as we all did, with clothes for every kind of weather and condition. From the early morning dew, fog, afternoon sun, and the chill of late afternoon, the spirit never wavers. It is upbeat, energetic, and full of dog show chatter. Spectators enjoy being ringside for the groups....every day! That is a sight to see. Col-

orful chairs cover the grass as groups gather to go over the day's events while they watch and cheer for the competitors in the ring. What a wonderful sight it was to see the camaraderie we do not often see at most shows.

The show committees from each club—Fred Nuemberg, JoAnn Colvin, Dennis Smith, and Edwin Giles—provided lots of local apples and morning snacks every day. The apples were consumed with gusto. Club members manned the club tables each day which were filled with good cheer and lots of trophies adorning the table tops in the morning and disappearing by late afternoon. Under the hospitality tent each day were some very talented bakers who filled trays, baskets, and dishes with their homemade baked goods. I think many judges



Whimsy and Wisdom From the Dog Shows



**BEEN
THERE
DONE
THAT**

KANADASAGA, FINGER LAKES AND ELMIRA KENNEL CLUBS



who preferred to stay in the tent instead of ringside for the groups; they stayed there because of those amazing goodies. Brava to those ladies. You are most talented!

The judging panel was truly international. Working with the American judges were judges from Canada and Australia. As a group, the judges were a convivial panel who enjoyed the dogs, exhibitors, and each other over the four days. There was lots of chatter about the travel issues we all face. Another topic which is hard to resist is the amount of absentees we have these days. Why is it happening? Any ideas?

The sizable entries in many breeds and at the specialties resulted in some very spirited competition on a daily basis. The hound group seemed to be the hot ring, by far. With the depth of quality in it, there was a plethora of choices for the judges. Some breed specialties had great quality in the specials class. It was nice that a special area was designated for those specialties. The rings were filled every day with hospitality and supporters

were nearby.

The Cornell College of Veterinary Medicine had a well-placed, easy to find information booth with students, dressed in their bright red shirts, spending each day talking with people at the dog show and answering veterinary questions, too. It was a pleasant sight to see them mixing and mingling with the dog folk. They had lunch with the judges with whom they asked lots of questions. Seeing them on site and open to sharing ideas with the attendees was very positive for all of us.

Why is the Wine Country Circuit so beloved? Maybe it's time you to discover its charms!

