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## **AMERICAN SEGUGIST**

There's been a slight change in the format to the club newsletter, as it is now just that, a letter meant to bring our stakeholders news! The lovely articles that have been sporadically put out will now be in the breed club magazine "American Segugist". The magazine will appear twice a year June and December. Newsletters will be quarterly: March, June, September, and December, with the newsletter running concurrently inside the magazine June and December. This June's issue will cover the history of the Segugio Italiano as you've likely NEVER seen it, bringing continuity between continents with common knowledge and understanding. It will also give you what I once had, a more singular source for information. I read an article once many years ago that covered so many things about the breed in-depth, but what happened, which often does, years passed before I realized the importance of it. Now I haven't a clue where to find it. Instead, all the information will now be reconstituted for you from varied sources, and you won't be left with just the history of wild boar in the country, but a more detailed history of the breed from Italian scholars and historians.

## **EDUCATION**

Segugio Italiano education is expanding. We've created a Youtube Channel which will include among other things judges' education, hunters' education, exhibitors' education and as we grow, I'm sure performance education as well.

A pamphlet is also in the works on basic pet ownership. Many pet owners have the same questions and should know basic animal care. I have been awe struck and unnerved by the lack of knowledge about BASIC animal care that the average pet owner does NOT have. Someone must provide it to them. It's a project I've been chipping away at for some time, so hopefully there will be a rough draft by the end of summer.

## **THE OUTLET**

For those who have been around for some time you know that the club had an online store. The store is back online, with new merchandise, membership etc to be purchased. We'll start accepting orders May 31<sup>st</sup>.

## **LURE COURSING**

The Segugio Italian Club of America is officially applying to participate in Lure Coursing. The letter should be going out to the AKC by the end of the week. I must say this petition took me on a lovely journey of discovery, and what I found in the end was a dog quit adapt to living in the wild. Now I will ruin part of the history you'll learn about in the magazine. The Segugio Italiano is more of a land race than an actual breed that was bred; that came later. He hunts by scent, true. He tracks his game to a certain distance and then, he becomes a sight hound. He looks and looks for his prey, pressuring it to flee. There's a combination of brains, cunning and skill in this. He has to know when to start to survey his surroundings to be the most successful. Once the animal is sprung then the chase begins, if it can get that far. It is truly a remarkable dog, and while the journey was exhausting, the fruit was sweet.

## **HUNT TEST**

If you are wondering how the hunt test is going. The hunt test is a copy of the current ENCI test. It's been translated and is simply being reformatted. It is near completion. An examination of the hunt test can be seen in the December issue. It is our HOPE that other

breeds may see it and copy it. The ENCI test is designed for a multitude of dog breeds, not just the Italian. The dogs are judged when running in a pack or couple. The pack or couple consists of dogs of only ONE breed. The dogs are then judged by THEIR breed's hunting standard. It is our hope in future to run tests concurrent with other breeds. Since these are club titles and we'd keep the data, it also allows us to build a database of knowledge similar to NAVHDA. It's an opportunity to keep perhaps more detailed records on our dogs and their inherited traits. And for anyone who does not know, conformation in hunt tests is compulsory, and a dog can be dismissed based on faults. That information will also be recorded.

## **CLUB EVENTS**

You may be asking yourself why construct hunt tests. There're two reasons, the first is the difference between being proactive and reactive. Puppies go out into the world without a hunt test, how easy will it be to get them back? How long will you wait until you do it? There's a lot to, "trying to WAIT" and be reactive. Italians have large litters. It doesn't take long for 20 dogs to be on the ground. That's enough to show and enough to hunt. In two or three years those 20 have the possibility of turning into more. Having infrastructure for them to fall into and to use is paramount to starting them and their owners and breeders off on a good note.

The second reason is less spectacular. It's required. The club is required to have events. One of the events we do on a more regular basis are our tiny "Meet the Breed"s when we go to dog shows. We don't go to dog shows just to show. We go to them to give people the opportunity to meet the breed, so please don't hesitate to reach out when you see us. That's why we post our whereabouts.

## **I SEGUGI**

I Segugi by Mario Quardi was the book being translated to English for American consumption. It is still being translated. There were some minor set backs with the translating, but the work is still in progress.

No Further News At This Time

Sincerely,  
J. Whipple