

The Secret Lives of Show Dogs

Up close and personal with Westminster contenders.

Nikki Moustaki

Ch. Afterglow Woody Woodpecker

Call name: Woody.

Breed: Petit Basset Griffon Venden.

AKC group: Hound.

Age: 5.

Owners: Helen Goldberg, M.D.; Gavin and Sara Robertson; Anne Daily.

Handler/agent: Clint Livingston.

Home: San Antonio, with Clint.

Favorite toy: A stuffed penguin and a stuffed bunny called Boo Boo.

Favorite reward: Anything edible or not!

Best canine buddy: A Chinese Shar-Pei.

Canine nemesis: He is too happy-go-lucky to have a nemesis.

Quirks: Dancing and twirling around on his hind legs.

Sleeping spot: In bed with Clint.

Typical day: Woody has three types of days every week. Home days involve hanging out in the house, running in the yard, some time on the trotter in the afternoon, and then dinner between 5 and 6 p.m. On travel days, he gets a bath, has his nails trimmed and teeth cleaned, then he hits the road and enjoys riding in the truck. Show days include getting bathed and blown dry before he goes into the show ring. Then his day is all about putting on a show. If all goes well, he wins the breed and moves on to the Hound Group. If he wins that, the Best in Show competition is next.

- More Show Dogs-