

***RELEASE EMBARGOED UNTIL THANKSGIVING DAY, NOV. 23, AT 2 P.M. ET***



**DRAFT 11/21**

**DYNAMIC BRUSSELS GRIFFON (TOY GROUP) WINS  
“NATIONAL DOG SHOW PRESENTED BY PURINA®”**

***Kennel Club of Philadelphia’s Canine Showcase Crowns 16<sup>th</sup> Champion***

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**Oaks/Valley Forge, PA (November 24, 2017)** – A decorated, energetic Brussels Griffon named "Newton" captivated Best In Show Judge Peter Green and a capacity crowd in Philadelphia to win the Best In Show title for 2017 at “The National Dog Show Presented by Purina.”

An 11-pound charmer with 22 Best in Show Titles and top-five national rankings in both the breed and the Toy Group, Newton bested six group-winning canines advancing out of the 2,100-dog competition at the tradition-rich, all-breed show hosted by the Kennel Club of Philadelphia.

Coverage of the show and Newton's triumphant moments were broadcast to a holiday audience totaling some 20 million on NBC Thanksgiving Day following the Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade. NBC aired an encore presentation of the two-hour special Saturday, Nov. 25.

"She has him in top condition and that is not easy to do," said Best in Show judge Peter Green. "His coat is in fantastic condition and he moved perfectly. Everything he did was right. I know a lot about the breed and I know how difficult it is to have them ready,"

"Newton just has a wonderful attitude," handler Susan DePew said joyfully. "To him, everything is fun and it shows. I may have made a couple of mistakes or dropped the bait, but he saved me." Depew’s daughter, Dylan Kipp, launched what is now a memorable year for the family by winning the inaugural Beverly Hills Dog Show with the Doberman Pinscher, Ripcord, earlier this year.

With the victory in Philadelphia, Newton, becomes one of the favorites to win the prestigious Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show title at Madison Square Garden in New York City early next year.

Newton's registered name is CH Somerset Wyznall Hashtag and he is owned by Mike and Janet Bazell of Rockbridge, Ohio (St. Johns Kennel); Ven Grasso of Samford, Australia; and breeders Keith Jacobson of Bellevue, Washington and Jo Ann Noffsinger of Alberta, Canada. St. Johns Kennel is registered to Jeffery Bazell and Jeffrey Kestner of Bremen, Ohio.

The following are the other 2017 National Dog Show Group Winners:

- Herding Group – an Old English Sheepdog named “Sophia” of Chatham, NJ
- Terrier Group – an American Staffordshire Terrier named “Louie” of New York, NY
- Toy Group – a Brussels Griffon named “Newton” of Bellevue, Washington
- Sporting – an English Springer Spaniel named “Timmy” of Sherman, CT
- Non-Sporting – a French Bull Dog named "Babe" of Fredricksberg, TX
- Working Group – a Portuguese Water Dog named “Noah” of Island Lake, IL

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**PHOTO:** Newton, an 11-pound Brussels Griffon, and handler Susan DePew are all smiles after winning Best In Show at the National Dog Show Presented by Purina, broadcast Thanksgiving Day on NBC to a total audience of some 20 million. Newton come out of the Toy Group to defeat six other top-tier show dogs in the Kennel Club of Philadelphia annual competition. Credit: Steve Donahue