Benchmarks

A publication of the SCWTCA, Inc.
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On October 7, 2011, the Annual Dinner was once again held at the beautiful Dolce Hotel in King of Prussia. After Club business was conducted and Dr. Paula Henthorn and vet student Claire Wiley addressed the group about PLN research, the 2010 Award winners were presented.

The Jan Linscheid Fellowship Award was established in 1983 and honors the memory of Jan Linscheid, a Wheaten Fancier from Enderlin, ND. Jan was “owned” by her first Wheaten in the early 1970’s and Jan and her Finnegan Wheatens were a familiar sight to all exhibitors in Minnesota, the Upper Great Plains and Midwestern Canada. Jan was a real devotee of the SCWT and the welfare of the breed was utmost in her mind in all her doggy activities. Although she lived in a part of the country that saw few dog shows, and even fewer Wheatens, Jan participated in SCWTCA activities, including the Roving Specialty in Minnesota in 1980. Jan lost a five-year fight against cancer in 1982; the Roving Specialty in Denver in 1983 was dedicated to her memory. Those who knew Jan will always miss her cheery smile and her enthusiasm for life and for the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. The award is presented when deemed appropriate (not more often than once per year) “to a member of SCWTCA who has made an extraordinary contribution to the Club and to the breed and who epitomizes the outstanding human qualities of Jan Linscheid.”

This year Rosemary Berg was honored with this award. Rosemary was always frugal and thorough in carrying out her role as Club treasurer. She never missed a Board meeting and offered a practical viewpoint in solving problems. She introduced the idea of setting up an Endowment Fund, which would make donations for health tax deductible for donors. Establishing the Endowment Fund with 501(c) (3) status offered tax and other legal advantages to the Club. She also advocated establishing a Club policy to financially support the rescue work of local wheaten clubs. In addition to her duties as treasurer, she served as Chief Ring Steward for the Wheaten ring at MCKC keeping us all in order and on time. As it has been said, “Rosie runs a tight ship!” Congratulations, Rosie. You deserve it!

Annually, the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award is given at the Annual Dinner. Jan VanNess sat very attentively wondering who was going to be the recipient for this year and listened to the remarks being made. “What has she not taken on for the MCKC Chair? Boutique (too many years to count), Annual Dinner (who would bring all those kitchen utensils in) Specialty Film (standing in the sun all day so no one would get in the way of the photographer), bought and carried flowers to and from the show, the hotel, and Sweeps almost every year! She sets up and tears down, and she does this with a smile on her face. If the job was too big, she got her brother to help!” At this point, as I looked over the audience, Jan was now sitting with eyes wide and mouth open. Year after year she gives of herself to the Club and all its members and always remembers to congratulate everyone. Well, this time we are all saying Congratulations to you, Jan!

And finally, Suzanne Stone and her dog, Jeter, entered the room to receive the second annual Wheaten Ambassador Award sponsored by Mark and Dorice Stancher. Jeter completed 152 therapy dog visits certified through Therapy Dogs International to AHRC in Brookville at a school for children with disabilities. Jeter entertained the children with a variety of demonstrations including tricks, canine freestyle, agility and obedience. Once again Susanne and Jeter display the wonderful versatility of the Wheaten Terrier. And as a final thought, Happy 14th Birthday, Jeter!

Jinx Moore

“Celebrate the Breed, Celebrate the Friendships!”

Benchmarks . volume 39 . number 4 . page 3
The December issue of *Benchmarks* is a large one, with commentary and photographs from several specialties. It provides a chance for Wheaten fanciers across the country to see dogs from several geographic areas. Combined with the June and September issues, *Benchmarks* allows us to travel across the United States to see our dogs.

Why dog shows? Sometimes we forget that the primary reason we show dogs is to evaluate our breeding stock. As you puruse the many photographs in this issue, be sure to read the articles that discuss some key considerations when breeding dogs.

The debut of the Conformation Assessment Program waits in the wings for the January shows in Palm Springs. Here you are provided with the Powerpoint presentation from the education session at MCKC. The program is designed to help breeders assess which dogs - and why - belong in our breeding programs.

There are also two thought-provoking articles from well-known judges. Eliot Weiss, in *The Tale of Two Right-Brained Women*, presents a sound argument for activating the right-side of the brain to appreciate the total dog, looking at it for its virtues, not its faults. In his article, *Too Often Forgotten*, long-time Chihuahua breeder, Richard Miller, exhorts breeders to seriously evaluate temperament in individual dogs when making breeding decisions.

Within our membership, we have many opportunities to think more about our breeding decisions. Jackie Gottlieb, in this month’s *Grandma’s Attic* column, reminds us of how technology has changed our opportunities in the dog world. We need look no further than the GRF on-line pedigree program where we can view thousands of dogs from the convenience of our computers. Twenty-six years ago, when I joined the Wheaten world, we relied on word-of-mouth and photographs in the yearbooks. Speaking of, I hope you are as gratified as I that the yearbooks are updating quickly. This valuable breeding tool needs to be as current as possible, and that is happening now.

To augment Richard Miller’s article, Emily Holden writes a deeply personal column about our Wheaten friends. If we do not have good temperament in our breed, how can we enjoy our canine friends to the fullest degree?

Through our dogs we also make many valuable human friendships. Friends in our club work tirelessly to make our enjoyment of this sport current and enjoyable. Unlimited thanks go out to Robyn Alexander and the photographers who provided her with timely pictures from MCKC events to post on the website. While I was unable to attend this year’s specialty, I was thrilled to be able to follow the weekend through photographs provided by Julie Burdick, Holly Craig, Linda Hallas, Lori Kromash, and Bonnie Wirth. If I omitted anyone, thanks to you, too!

Gilda Radner said, “I think dogs are the most amazing creatures; they give unconditional love. For me they are the role model for being alive.”

I agree.

Molly O’Connell

*Correction: The Wrong dog was pictured as the Great Western Terrier Association Select Bitch in the September issue of Benchmarks on page 15. Below is the correct image.*
“Ben” finished from the 9 - 12 Puppy class Santa Barbara weekend with four majors, thanks to Gabriel, Yvonne and assistant, Simon, (picted) who has decided that Wheatens really are wonderful!

Ben is owned, loved and enjoyed by Anna Marzolino and her family, Jim, Marina, Anthony and Patrick.

His two sisters, Ruby and Lila, are pointed with majors. Ruby is owned by Dave and Susan Allphin, Lila, by Sally Leonard and Bob Savoy.

CH GLEANNGAY WHO’S YOUR DADDY
Ch Gleanngay Holliday, ROM X Ch Gleanngay Lady Of The Lake

Owner  Anna Marzolino
Breeder  Gay Dunlap
Meet the New SCWTCA Board Member
by Carol Carlson

Every year in October at the SCWTCA Annual Meeting, we have the opportunity to meet the incoming Board members. This past October we met one new director, Rose Rose.

As in other years, I asked her a series of questions and requested a photo of herself, preferably with her dogs. You will see that Rose is a very interesting, experienced and well-qualified person. You’ll see that she has more in her life than SCWTCA. Here is what I asked.

After a brief introduction of yourself, please answer the following “dog-related” questions.

- How and when did you first become interested in Wheatens? When did you get your first Wheaten? When did you join SCWTCA?
- What SCWTCA offices and committees have you worked on and how long have you been an active member?
- What all breed, obedience, agility, or breed clubs do you belong to? How are you involved (offices, committees, etc.)? Do you have any other special club or work experience, e.g. P.T.A., that especially qualifies you for the SCWTCA Board?
- How many litters have you bred?
- Who was your first finished champion, performance title holder, etc.?
- What is the funniest thing that happened to you at a dog show when you first started out?
- If you could pick one thing to focus on for the next year, what would it be and why?

And following in her own words:

I am Rose Rose, a native Northern Californian and I live in Dublin, California with my partner Arnold (Arnie) Spanjers of 31 years, and our three Wheats: CH. Marquee’s Trick or Treat “Caramel,” CH Marquee’s Party Girl “MeMe,” and CH. Finley Denali High and Mighty “McKinley.” I am a Registered Nurse having worked in the same medical organization for over 32 years. (I plan to retire within three years.) I have worked in the Emergency Department as a mobile intensive nurse, and worked in medical advice. I held a national certification and worked in gastroenterology and endoscopy. I am currently working part time in out-patient psychiatry. I am a member of the American Psychiatric Nurses’ Association.

In addition to all dog activities, I enjoy cooking, trying new restaurants, swimming and going to the theatre. Arnie and I especially like the Ashland, Oregon Shakespeare Festival. The dogs like going, too!

I first became interested in Wheatens in 1993 when I met “Huntley,” a Bendacht Wheaten puppy, owned by a friend. I fell in love with the breed and in 1995 I attended some SCWT CNC meetings and attended a Wheaten picnic before even owning a Wheaten. In December 1995, we purchased our first Wheaten, “Finley”, from Sheila Breeding and Michael DeCarlo (Bendacht Wheatens.) Sheila asked me if I would be interested in a “show dog” and I said, “No thanks. I don’t want to spend my weekends at dog shows!”

So we took sweet Finley home. The name Finley is Irish and means “Fair Haired and Valorous,” so we gave him the AKC name of “Bendacht’s Valorous One.” He got his CGC at a young age. We dabbled in obedience and agility. He was a wonderful dog. After his passing in 2009, we named our kennel after him in his memory: “Finley.”

I joined the SCWTCA and the Open Registry in 2003. I have helped at two Montgomery shows. In 2005, I was the “White Board Results Lady.” This year, 2011, I assisted with the welcome bags; I helped haul equipment from the show to the hotel and helped sell raffle tickets at the boutique. I have already been asked and I accepted to be on the Welcome Bags Committee for Montgomery 2012. I was very pleased to be nominated this year to serve on the SCWTCA Board.

I joined the local SCWT CNC in 1997. I was designated the Ways and Means Chair. Most of the fundraising I did for the club was in soft goods sales. I enjoyed working with many artists to produce unique
Wheaten items which sold. I have also chaired many projects and local Wheaten Club events such as: successful fundraising raffles at our annual specialty dinner, a grooming workshop, a “Wash Wear and Care” event, and I chaired many SCWTNC’s annual picnics. I served as secretary in 2005 and 2006. I was a Board member in 2001, 2002, and 2007. I learned the responsibilities of a board. In serving on the Board, I also tried to keep my focus on what is best for the dogs.

In my professional career, I have written many policies for the hospital and clinic. I was in charge of the planning segment for construction of a new exam room. I am a member of the Integrated Safety Committee at our hospital, and I chair and run the meetings for our department’s Workplace Safety Committee. I have assisted with the planning and execution of disaster drills and I give annual safety presentations to the staff. I have learned how to work with others in a team approach, yet lead when needed.

My first finished Champion was CH Marquee’s Trick or Treat “Caramel,” I finished her in 2002 at 15 months of age and then I specialed her in 2002. Caramel was in the top 25 in Wheatens so we were invited to The Eukanuba National Show in Orlando, Florida. That was very exciting. Caramel is now 11 years old. She is still healthy, vibrant and active.

How many litters have I had? I am a novice in the breeding world. Arnie and I raised our first litter of seven Wheatens last year (2010). It was a lot of work. Sleep was often not an option. But it was fascinating. The experience was rewarding, like watching “MeMe” become a mom, (she had been such a “party girl!”) We learned so much watching the puppies develop into dogs. And finding great homes for each puppy and getting to know the new owners was a plus. We kept one puppy who has kept us very busy. We are grateful to Richard and Sonya Urquhart, and Members and Friends of the national and local Wheaten Clubs who mentored us.

The funniest thing that happened to me at a dog show is when I entered the specials ring outdoors. The entry was large. I was first in line. The judge instructed us to go around 1½ times. Well, I was so focused on watching Caramel, and it was so crowded in the ring, I got carried away and I went around 2½ times. The judge was annoyed; (and rightly so!), I was saying to myself, “Uh Oh!” But my bitch had a good time! When I left the ring, a friend of mine said, “What were you doing Rose, taking your victory lap?” (I dislike being first in line.)

There are three things I would like to help accomplish during my tenure on the SCWTCA Board. One is fundraising for health, as we have some very dedicated professionals who need our support to continue to do research on our breed. Another goal is to support any efforts in breeder education especially for the novice Wheaten Breeder. It is so important to get a good start. Much guidance is needed. (I am happy to see the new Wheaten Assessment Program get started.) Third, I would like to be a solid Board Member who represents the membership and listens to their needs and concerns. I am honored to serve on the SCWTCA Board.
GCH Andover Mayhem Magic
(CH Saltnsea Big Baby x Ch Andover Magic Maid)
Another hot, sunny day in Pennsylvania and four years later, Hammy returns to Montgomery.

AOM under Judge Edd Bivin
Hammy, age 1-1/2 years

In very limited showing, Hammy had a wonderful time enjoying four years in the “Top Ten” (all-breed systems) finishing 2010 at #5. The world’s happiest dog, he really delighted in staring down the Airedales and Kerries in group. Next year, watch for his son, Bode.

AOM under Judge Gary Vlachos
Now 5-1/2 years old
CH Andover Solista
(CH Andover Wildrose Lave Quente x CH Andover Virtual Magic - Hammy’s litter sister)

Judge Peter Green
Solista shown placing in group in heavy Southern California competition

Solista is the last of the Andover Wheatens. There will be a few more Welsh Terriers, courtesy of CH Andover Happy Hour and her co-owner, Peter See. It has been a wonderful run. I’ll be sitting at ringside watching you.

Breeders/Owners:
Jackie Gottlieb & David Holy
The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater Milwaukee (SCWTCGM) Sweepstakes and Specialty Results
July 29, 2011
by Karen Bilda

The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater Milwaukee hosted its annual Sweepstakes and Specialty on July 29 at the Waukesha County Expo Center in Waukesha, Wisconsin. The grounds were manicured and pristine having just undergone a major landscaping project that eliminated the troublesome low spots in the ground that occurred over the last several years. The club set up the hospitality area close to the ring and provided ring-side mentoring for those who were new to the sport.

Thanks to Carmen Glazier for showcasing our Wheatens at the Meet the Breeds that was organized by the Combined Specialty Clubs of Greater Milwaukee. A tip of the hat to Nancy Andersen for obtaining the trophies – embroidered towels to BOB, BOS, and Best of Winners in the Specialty and the winners in the Sweepstakes, and plush toys to placements one through four in each class. Nancy also served as our ring steward. A special nod goes to Suzanne Larson for her creativity in organizing the raffle and silent auction. Thanks to Liz Roesler for organizing the luncheon. And, a special thank you to the SCWTCA for supporting our entry.

Seven puppies (4-3) strutted their stuff for the Sweepstakes judge, Ms. Jacquelyn Fogel of First-Class Bedlingtons and Bassett Hounds. Best in Sweepstakes was Jendu Cela Ever Lasting Hona Lulu (CH Greentree Real Quiet – CH Jendu Pocket Full of Posies) from the 9 months and under 12 months puppy bitch class. She was bred by Michele Lomax and Dana Frady, and is owned by breeders and Megan Roberts.

BSW: Jendu Cela Ever Lasting Hona Lulu

BOSSW: Winterwheat’s Collector’s Edition

Best of Opposite to Best in Sweepstakes was Winterwheat’s Collector’s Edition (CH Modny Style Great Expectations x CH Winterwheats Second Edition), from the 9 months and under 12 months puppy dog class. He was bred and is owned by Bette Eckstrom.

Sweepstakes Commentary
by Jacquelyn Fogel

Thank you for this opportunity to judge these fine young dogs. The quality of my entry was quite nice,
The day continued with Judge Dorothy Macdonald presiding over the Specialty entry (10-12-5-2). GCH Dundalk Put Me in Coach (CH Marquee’s Tricks of the Trade x CH Dundalk Redhill Garden of Good & Evil), bred by Carol Burdge and Barbara Zapf and owned by Carol Burdge, won honors as Best in Specialty. Winners Dog and Best of Winners was Kilronan Exeter’s Gunpowder and Lead (CH Reflections All You Need is Love x CH Edgewood’s Steel Magnolia). He was bred by Kathy Clarke and Carl McGill and owned by Cynthia A. Valeske Stokvis. Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Breed and Winners Bitch was awarded to Heirloom to Infinity and Beyond OA OAJ (CH Geragold Mil Mear How Far? x CH Heirloom Wish Upon A Star), bred and owned by Patrice Chevalier and Robert Bergman.

Reserve Winners Dog was VanBeard’s Son of Anarchy (VanBeard’s Milwaukee Thunder x VanBeard’s Providence), bred by Susan Ostrander and Kathy Ostrander-Bowers and owned by breeders and Scott Bowers. Reserve Winners Bitch was Geragold Paparazzi of Reyem (CH Whindancers Heart Like a Wheel x CH Geragold Seanacy Gilded Trebol) bred by Louise Bischoff and owned by Meggan Abboud and Gwen Meyer.

CH Lindystar’s Life of Riley (GCH Lonetree 24 Karat of Morningstar x CH Wheatenbrook’s Starry Night), bred and owned by Susan and Kristen Williams, was Select Dog. CH Inishkeen’s Pillow Full O’Petals (CH Robins Crest Lil Cloud Nine x CH Inishkeen Maille of VanBeard), bred and owned by Ann and James McCormick, was Select Bitch.

The show cluster continued Saturday through Tuesday with all-breed shows hosted by the Waukesha Kennel Club and the Burlington Wisconsin Kennel Club.

Please join us next year on July 27 as we celebrate our 34th sweepstakes and specialty.
I had a great time judging the Wheaten Specialty on July 29th, 2011.

The overall quality of the dogs was very good. It was very pleasant to see all the classes the right size with only a few that were larger than ideal. Equally pleasing was the overall square shape of the dogs. I was also pleased with the coats as most of the dogs had excellent texture being both silky and soft, and in the majority of them, it was long enough to flow very well. The heads were long and rectangular; however I would have preferred a slightly smaller and better ear set on several of them.

My winners dog was a very nice youngster from the 12 to 18 class. My Winners bitch was more mature and went on to Best Opposite. Both of my Reserve Winners were from the puppy classes and certainly presented good promise for the future of the breed. Best of Breed was a fully mature dog with beautiful movement and a very pleasing expression.

It is certainly fun when you can judge looking at dogs that are demonstrating the essence of the breed. I thank you for the opportunity.
One of our very own has received a very high honor in the dog fancy. Elena Lana, founder of the Doubloon kennel, was named the Terrier Group recipient of the 2011 AKC Breeder of the Year Award. The award honors breeders who have dedicated their lives to improving the health, temperament, and quality of purebred dogs.

“The AKC Breeder of the Year Award, now in its tenth year, recognizes the hard work and dedication of our sport’s top breeders,” said Ron Menaker, AKC/Eukanuba National Championship Show Chairman. “We are proud that the seven finalists are AKC Breeders of Merit dedicated to setting an example for all breeders by producing dogs that are healthy, capable and beautiful.”

A breeder is chosen from each of the seven groups: Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting and Herding. The individual group recipients will receive a medallion in recognition of their achievements on Sunday, December 18, 2011 at the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship in Orlando, Florida. At the end of the presentation, the 2011 AKC Breeder of the Year will be announced. Additionally, a canine portraitist will be commissioned to commemorate a prominent dog from the recipient’s kennel, and names will be inscribed on a perpetual trophy and plaque on permanent display at the AKC headquarters in New York City.

Elena is recognized across the country in the show ring, often at the front of the line of winners. She started with a young bitch - CH Legendary Baby Snooks - fondly known as Puzzle - and together they learned the ways of the dog world, both in the conformation ring and in performance.

Elena grew up in the show world, starting with Bouviers 45 years ago, and went into Wheatens 30 years ago. She has worked at her family’s boarding kennel for 40 years, constantly learning from her parents, other dog breeders, handlers, and trainers. She said, “They were generous with their knowledge, and taught me the fundamentals of dogs, ethics, sportsmanship, hard work, and responsibilities of being a breeder. The old-world wisdom is priceless.” It has made her who she is today in all parts of her life, not just the dog world.
Elena has trained dogs in a variety of performance arenas: Tracking; backpacking; weight and travois pulling; carting for schools and parades; meet-the-breed gatherings; guard work; go-to-ground with a Wheaten; agility; obedience; and—of course—conformation.

Believing that it is important to give back to the dog world, she has done Wheaten rescue work in Washington and Oregon for 22 years, and helped with other breeds. Previously, she hosted a blood draw for the SCWT Club of America for health research and is hosting another this month.

Over 20 years ago, she initiated kidney ultrasound screening for RD in Wheaten puppies in the U.S. after hearing about the screening in Canada. The data collected by her veterinarian has been valuable to veterinarians and breeders in other states to start their programs. It is an invaluable tool since all information is recorded and saved.

Taking what she has learned and sharing with others is another of Elena’s contributions to the dog world. She has taught obedience, private lessons, handling classes, and worked with novice young people. She also maintains memberships in two clubs. She is a member of the SCWT Club of America and the Greater Denver SCWT Club. She served on the SCTWCA Board of Directors and helped implement the SCWTCA Versatility Award.

Elena has been blessed with some great dogs in companionship as well as conformation. She bred the following:

- Ten dogs for a total of 44 Specialty Best in Shows
- Multiple Best in Show Dogs
- Six dogs with National Specialty Best of Breeds for a total of 11 National BISS
- Five-#1 Breed winners for a total of seven years
- Four-#1 All-Breed winners for a total of eight years
- Dogs in the Top Ten for 17 years since 1990

AND

- Top-winning bitch of all time (CH Doubloon’s Ultimate Player), an honor her dam (CH Doubloon’s Field of Dreams) held before her.
Calender Features:

13 Month Format
January 2012 to January 2013

Includes National & Regional
Specialty Show Dates
~Plus Entry Deadlines

Special feature this year...
Our Senior Wheatens!

Available online at www.scwtca.org
## SCWT Champion and Performance Titles
### July - September 2011
Compiled by Sheila O'Connell

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<td>Joy-Dell’s Kelly Stormin Nite</td>
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<td>Big Oaks Dallas</td>
<td>Kayo’s Shea Of Rivendell</td>
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<td>Ch Trébôl Top Billing OA OAJ NAP NJP</td>
<td>Ch Reyemi’s Who’s Under My Skirt</td>
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<td>Ch Reflections All You Need Is Love</td>
<td>Ch Edgewood Steel Magnolia</td>
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<td>Ch Starlight Treasure Chest</td>
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<td>Ch Marquees’ Witches Spell</td>
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<td>GCh Gleanngay Legend Of The Grail</td>
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<td>Ch Heirloom Shooting Star</td>
<td>Ch Lovesong’s Hopes And Dreams</td>
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<td>Ch Legacy Wildwest Wildflower</td>
<td>Ch Ltd Edition Blake O’Grntree</td>
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<td>Ch Marlands Diamond In The Ruff’</td>
<td>Ch Dundalk No Shoes No Shirt No Problems</td>
<td>Ch Marlands Please Pick A Poppy</td>
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<td>Ch Merieleac’s From Rag To Riches</td>
<td>Ch Merieleac’s Steal A Kiss</td>
<td>Ch Tiffen’s Willow Creena</td>
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<td>Ch Mil Mear Just Joshin’ Todd</td>
<td>Ch Mil Mear Geragold How Far?</td>
<td>Mil Mear’s Truth Or Dare</td>
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NEW OPEN REGISTRY MEMBERS

November 1, 2011

The Open Registry is a joint project of SCWTCA-sponsored research at NC State University, University of PA and the University of Guelph (Canada). Its purpose is to publish information on confirmed cases of genetic diseases in Wheatens and to maintain health and genetic records for SCWTCA-sponsored research. Dr. Meryl Littman at Penn maintains the Registry at the request of SCWTCA.

Members of the Open Registry agree to forward pedigrees and medical data for all Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers they own, have owned or bred, who may be affected with Protein-losing Enteropathy/Nephropathy, Addison’s Disease, Renal Dysplasia or Irritable Bowel Disease to the SCWT Open Registry, c/o Dr. Littman. For membership form, visit the SCWTCA website at http://scwtca.org/documents/health/or_membershipform_20100630.pdf. For a complete list of Open Registry members, email kccarlson@comcast.net.

Marcy Kraus

Victor Pescatore
Greater Denver Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club
Specialty Results
September 10, 2011

SWEEPSTAKES
Kari Loken judged the Sweepstakes classes of two males and two bitches. She awarded Best in
Sweepstakes to Haldane Rock-O-Plane Rapture. (CH Geragold x CH Geragold Relax At Haldane.)

Best of Opposite in Sweepstakes went to Rosheen Denaka 101 Proof. (CH Whindancer’s Something So
Right x CH Geragold Orla Boru Trinity.) Breeders: M. Lopez & N. Draper & B. Smith. Owners: M. & G.
Lopez.

2011 Specialty
Ann Katona judged the classes comprised of 26
dogs. Coming out on top with the Best of Breed
award was CH Eringlo Alwaz Luk’n To Race.
(CH Duidream Quicktime x CH Eringlo Alwaz An
Angel) Bitch. Breeders/Owners: Dennis & Cindy
Shea.

Best of Opposite Sex was awarded to CH Ceili’s
Time To Shine. (CH Duidream Quicktime x Ceili’s
Susan B Anthony) Breeders: Sara & Beth Sorenson;
Maki Duncan, Seth Mullinne. Owners: Elizabeth
Sorenson & Sara Sorenson.

Winners Dog went to Stratford Brush Up Your
Shakespeare. (CH Starlight Treasure Chest x
CH Stratford Top O’ The Mornin’). Breeders: M.
Owner: Molly O’Connell.

Winners Bitch/Best of Winners was awarded to
Stratford Fashionista (CH Stratford Top Brass x CH
Stratford Accessorized). Breeders/Owners: B. Gillett
K. Kotzelnick & M. O’Connell. *Due to a
registration error on behalf of the WB/BW, Reserve
Winners Bitch became the Winners Bitch.

Reserve Winners Dog was Haldane Sticks and
Stones. (CH Cuilin Paris When It Sizzles x Haldane
I Feel The Earth Move). Breeders: Tim Smith &

Reserve Winners Bitch (**and subsequently
Winners Bitch) went to Rosheen Denaka 101
Proof. (CH Whindancer’s Something So Right x
CH Geragold Orla Boru Trinity) Breeders: M.
Lopez & N. Draper & B. Smith. Owners: M. & G.
Lopez.

There were also two Select awards. Select Dog was
awarded to CH Lochlinear Gleanngay Quick As
A Wink. (CH Glenamon Gleangay He’s Key 2Me
x CH Gleanngay Tilde Wink) Breeders: Patricia
Mullin & Gay Dunlap. Owners: Pat Mullin & Art
& Sam Kauffman. Select Bitch was CH Andover
Solista. (CH Andover Wildrose Lava Quente x CH
Andover Virtual Magic) Breeder: J. Gottlieb.
Owners: J Gottlieb & D. Holy.
BOB: CH Eringlo Alvaz Luk’n To Race

BOS: CH Ceili’s Time To Shine

WD: Stratford Brush Up Your Shakespeare

WB/BW: Stratford Fashionista*

RWD: Haldane Sticks and Stones

RWB: Rosheen Denaka 101 Proof**

SD: CH Lochlinear Gleanngay Quick As a Wink

SB: CH Andover Solista

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AKC Rally©, “Rally Style Obedience,” or just plain Rally, is a relatively new take on obedience training and trialing that uses directional signage on a course designed by a judge, much in the same fashion as Rally Car Racing. Approved by the AKC effective January 1, 2005, Rally is intended as an intermediate step for both dog and handler between the Canine Good Citizen (CGC) program and traditional obedience and agility. Rally is also very useful for herding training and trialing, where a controlled start, recall, and controlled stop are mandatory for all AKC tests and trials, beginning with the Herding Instinct Test (HIT).

Each Rally course is laid out in a sequence of 10 to 20 stations, depending on level of difficulty. The dog/handler team heels from station to station, and performs the exercise indicated by the sign posted at each station. The judge asks the handler, “Are you ready?” at the start of the course; if the answer is affirmative, the judge says to the handler, “Forward,” and then ceases to direct the team until the finish.

Many of the commands and exercises in Rally replicate those in traditional obedience such as Heel, Sit, Down, Come, Stand, Halt and Walk Around. However, the communications between handler and dog are much more liberal than in obedience, and are a hallmark of the sport. The handler may not only talk to the dog throughout the course without penalty, but may also repeat verbal commands and use any number of physical signals, such as clapping hands and slapping his/her own body. The handler cannot touch the dog nor make physical corrections; harsh or abusive commands or signals will be severely penalized.

**Rally Classes**
There are three levels of Rally, as defined in the AKC Rally© Regulations:

- **Rally Novice (RN):** All exercises are judged on leash, and the dog must enter and exit the ring on leash. Between 10 and 15 stations must be completed with no more than five stationary exercises.
- **Rally Advanced (RA):** All exercises are judged off leash although the dog must enter and exit the ring on leash. Between 12 and 17 stations must be completed with no more than seven stationary exercises. A jump is included in the course -- the dog’s jump height must be specified on the entry form -- and may take the form of a broad jump or high jump.
- **Rally Excellent (RE):** All exercises are judged off leash with the exception of the Honor Exercise. The dog enters and exits the ring on leash. The course consists of between 15 and 20 stations with no more than seven stationary exercises.

**Qualifying and Titling**
All teams enter the ring with a perfect score of 100 points. The judge deducts between one, three or 10 points for exercises performed incorrectly -- depending upon the error -- with automatic non-qualifying (NQ) scores for a variety of infractions. A qualifying score is 70, or 70 percent, which also differs from traditional obedience; the qualifying score in the latter sport is 170 out of 200 points, or 85 percent.

In order to title in Rally, a dog must complete three qualifying legs, with scores of 70 or more points under two different judges. In addition to the RN, RA and RE titles, the Rally Advanced Excellent (RAE) is earned by dogs that qualify 10 times - at 10 different shows - in both the Advanced B and Excellent B levels at the same trial.
Ready to Rally
The following are guidelines to starting your rally career:

1. The very first step to get your Wheaten ready to rally is to complete a basic obedience course.
   - As noted above, the basic commands -- heel, sit, down, stand, come and halt -- are the building blocks of rally, as well as of other performance sports.
   - Find yourself a reputable obedience club in your local area that offers training classes not only for companion animals, but also for competition. Positive training methods are essential.
   - Training clubs can be found through the AKC website (www.akc.org), show superintendents’ websites, and local or regional obedience club councils, such as the Southern California Dog Obedience Council (SCDOC) in my area.

2. Rally is included in most obedience clubs’ course curricula.
   - Research the instructor’s background in the sport; look for an individual with a solid record of successful competition and titling at all levels. Many are AKC judges. Attend one of their courses before signing up.
   - Novice courses usually last for seven or eight weeks, at which time the dog/handler team may be ready for trial, or may move on to a more advanced course or workshop to familiarize itself with signage and to perfect its technique.
   - Attend as many supplemental workshops and seminars as are offered to learn the sport and its regulations.

3. Enter as many matches in your area as possible before entering competitive trials.
   - Like any sport, practice makes perfect. Make sure you are totally familiar and comfortable with the signage for all potential courses at your level of Rally.
   - Matches may allow you to complete a course with treats or without them, depending upon your desire to compete for ribbons and to simulate a trial with the highest level of fidelity.

4. Prior to entering competition for the first time, observe as many trials as possible.
   - Even though Rally is more “relaxed” than traditional obedience, real-live competition still exists, not only for qualifying but for placement ribbons for the four highest-scoring dogs.
   - Watch each of the officiating players in and around the ring -- not only the judge, but also the various stewards -- to nail down ring procedures in your own mind.
   - Follow the competitors as they walk the course before the trial, so that you can differentiate between the simulated exercises without the dog, and the real deal when the dog is at the handler’s side. Notice how each entrant approaches various stations to learn the course and what techniques work for them, and may work for you in turn.

5. At your first (and subsequent) trials, arrive early and study the course.
   - Course maps are prepared by the judge, and are either posted at the ring, or are available in multiple hard copies. Familiarize yourself with the course even before you conduct your walk-through prior to competition.
   - Be sure to be at the ring for the walk-through, which is 10 minutes before the scheduled start of your class. This step is imperative! Repeat the walk-through as many times as necessary during that period to feel comfortable with the exercises.

6. Resources
   - You can find out more about the sport at the AKC website, www.akc.org, at the following link: http://www.akc.org/events/rally/. There are several
a. at the AKC website, www.akc.org, at the following link: http://www.akc.org/events/rally. There are several sub-links that cover such topics as getting started in the sport; rules and regulations; and even a full set of rally signage in PDF format that can be downloaded for practice in your own backyard.

b. Another invaluable primer -- and comprehensive encyclopedia -- for Rally is Charles L. Kramer’s An Introduction to the Style of Rally Obedience. Manhattan, KS: Fancee Publications, 2005. Charles (Bud) Kramer is quite literally the father of Rally Obedience, conceiving the sport in late 1998 and shepherding it through the AKC approval process until its acceptance in 2005.

Finally, as with all sports, have fun. Rally is a tremendous way to bond with your Wheaten, and to give him/her challenging mental exercise, either en route to more rigorous performance sports, or as an end in itself. Like other dog activities, you will also meet a wonderful set of new human and canine friends from all breeds and backgrounds, which is the greatest reward of all.

Are you ready? Forward!

Connie Koehler is president of SCWTCSC as well as the SCWTCA chair for Public Education. She has been active in Rally since 2009 when her performance Wheaten, Marymore Point Mugu CGC RN HCT-s (Magoo), required more obedience training for herding; Rally proved the perfect solution. An active member of the Lomita (CA) Obedience Training Club (LOTC), Connie has served as a ring steward at the Club’s 2011 annual match, and as a member of the organizing committee and team captain (with Magoo) for an LOTC rally match in October 2011 that raised nearly $8,000.00 in its inaugural year for America’s Vet Dogs, to match service dogs with disabled Middle East veterans. She has also been a ring steward at the 2010 and 2011 SCWTCA rally trials at MCKC.
FROM AMATEUR TO PRO
CH CUILINN GOING PRO

5-point major and Best of Winners

“Guinness”
CH Lakkas Ustilago x CH Acacia Farrari Testarossa

Owned and Shown by:
Antoinette Anderson
Lowell Anderson
Tyler, Texas
Co-Owned by:
Holly Million

Bred by:
Holly Million
Barbara Smith

Cuilinn Wheatens
Jones, Oklahoma
Pinch won a major her first weekend out and finished with a major at Devon on the National Specialty Weekend.

Thanks to the judges who rewarded her, to Andrew Green and Ernesto Lara for their assistance in September, and to Julie & Josh for sending her to us.
Honoring the first winner of the David R Lincicome Trophy awarded to MCKC’s Bred By Exhibitor Dog

Aran Walks On Water is breeder-owned by Shari Boyd Carusi
Sire: Ch Legacy The Grail. Dam: Ch Aran Nobody Does It Better

CONGRATULATIONS!
This year’s theme was Best Friends Forever, and it certainly was appropriate as we came together October 4-9 to appreciate our Wheatens. Our national specialty is an opportunity to see great dogs, share with fellow breeders and Wheaten lovers, and socialize with friends we sometimes only see once a year. Pat Mullin was the 2011 specialty coordinator, and she organized a week full of activities to share with our best friends. Special thanks to the team of volunteers that organize these events.

Montgomery All Terrier Agility was held Tuesday with 192 Terriers and 430 runs, Wednesday with 218 Terriers and 490 runs, Thursday with 225 Terriers and 497 runs and Friday with 183 Terriers and 344 runs. Lydia Hutchison judged 67 Wheatens at Hatboro on Thursday, and John Constantine judged 96 Wheatens at Hatboro on Friday.

The Dolce Valley Forge Hotel in King of Prussia was our host hotel again this year, and welcome bags were gone by Thursday afternoon. The Evening Education and Desert Social, conducted by Cindy Vogels, launched the new Conformation Assessment Program.

As always the Wheaten Wares Boutique was popular. The 2012 SCWTCA Calendar and 2008 Yearbook were available for purchase along with so many wonderful Wheaten items. This year’s fundraiser was a dark green cotton apron for grooming and a dark green vinyl apron for bathing. A beautiful leather jewelry box with original artwork and a framed needlepoint were in the raffle. President Jinx Moore conducted the annual meeting and awards presentation after we enjoyed an excellent dinner.

SCWTCA National Specialty events began Saturday morning at the Montgomery County Community College Gym in Blue Bell. If you missed watching our wonderful dogs in Obedience and Rally, you missed 19 very obedient Wheatens. The Canine Good Citizen Test was given to three dogs and two received the designation.

Emily Holden judged 38 puppies in Sweepstakes. The weather was perfect, and the dogs were all judged on a ramp so the spectators had a good look at the silhouette of each dog. Special thanks to Tom Neill for hauling club equipment and trophies again this year. Sweepstakes began at 2 p.m. so everyone had an opportunity to attend the Devon shown in the morning where Carolyn Taylor judged 60 Wheatens.

Montgomery Sunday was a perfect day. Gary Vlachos judged 119 Wheatens. The trophy table was spectacular, and hospitality was available from early morning until boxed lunches arrived.

The judge’s critique at the Post-Show Hospitality Dinner gave us a glimpse as to how our breeder judge made his decisions. The original artwork and a beautiful quilt were auctioned off to the highest bidder.

If you missed the 2011 SCWTCA National Specialty, DVDs are still available so you can enjoy our Best Friends Forever!
Regis is my second Wheaten, but we started with my first Wheaten in Obedience at Queen City Dog Training Club in Cincinnati, Ohio. Regis got his Novice title there and continued on with Rally in which he received two RAE titles. Regis has his conformation title, which he received after showing for 15 months, and also got an agility title in Preferred Novice Jumpers. He has been a Therapy Dog for two years now and is currently seeing patients at a hospital in Broward County, Florida. Regis, who is 11 years old and will be 12 on January 1, 2011, is very much a people dog and loves to be petted, nuzzled, and given attention.
Judging the Sweepstakes for the SCWTC is such an honor and a wonderful experience. Some believe that one should judge sweeps only if considering applying for a judging license, but I think that it is the ultimate way to learn about breeding programs throughout the USA. There are just a few generalizations I’d like to make. Overall quality has greatly improved from the last few years, teeth and eye color were very good in all dogs, coats were lovely and dogs were not over-trimmed or under-trimmed. Some could use refining, but that is always due to personal abilities. I was much more aware of the fact that women should not wear skirts that are too short, too tight, or that flow into the dog’s face. All of those choices in clothing distract from your dog. Wardrobe is important!

Interestingly, something I consider a very important issue was discussed on Thursday evening at the education program. I really believe that each participant, particularly at a specialty, deserves a written critique regarding his dog. Perhaps that could be arranged at an independent specialty but it is impossible when the AKC is limiting time so that a group can take place in the daylight. Having seen the group at MCKC by headlights, I recognize the need to move along, have judging timed, but the sweepstakes has no time limit, and I wonder if the AKC would consider allowing critiques when time is not as much an issue. Just thinking aloud.

I applaud Gary Vlachos for addressing the speed of the Wheaten terrier in the ring. Too often judges are impressed by the dog that covers ground the fastest and don’t award the dog that is the soundest as it moves at a slower rate appropriate for a terrier. Last year I mentioned on the Breeders’ List that I was not pleased with the dogs that moved so fast that it was more like the herding group, and that heads were down as the dogs moved. I saw much less of that this year, and neither Gary nor I honored that look.

My entry was overall most pleasing. Thank you to Linda Hallas for taking pictures and to Bonnie Wirth for helping with more pictures. Pictures do not lie, and it is worth the effort to ask a friend or two to take pictures of dogs stacked and coming and going when you judge. It is such a learning opportunity for neophytes.

6 to 9 dogs

1st place #9 Raelyn Says the Oscar Goes To – Short back, nice balance, good head, joyful attitude.

2nd place #17 Caraway Southern by Design – Beautiful coat and color, lovely length of neck, nice tail set, difficult to see movement.

3rd places #37 Haldane Sticks and Stones – Nice small ears, silky coat, could use a little more neck, skull a little thick, coat appeared to be chewed.

9 to 12 dogs – Exceptionally pretty class; the choice came down to the last go around.

1st place #15 Caraway Baryshnikov By Tyrone – Lovely coat and ears, nice length of neck, sound coming and very nice behind.

2nd place #31 Doubloon’s Ultimate Quest – Beautiful outline and coat, ears could be higher and neck a little longer but lovely young boy. 1st and 2nd could be exchanged another time.

3rd place #7 Mirikal Double Top Breakout – very pretty head and ears, beautiful coat, nice front movement, rear not as strong.

4th place #27 Trinity All You Need is Love – Pretty head and ears, lovely wavy coat, again, pretty front but rear did not match.

12 to 15 dogs

1st place #23 Windancer’s Take it to the Max – Square puppy, beautifully presented. Could use more head to be better balanced.

15 to 18 dogs

1st place #33 Wheatnbrook’s Lucky Charm – Beautiful head, ear and coat; front was not quite as sound as rear.

2nd place #29 Greentree Keepsake Surfin USA – Really silky coat and lovely ears, good movement but a little long-bodied.

3rd place #39 Cuilinn Expresso Con Panna – Pretty coat, could use more neck, head thick skull; better moving front than rear.
6 to 9 bitches

1st place #36 Jendu Free Spirit – Square, very nice bitch, would like to see more head, but she presented a lovely picture.

2nd place #38 Wheatnbrook’s Alejandro – Pretty, square bitch, good balance, nice head; a little more neck would have been nice, as well as a better tail set.

3rd place #32 Whindancer’s Pants on Fire – Very nice head and ears. Moved out beautifully; weak rear.

4th place #24 Laurel Jewel Princess – Very pretty bitch, coat, head, ears, strong front; rear not so good when moving but very lovely stance.

9 to 12 bitches – Another exceptional class

1st place #42 Doubloon’s Extreme Play – Interestingly enough, this bitch was not extreme but just right. Compact, very pretty coat and moved nicely front and rear.

2nd place #20 Acacia Rosheen Lil Bit of Spice – Beautiful head and ears, square outline. Lovely coat; movement very hard to determine.

3rd place #50 Geragold Paparazzi of Reyem - Stacked she had a great outline and is very square; lost the topline when she moved; pretty coat, head and ears.

4th place #46 Honeywheat’s Kiss Me I’m Irish – Pretty, square bitch, lovely outline; front was wide and rear narrow. Great side gait.

12 to 15 bitches

1st place #28 Star Living the Dream - I loved this bitch and she nearly won it all, but it came down to head type. Beautiful outline and movement.

2nd place #34 Keepsake’s Defying Gravity – Very pretty outline, neck and tail set; nice mover.

3rd place #8 Ivywild’s Poise in Ivy – Cute bitch, very pretty head, ears and coat; could have better balance. A little long.

4th place #30 Whindancer’s Electric Feel – Very pretty outline, nice movement; low ears but overall nice quality.

9 to 12 to 15 bitches

1st place #44 Greentree Mombo in Maui – Pretty outline, good reach and drive.

2nd place #14 Greentree Mombo in Aruba – Good coat, could have better neck set but lovely shoulders; moved out nicely.

The final lineup was quite impressive. I had a number of choices and had a really hard time deciding between two bitches. #42 and #28 were both extremely deserving bitches. It all came down to head. Both covered ground adequately and were not racehorses. I really appreciated the fact that the dogs moved like terriers and not sporting or herding dogs. My Best of Opposite dog, Caraway Baryshnikov By Tyrone, was a lovely complement to the Best in Sweeps bitch, Doubloon’s Extreme Play, and the two made my day!

BSW: Doubloon’s Extreme Play (GCH Doubloon’s Salt of the Earth x CH Doubloon’s Ultimate Player)  Breeder/Owner: Elena Landa

BOSSW: Caraway Baryshnikov by Tyrone (CH Modny Style Great Expectations x Caraway Show Me The Monet)  Breeders: Lana Campbell & Beth Verner  Owners: Beth Verner & Betty Chapman
The weather gods smiled upon us for another spectacular Montgomery weekend. Considering the conditions leading up to the weekend, all involved in mounting this spectacular competition—kennel clubs and their members, superintendents, ground crews, A.K.C., exhibitors and judges—basked in the sun and the increasing warmth it brought each day.

For me, Sunday’s judging presented an interesting contrast to draw between breeds having judged the three days prior. While we always have work to do, it is my impression that we have made significant improvements, and we stand well in comparison with our terrier brethren.

When judging the Wheaten I am always reminded of the architecture of Palladio: balance and symmetry, without exaggeration; because of these elements the final product is pleasing and “fills the eye!”

We, as a Breed, still struggle with “square.” Too many exhibits have too much loin in relation to length of rib cage. Also adding to the length of back is a shoulder assembly lacking layback, but even more lacking the blend of thoracic vertebrae into the topline adding to the overall “longer” back.

Level toplines and tails well set on with rump behind, were much more in evidence than the recent past. This was confirmed by overall better rear construction. Bone lengths and angles were more proportionate allowing for the previous and contributing to a lower, more stable hock. In general, rears were improved; this was apparent in their drive and stability in motion. Of course there was the usual helping of “not so tidy” hock action when viewing the down portion of the examination! For those that were relatively “clean” on the down, I would still like us to work on better width between the hocks. It is understood that when moving at greater speeds our Wheatens will move towards a single track, but width behind should still be evident when moving at slower, dare I say “sporting terrier” speeds?

Front action on our Wheatens seems to benefit more from the improved length of upper arms than from layback and “fit in” of the shoulder blades to the topline and body. The action of the front legs moving towards you is still loose on many. Not as many fronts are crossing over, but they lack that straight pendulum motion being led by the foot, elbow tight to the body and in line with the shoulder blade.
As we bring these elements together, we look for the **balance** between the front and rear action to give us the proper “sporting terrier” side gait. Far too many examples of Extreme Reach And Drive are being seen in the Wheaten ring, and unfortunately, far too many are being rewarded for it! A Wheaten in its quest for **balance without extreme** should not exhibit this extreme action to the point where the topline drops considerably, and the head has to drop markedly to allow for this type of action. The sporting terrier movement we seek is for the silhouette to be maintained (head held high, topline level, legs moving freely underneath) as much as possible while the dog is in motion. I always ask myself; “Could I set a glass of wine on that topline and have it not spill?” This proper sporting terrier side gait figured prominently into my judging process. When I find this proper action, I find the balance, symmetry, and construction that are essential elements for proper Wheaten type.

All of my winners on this day had strong heads in balance with their neck and bodies. My bitches’ headpieces were strong with good fill under the eyes, strong muzzles, but still feminine! My dogs were equally balanced and strong, with a masculine appeal. Of note, my Winners Dog had a particularly appealing head and “look.”

Ears continue to be a challenge for the Breed. While most were better in their sets, there were still too many that were large with the tip hanging well below the corner of the eye, giving an unappealing, “houndy” expression. Ears of proper size and carriage were another crucial element of my sorting process.

I find that coats and color still offer up the greatest variety in both categories! I truly thought a few years back that with the influence of the imports we would have seen greater improvement in the overall quality of coats. The few outstanding coats, both in texture and color, were unfortunately found on examples that were too long in body or too large for me to consider in my final line up. I had a few coats with too much gray. I didn’t have any “dead white” coats. Of my lighter coats, even when age was a factor, there was still a blush of color. Our Standard **does not reward more color**! With that being said, I did have some Wheatens that brought to me an almost deep tangerine shade that I found somewhat alien to my eye. I haven’t seen that color in a wheat field yet! As a breeder I am curious whether they will hold that color throughout their lives, or if it will mellow to the lighter honey ambers more commonly associated with the Breed.

As I wrap up the details, scissor bites were in abundance; well aligned lower incisors were not! I didn’t have any objectionable eye colors, nor did I have any objectionable overly exposed eye-trims (“eyes should be indicated but never fully exposed”).

Thank you! I had only one “conehead” this day (which I made apparent to the exhibitor), so I think many read my **Benchmarks** article about the “Return of the Coneheads,” and either agreed with me, or decided not to push their luck with me regarding this! LOL!

It was a **great day**, and a **great honor** to be asked to judge SCWCTA National for a second time. Again I found a bitch, **CH Greentree Rising Star**, as my **Best of Breed**. She possessed the properly sized, square package, balanced throughout, that are hallmarks of our Breed. She has great legs--so clean moving on the down and back, balanced, and holding a beautiful silhouette on the go-around. This bitch is a treat to watch. Her coat is soft with a beautiful sheen and could only be enhanced by a somewhat silkier texture. What a showgirl! She never let down!
a beautiful sheen and could only be enhanced by a somewhat silkier texture. What a showgirl! She never let down!

My Best of Opposite, Ch Ceili’s Time To Shine, pushed my Breed winner right up to the end for top honors. He possessed all the qualities of size, proportion, and balance that I was looking for wrapped up in a lovely coat both in color and texture. All this was topped off with a very pleasing masculine expression. It appeared that the culmination of the long weekend of showing and the pressure of the day had taken its toll, and he let down at the end just as the final decisions were being made. A Best of Breed winner on many another day!

My Winners Bitch/Best of Winners, Star Living The Dream, was feminine, square, balanced. She possessed great ears and attitude! I loved watching this bitch on the go-around. Such pleasing action! I would have liked a better jacket on her as far as wave is concerned, but it was soft and her color was good and clear. While not a factor in my judging process for the day, the “breeder” in me tells me that the coat texture and wave will only improve with age. The “judge” in me tells me she has many more awards to be bestowed upon her.

My Winners Dog, Paisley Jumping Jack Flash, as I mentioned earlier, had a truly superior head, and oozed breed type in his expression. A square dog with good leg under him, he showed his mettle when his owner-handler relaxed and let him use himself! The quality of his jacket only added to his pleasing breed-type.

The details of my class placements are as follows:

PUPPY, 6 & UNDER 9 MONTHS DOGS

Caraway Southern By Design took 1st in this class with his overall balance, square outline, good ears and expression, wrapped in a coat of good wave and color for his age. I would have liked a bit more action to his movement, but it was balanced, and I felt his lack thereof was due to the first class, wet grass, et.al. My suspicions were proven correct as he improved in his reach and drive in the Winners class!

2nd to a puppy of similar type to my class winner. Aran Midnight In Paris had a lovely jacket of color and wave, and a beautiful finish to his muzzle. He had slightly better bend of stifle than my winner, but lacked the shorter back and thus the “squarer” outline that I was looking for.

3rd-Jendu Just My Style was one of my naughty boys! He had good reach and drive, a good topline and tailset. He would have benefitted in his overall balance if his loin would have been shorter.

Completing the class 4th to Raelyn Says The Oscar Goes To. Again, an overall pleasing package acting naughty! He lost to his 3rd place partner in crime (LOL) in his expression. I found his ears while well set, too large for his headpiece.

PUPPY, 9 & UNDER 12 MONTHS DOGS

Caraway Baryshnikov By Tyrone danced his way to 1st in this class. I liked this boy’s square outline and balance. He had a strong head and good details in his expression. His side action was very good, but was a little loose on his down and backs.
2nd-Trinity All You Need Is Love had a superior coat of wave and sheen which added to his general appeal and type. His ear was well set and of a good size, contributing to “his look. He was longer in body than the winner, and would have benefitted by more reach in front to his movement.

3rd to Tyrone’s Revolutionary Road. An upstanding dog, his coat had good color and wave, but lacked the silkiness of my second place winner. I would have liked his ear smaller to balance his strong headpiece.

4th-Doubloon’s Ultimate Rush was a dog whose type for me was more terrier and less Wheaten than the others who “bested” him in this class. He had good action in his movement, and I appreciated his ear and terrier expression.

12 & UNDER 15 MONTHS DOGS

1st-Whindancer’s Take It To The Max, was a nice dog with good overall balance. I found his ears to be ultimately a “bit” fancy, but was happy in knowing that this breeder has been working on ears in her program, and this was far superior to what I have been presented with in the past. Good job!

2nd-House Of Softy Legend. This dog was not of the type I prefer. Larger and longer than what the Standard calls for, I appreciated his substance. His coat showed evidence that it will mature with nice silkiness. He needs more socialization and practice in the ring to bring his virtues to the forefront.

15 & UNDER 18 MONTHS DOGS

Again two entries in this class with 1st being awarded to Wheatnbrook’s Lucky Charm by virtue of his square package wrapped in a beautiful waving coat of clear color. He held his silhouette on his go-around. A cleaner back skull and a better sized ear would have enhanced his strong Wheaten type.

2nd-Greentree Keepsake Surfin U.S.A. had a good “up” attitude. The sheen and quality to his coat was excellent. He was longer cast than the winner, and didn’t present the balance that I was looking for.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOGS

Always, happily for me, a very competitive class!

Aran Walks On Water secured this 1st with a combination of excellent construction and Wheaten type. A superior front assembly blending seamlessly into a level topline and tailset with plenty of rump behind. He used his legs well. His coat was of the proper silkiness and wave that our Standard calls for. He combined some of the best attributes of the Irish and American types in the Breed I saw on this day. RWD

2nd place went to Waterford Carnival. While this boy was squarer than the one that bested him, it was the finer points of transition from one element to the next that gave the class to his rival. I can’t say enough about this dog’s headpiece. It was truly superior. His coat was of proper color and had good wave but lacked the silkiness of the class winner.

3rd-Mirikal Double Top Breakout was square and balanced. His coat had wave and proper color, but was denser than what I would have liked. He had a nicely-sized and well-placed ear. He didn’t exhibit the reach and drive that my 1st and 2nd place winners did.

4th-Byr Rose Nouvelle Vague again a pleasant package! This boy was balanced and sound. He had excellent sheen to his coat. His ear could have been smaller but he used it well.
AMERICAN BRED DOGS

1st-Frolic’s Dressed For The Red Carpet a single entry in this class. He was of the make and shape that fit in well with my other class winners this day.

OPEN DOGS

Paisley Jumping Jack Flash took 1st-place honors in my Open Class. I was impressed with this dog’s soundness and overall construction. He had the substance that our Standard calls for in a balanced, square package. Like “Carnival” in my Bred By Class, this boy had a truly superior headpiece. He covered the ground (sometimes in spite of his handler <smile>) effortlessly holding his silhouette. He sported good coat of wave and color, but not necessarily the best coat of the day. WD

2nd-Star Kaler Four Twenty. Now this guy had a typey coat! Beautiful wave and sheen. He used his legs well, and I liked his body and substance. I would have liked his ears a little less fancy.

3rd-Erinilse’s The Solitary Man. Longer cast than the two that bested him, his coat had good wave, sheen, and color. His ears were of good size, though they too were a bit fancy in their set.

4th to Sheelin Greentree Lucky Charm was a bit more dog than our Standard calls for and what I was looking for, but I liked this dog’s balance and his overall impression.

PUPPY, 6 & UNDER 9 MONTHS BITCHES

1st to Jendu Free Spirit. This bitch had good length of leg under her. She had a free and easy quality to her gait without losing her profile. Her coat was wavy and of good clear color. She used her ears well, and had a great attitude. RWB

2nd place went to Aran Paris When It Sizzles. This bitch was very square. I liked her down and back. Her coat was not of the same quality as that of my class winner.

3rd to Wheatnbrook’s Alejandro. A square bitch with good side gait. Tail set was right up there! Ears were too large in proportion to the head.

4th-Shandalee Fireworks. This bitch was very pretty but a little shy on leg. She had a good top line and tail set. Like my third place winner, I would have liked a smaller ear in proportion to her headpiece.

PUPPY, 9 & UNDER 12 MONTHS BITCHES

1st place to a well-made bitch Mackanne A Wicked Good Tale. I liked the amount of leg under this girl. She had a good topline and tailset. She used her legs well. Overall a very pleasing package!

Geragold Paparazzi Of Reyem took 2nd-place honors. This bitch had good ears and a lovely coat. A good down and back helped her secure this placement. A bit more bitch than I like, she also needed more “fill-in” over her top line.

3rd-Honeywheat’s Kiss Me I’m Irish. This bitch had the balanced side gait I was looking for. A little “off square” in her proportions, she would have also benefited by a smaller ear and a better set for her expression.
4th to Lismore Joy to The World. A pleasant bitch. Better ears would have helped her expression. She was bested by her three competitors in that she lacked the reach and drive they possessed.

12 & UNDER 15 MONTHS BITCHES

1st to Keepsake’s Defying Gravity. She was all girl! A very pleasing package, nice wave in her coat. Sound movement. Great attitude and expression. She would only have benefitted by a touch more leg under her.

2nd to Whindancer’s Electric Feel. I advised the owner to trim a little more from this bitch’s underline as she appeared low but in reality was not. Her ears were larger and not as pleasing as my first place winner, but she was balanced throughout.

3rd place went to Gleanngay Daddy’s Sugar. This bitch had an excellent ear both in size and set. She had a good reach of neck with a lovely transition through the shoulders into her top line. Her down and back was not as clean as those that bested her, and I would have liked a little less of her in the size department.

4th to Burdigan Banner Five Finger Discount. A nicely-sized bitch, she lacked the angles to give her the proper reach and drive we want in a Wheaten.

15 & UNDER 18 MONTHS BITCHES

Two in this class. 1st to Waterford Coventry Caper. This bitch had good leg under her, giving her a lovely square outline. She was well constructed with good expression, all wrapped up in a coat of good wave and color.

2nd to Greentree Mombo In Maui. Again a well-constructed bitch. She had a pleasing sheen to her coat. Not as square as my other bitch in this class, she could have been a little happier in the ring today!

BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCHES

1st in this class to Star Living The Dream. This bitch is of the make and shape that I think of when I read our Standard. Properly sized, balanced throughout. She had excellent ears balancing a feminine but strong headpiece. She demonstrated the properly balanced side gait without extreme reach and drive. I would have liked more wave in her coat, but the texture and color were good. WB

2nd to Doubloon’s Extreme Play. A stylish bitch. Lovely coat and color. Ear a little large, but she used it well. She used her legs well. Just slightly longer than my winner, and of a slightly different type than I was looking for.

3rd place to Bryr Rose French Kiss. This bitch had the best coat in this class. Very square in outline, pretty to look at. She would have benefited by a better front.

4th to Ivywild’s Poise In Ivy. A nicely-sized girl with a good ear and expression. She needed more reach of neck for balance. She had a good side gait, but was not so pleasing on the down and back.
AMERICAN BRED BITCHES

A class of two with 1st going to Blessing Sweet Symmetry. She exhibited better movement and overall construction than her competitor in this class. 2nd to Ivywild’s Tangled In Ribbons.

OPEN BITCHES

Kennally Moonstone captured 1st in this class. She had lovely reach of neck and excellent expression. She moved well. Slightly longer in body than ideal, she still was pleasing to the eye.

2nd-Holweit’s Red Grenadine. A bit more bitch (thicker in body) than I like, she was a well-constructed girl. She had a good ear with a proper set. She moved with balance.

3rd to Greentree Trinity Par Ti Favor. A square girl with a good coat. She lacked length of neck for balance and her front assembly needed improvement, which was evident in her movement.

4th to Star Bright Mystic Gal. A sound, well-constructed bitch with a coat of lovely sheen. Ears a bit high set, and overall more bitch than what our Standard calls for.

SELECT DOG/AOM

CH Vintage Signed Sealed And Delivered. A dog not unfamiliar to me. I first saw this boy 1-1/2 years ago in Northern California where I awarded him BOB. I like this dog’s total package. He is of proper size, flows from head to tail, and has an outstanding down and back. He has a lovely masculine headpiece. This day he carried too much coat making him look somewhat stuffy and lower than he actually is. He also was showing his dislike of the heat of the day! In the end, his virtues carried him to this honorable award!

AWARD OF MERITS

All of my AOMs possessed the qualities of type, size, square outline, and movement that I was looking for today. Congratulations to them all.

GCH Baroque You Ain’t Seen Nothing Yet
CH Bryr Rose Symbol Of Paris
GCH Doubloon’s Salt Of The Earth
GCH Andover Mayhem Magic

My congratulations go out to all the participants this day. We are all winners when we come together as we did on this beautiful Fall day in Eastern Pennsylvania at the venue of the most prestigious terrier event in the world Montgomery County Kennel Club. Here we celebrate our National Specialty, our passion for this sport, and, of course, our Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers!

SELECT BITCH/AOM

GCH Marquee’s Tax Exchange has, like my Select Dog, been on my “radar screen” since I rewarded her Winners Bitch/Best of Winners at the Northern California Specialty. I like this bitch’s size and style. She was in good condition. She has a lovely coat quality, but it could have been clearer in color. Her side gait was spot on this day, but she lacked the trueness on the down and back that my eventual Breed winner possessed.

P.S. My kilt was Irish, County Carlow. My grandmother was a Doyle from County Carlow!
SD/AOM: CH Vintage Signed Sealed and Delivered (CH Marymore Gift Wrapped x CH Kaylynn’s Heartland Vintage)
Breeders: Brian J. Ness, Kay Baird & Michael E. Weiss
Owners: Laura B Marrero, Brian J. Ness & Michael E. Weiss

GCH Marquee’s Tax Exchange (CH Harborhill Mike Defino x CH Gemstone Marquee Cut)
Breeders/Owners: Richard and Sonya Urquhart

AOM: GCH Baroque You Ain’t Seen Nothing Yet (CH Stratford Top Priority x CH Marquee’s If It Ain’t Baroque)
Breeder/Owner: Christy Weagant

AOM: GCH Doubloon’s Salt of the Earth (CH Melandee’s High Wire Act x CH Doubloon’s Rookie Card)
Breeders: Elena Landa & Ann Nelson. Owner: Elena Landa

AOM: CH Bryr Rose Symbol of Paris (CH Marymore Hot Pepper Jack x CH Bryr Rose Les Trois Soules)
Breeder: Jeanne Ferris. Owners: Michele Connor & Jeanne Ferris

AOM GCH Andover Mayhem Magic (CH Andover Salt N Sea Big Baby x Ch Andover Magic Maid)
Breeder/Owner: Jackie Gottlieb
Recognized at the 2011 Annual Meeting

**Best in Specialty Show Breeder Award**
Bred by: Carol Burdge & Barbara Zapf
For GCH Dundalk Put Me In Coach

**Everett Keller Memorial Trophy**
Bred and Owned by: Christy Weagant
For Baroque You Ain’t Seen Nothing Yet

**Mary Ann Dallas Award**
Bred and Owned by: Christy Weagant
For Baroque You Ain’t Seen Nothing Yet

**Maureen Holmes Memorial Award**
Bred by: Susan Ratliffe and Art Miller & Abby Kochan
For Windandancer’s Sweet Dreams Are Made of This

**CH Abby’s Postage Dhu O’Waterford “Casey” Award**
Owned by: Sally Leonard
For GCH Gleanngay Legend of the Grail

**The Amaden Trophy**
Owned by: Melissa Lopez & Barbara Smith
For GCH Acacia’s Bat Out O’hel

**Junior Showmanship Award**
Juliana McKamey
Handling: CH Canopy Road’s Sundance Festival
Owned by: Dennis & Bonnie Wirth & J. & J. McKamey

**Obedience Dog of the Year**
CH Orion Trebol Hot On the Leader Board RN NAJ
Owned by: Betsy Geertson & Guillermo Rueda

**The Ida Sawtelle Mallory Versatility Awards**

**Versatility Award Excellent (Bronze)**
CH Eringlo Playing With Fire RA TD OA AXJ
Owned by: Cindy Jansen, Dennis & Cindy Shea

CH Hullaboo the Rookie CD RE TD NJP
Owned by: Robert & Elaine Nerrie & James Marzolino

Orion Trebol Hot Off the Press VCD1 RAE AX AXJ
OAP AJP NF
Owned by: Betsy Geertson & Willie Rueda

CH Shandalee Daredevil CD OAP AJP
Owned by: Suzanne Stone & Sue Goldberg

**Versatility Dog (Pewter)**
CH Lissadell Sings for His Supper AX AXJ DF
Owned by: Elizabeth Abate & Caroline Goldberg

Lonestar Play by Play CD AX AXJ DF
Owned by: Suzanne Stone, Wendy Neill & Alison Lavorato

CH Sam Hill’s I Told You I Was Trouble AX AXJ
Owned by: Alison Bradley, Amy Havely & Vicki Noah

CH Orion Trebol Hot On the Leader Board RN NAJ
Owned by: Betsy Geertson & Willie Rueda

Mach Trebol Labour of Love RAE NAP NJP MXF
Owned by: William & Lynn Nelson & Willie Rueda

**Introduction of The Brenmoor Bred-By Challenge Award sponsored by Gary Vlachos and William Behan and presented on their behalf by Willie Rueda.**
Since Gary & Bill bred their first litter in 1980, the Brenmoor Bred-By Challenge Award has been in development. Over the years, Gary & Bill have participated in all aspects of our sport: conformation, grooming, showing, and supporting club activities. They also reached out to other Wheaten breeders and terrier enthusiasts, as well as handlers and judges. It is this comprehensive approach to understanding dogs that underscores the unique role of the breeder/exhibitor that is so vital to the health and progress of the breed. By exhibiting your dogs, you, the breeder, achieve much more than wins. The preparation, participation, and observation you engage in makes you a complete breeder, a better breeder, a breeder who will...win! The Brenmoor Bred-By Challenge Award specifically recognizes the Breeder who has been successful with one or more dogs or bitches, under three judges, over the course of the most competitive weekend(s) of the year.

The effort to breed quality recognized across the board is a benefit to all of us as lovers of Wheatens, and an effort that Gary and Bill wish to recognize with this Award. We encourage all of you to pursue this award in the future!

Congratulations to **Christy Weagant** - the first winner of Brenmoor’s Bred-By Challenge Award. Her bitch, **Baroque You Ain’t Seen Nothing Yet**, had an outstanding weekend in the Bred-By class during the Montgomery 2010 weekend!

**Rescue Families of the Year**
Co-Winner Mary Yourich & family
Co-Winner Bob Peck & family

**Jan Linscheid Fellowship Award**
Rosemary Berg

**AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award**
Jan Van Ness
The 2011 Wheaten Ambassador Award winner is Jeter, (Am/Can CH Shandalee Daredevil, CD, AXP, AJP, CGC, TDIAOV, THD, HIC, SCWTCA Versatility Excellent Award, and Westminster Award of Merit Winner) owned by Suzanne Stone.

Jeter completed an impressive 152 therapy visits with disabled children at the AHRC in Brookville, Long Island, NY. There the children enjoyed training and brushing this enthusiastic Wheaten, who also was quite the entertainer with his many tricks and freestyle demonstrations. His enthusiasm for trying new ventures has enriched the lives of many, and his sweet and sociable personality at a comfortably retired 14 years make him a wonderful Wheaten Ambassador indeed!

**SCWTCA 2011 CGC Test**

by Suzanne Stone

If I didn’t know better, I’d say this year’s CGC test was déjà vu! Again we had three takers, two of which were breeder-handled. Thank you breeders! Two of the three dogs passed, but all made a noble effort. We again took the test outdoors because the weather was nice. I find the area outside the gym less noisy and stressful and oftentimes a little more temperate.
GCH Ceili's Time To Shine
(CH Duidream Quicktime x Ceili's Susan B Anthony)

Percy's day in the sun!
Best of Opposite at Montgomery County KC

Thanks to everyone who helped us on our journey
Watch for his offspring in the ring in 2012
Ceili Wheatens
Beth Sorenson & Russ Howard, Longmont CO
http://web.me.com/rdhoward/Ceili_Wheatens
ceilimd@yahoo.com
206-396-4751
(co-owned by Sara Sorenson, Redmond WA)
CH Bryr Rose Symbol of Paris

An Eyeful of Eiffel

Owner-Handled to Group 4 at 8 months of age

Reserve Winners Dog
SCTWCA National Specialty 2010

Award of Merit
SCTWCA National Specialty 2011

Co-owned and handled by
Michele Connor
& Breeder Jeanne Ferris
Staying Current in a Changing World

Reminiscing about Montgomery can make me schizoid. Befitting my great-grandma status, I’m overwhelmed by the changes that have occurred in my lifetime, and have occurred at such an accelerating rate that I often think the very nature of time has changed.

The internet, of course, is the most dramatic instrument of change, and it has even affected Montgomery, the bastion of Eastern conservatism. It is still outdoors, come sun, rain or shine. October in Pennsylvania can still mean snow, mud, or gorgeous autumn, but lately, it has gotten a lot warmer. Whole new classes of activity have been added…Obedience and Performance. Climate change has dictated a change of dress code. Gone are the heavy British tweeds (though I still have the suit I wore when I judged Sweepstakes lo these many years ago). Fortunately, traditions hold, in no small measure due to the incredibly competent, our own Carol Carlson. And now Montgomery is an internationally-recognized opportunity to view the world’s finest terriers.

The best changes are available well in advance of the event. Thanks to our tech savvy coordinator, Pat Mullin and the amazing Robyn Alexander, our website (the most easily maneuvered of any I’ve tried), provides early and constantly updated information. The Calendar of Events, maps, venues, and clear instructions on how to participate are colorfully shown. Bob-the-Banker makes checks easy to write and send. A few clicks, and even the computer-challenged are in the groove. In addition, the breed lists offer helpful hints, including offers of heavy equipment for those traveling by air (thank you Cindy Shea). For those unable to attend, we have Robyn and her ringside cohorts bringing up-to-date show results to the web site. Remind me that I wrote this the next time you hear me gripe about my computer.

Another bonus of technology is the Judges Education Study Guide. Distributed at the Breeders Education Symposium, it is the work of breeder-judges Gay Dunlap and Gary Vlachos. An eye-pleasing presentation, it graphically hones in on the basics of Wheaten structure, movement, and coat. Excellent photos zone in on the information presented in the text. Side-by-side comparisons illuminate breed specifics. Attention is drawn to faults, but virtues are emphasized. This is a wonderful tool: kudos to the creators. I have to wonder why many judges fail to employ it successfully.

Breeders…this is a terrific tool for you, too. The clear depiction of correct outline, “square,” size, tail set, ear size and set will refresh your mind when evaluating your dogs. Grooming is discussed in a way that offers constructive tips. I also appreciate the advice to judges to “face off” or “spar” our dogs. I’ve had judges tell me that they hesitate to spar our dogs because they fear that exhibitors will be unable to control their dogs. Ridiculous. It is easy to train a dog to perform; most of us are experienced enough, and the rest will learn. The video visuals are superb, and the excellent text even displays touches of humor. If you don’t have one of these disks, treat yourself. Using it will give you a leg up on your competition.

A new tool for breeders was introduced at the Breeders Education session. Titled “The Conformation Assessment Program,” modeled after a very successful program sponsored by the Golden Retriever club, it was presented by Cindy Vogels and Gay Dunlap. This will entail a private session with two judges to completely overview that dog’s specific virtues and faults. The goal is to help the breeder determine how to utilize that dog in a breeding program. It is only by honestly assessing the quality of the dogs we breed that we can fulfill our responsibility to improve the breed. If the Wheaten is to take its rightful place in the prestige-ranking of the terrier group, we need to take all necessary steps to improve the quality of the dogs we send into the ring, better meeting the strictures of our Standard. Dogs will be scored as to conformity to that Standard. The first sessions will take place next January in conjunction with the Desert Empire Terrier Show, held with the Palm Springs KC in early January. This is a program to facilitate your personal goals and to advance the breed we love.

I wish you all very happy holidays and a great New Year, taking advantage of the progress we have made, and the new tools the Internet has provided.
Canada has so much to offer...landscape, lobster maple syrup, gold...but there is only one really Spicy Secret and she IS the Best Canadian Bred Wheaten Terrier for the second year at the SCWTAC.

MBISS Can Am CH Keepsake Timtara Spicy Secret

Owned by Priscilla Tims and Shari Robinson. Bred by Helen & Jerry Larson, Ruth Fagen, Helen Morland and Shari Robinson.
Introducing

“Ranger”
Am/Int CH Starlight Texas Ranger

Watch it boys, there’s a new Ranger in town!

(CH Marymore Hot Pepper Jack x CH Starlight Honeysuckle Rose)

Co-Owners:
Ann Leigh
annleigh.dc.rr.com
Joanne Werth
jwerth@gvct.com

Breeders:
Ann Leigh
Bonney Snyder
Introducing

“Romi”
Abiqua Wild Knight Romance

who is enjoying his temporary stay on the West Coast

Multiple UK winner in puppy and young adult competition including Show Certificate of Merit

Breeders: Steve & Barbara Bradford UK
Owner: Ann Leigh USA
Owner: Emma Hobson UK

abiqua@virginmedia.com
annleigh@dc.rr.com
"The Breeder’s Showcase"
Santa Barbara KC
Photography by Robert Green
Santa Barbara's Breeders Showcase and the SCWT Entry
by Jon Caliri

In case you are not familiar, this is a very special and relatively new event, having just concluded its third annual event. The competition starts at the group level, and is open to all breeders. Each breeder is represented by two exhibits of his or her choosing. As a result, there may be several entries of the same breed. All of the "Breed" entries compete against each other, and all of the other breeds in their group at the same time. For example, it is possible for three different Wire Fox Terrier breeders to win a Group 1, Group 3, and an Award of Merit. There are four group placements and four Awards of Merit offered to the group competitors. The breeders are not required to show the dogs themselves and can designate handlers.

It made for a very interesting competition. The Arena at Earl Warren show grounds was split into two "supersized" group rings. The Terrier entry filled a good part of one of the rings with the line-up four rows deep.

Gay Dunlap was represented by CH Gleanngay Lady Of The Lake (Ninianne) and her daughter, Gleanngay Daddy’s Sugar, handled by Amy Rutherford and myself. The Terrier Group judge was the breed’s own Cindy Vogels, so we certainly wanted to look our best. What we didn’t know was that the two-dog entry was to be judged pretty much “in tandem.” They were examined individually, but did all of their movement patterns together, which was news to Amy and me!... I was beginning to think I’d accidentally found myself at an audition for “A Chorus Line” for dogs. Amy, ever the professional, felt we were ill-prepared. I know this because she kept saying, "Oh my God, we should have prepared!" Our Wheaten entry was the last to be judged. That at least gave Amy time to patiently and graciously try to "give me a clue" as to what I should try to do. No small challenge for her as I shuffled nervously and tried to blink. Finally it was our turn...and thanks to Amy...and two really neat bitches, I thought we acquitted ourselves admirably after all.

Our Wheaten family was, as ever, so supportive...and so loud. Loud is good! Then we waited...paperwork...some double-checking because this is new...and of course the ring steward was trying to spy armband numbers as stealthily as possible.

As the Awards of Merit were all but given out, Amy said she hoped we’d pulled it together enough not to disappoint the judge with "our performance...a handler never wants to do that, especially when representing the judge’s own breed. I’ve got to say the competition was, in a word, “fierce” not to mention, "rehearsed." We were particularly pleased and proud to be awarded the Group 4 winners.

It was another lovely benchmark for Gay and another first for our breed. I hope more breeders will consider giving this kind of event a try. I thought it was really cool and would certainly do it again...especially if I can do it with Amy...only next time I’ll practice.
Cindy Vogels and Gay Dunlap made a presentation at the Montgomery County KC weekend outlining a new, non-competitive program that will provide quantitative evaluations of Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers. Briefly: SCWTCA-approved CAP events will be held in conjunction with shows, or will stand alone. Evaluators (judges and breeders), also approved by SCWTCA, will provide written and oral critiques of dogs. There will be three evaluators at each event, so every dog evaluated will receive three scores from three evaluators. To be certified, dogs must receive three qualifying scores under three different evaluators, not necessarily at the same event. The purpose of the program is to provide information to inform breeding decisions.

The first evaluations are scheduled for the January shows in the Palm Springs, CA and another in Florida in February.

**SCWTCA Launches a Conformation Assessment Program (CAP)**

**Purpose**
- Provide a non-competitive format to evaluate Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers.
- Open to all Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers over 12 months of age.

**Venue**
- Events can be held at:
  - All-Breed Shows
  - Specialty Shows
  - Stand Alone SCWTCA Affiliate Club Events
- All events must be approved by SCWTCA, Inc.
- Every evaluation event must include at least one breeder/judge

**Administration**
- Standing Committee of five including one SCWTCA Board member
- Approved annually by SCWTCA Board
- Forms and program materials will be available on the SCWTCA website

**Breeder Education: Building Your Wheaten Breeding Program**
- Abilities
  - Understanding anatomy and temperament
  - Standard Comprehension
  - Ability to apply the Standard
  - Ability to evaluate a stud dog
  - Ability to evaluate a puppy
- Tools
  - Club Educational Materials
  - Build a Library
  - Find a Mentor
  - Ability to evaluate a dam
  - Ability to evaluate a stud dog
  - Utilize Your Mentors
  - Attend dog shows/specialties
  - Ability to determine the best stud for your bitch
  - Understand what makes a good sire
  - Join Dog Clubs
  - Expand Your Library
  - Attend Seminars
  - Ability to properly care for the bitch in whelp
  - Understand whelping/raising and development of puppies
  - Ability to evaluate a puppy
  - Expand your mentors
  - Attend litter evaluations
  - Brainstorm with breeders

**CAP**

SCWTCA, Inc. Conformation Assessment Program
A Tool For Breeders

**SCWTCA, Inc. Conformation Assessment Program**

**Purpose**
- Provide a non-competitive format to evaluate Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers.
- Open to all Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers over 12 months of age.

**Venue**
- Events can be held at:
  - All-Breed Shows
  - Specialty Shows
  - Stand Alone SCWTCA Affiliate Club Events
- All events must be approved by SCWTCA, Inc.
- Every evaluation event must include at least one breeder/judge

**Administration**
- Standing Committee of five including one SCWTCA Board member
- Approved annually by SCWTCA Board
- Forms and program materials will be available on the SCWTCA website
**Entries**

- Must be made on official SCWTCA application form
- Entry fee will be determined by SCWTCA and divided between it and the show-giving club

**Evaluators**

- Must apply and be approved by the CAP Committee and the Board of SCWTCA, Inc.
- Two Categories of evaluators:
  - Breeder/Judges
  - Breeders

**Procedure**

- Evaluators will use SCWTCA forms and Instructions
- Every test will be identical in format
- Approximately 20 minutes/per evaluator/dog
- 3 dogs/hour...15 dogs/day
- Evaluations will be private and confidential
- Evaluators will present written and oral explanation of test results

**Assessment Criteria**

Dogs will be evaluated on 10 criteria, with multiple factors included in each and assessed.

- Size
- Outline
- Head
- Front
- Rear
- Body
- Temperament
- Coat Texture
- Coat Color
- Movement

**Example of Assessment Form**

[Image of assessment form]

**Certification**

- Dogs must receive a score of 75 points out of 100 by three different evaluators
- Scoring scale:
  - 1 (extremely poor)
  - 3 (well below average)
  - 7 (well above average)
  - 9 (extremely good)
- Not necessarily at one event
- At least one qualifying score must be from a breeder/judge
Have you ever pondered the following question: What are the important essentials to consider when choosing a brood bitch or a stud dog? I strongly feel that too many have never attempted to fill in this list as they plan a breeding.

It is a no-brainer that type must be present in both animals. Too often I hear comments about being able to correct a pronounced weakness in one parent of a planned litter because “I can fix that in a generation.” This may be true, but the weakness is part of the gene pool once the breeding is done.

For me, once I have two animals of good type, the second-most important essential is temperament. Many do not consider temperament important when selecting animals to be bred. Why temperament is so important to me is a fair question.

The answer to this question is not a simple one. It has several parts. First and foremost, statistics could easily prove that the majority of Chihuahua puppies born never hit the show ring. Where do these puppies go? They go to pet homes. The endless stories about the nasty Chihuahuas the public professes to know about are difficult to overcome.

Even those Chihuahuas that hit the show ring are given bad press by many of our present-day judges. I have had several judges tell me the only dog that ever bit them was a Chihuahua. Some judges tell me they are always cautious as they begin their examination of a Chihuahua because of previous bad experiences.

It is my bias that a good temperament can be ruined due to lack of appropriate socialization. The reverse of this statement is nearly impossible to overcome. A puppy with a bad temperament is a HUGE challenge. Socialization may improve on the temperament; however, the temperament issues are part of the gene pool, just like the correct apple domed skull is.

I will conclude with a description of what this breeder judge considers stable temperament in a Chihuahua. The part of our standard “terrier like qualities of temperament” should be enough. A terrier that shows shyness goes to the back of the line when evaluations are made both for a show dog and a pet. A Chihuahua should meet these same expectations.

A Chihuahua of stable temperament can be approached by a stranger without attempting to flee or bite. It may be uneasy, but a stable temperament will allow for the personal space of the Chihuahua to be invaded. If the stranger knows dogs, the Chihuahua, whether a pet or a show dog, should allow careful advances by the stranger.

Chihuahuas of stable temperament will usually bark an alarm at the approach of a stranger. A Chihuahua that continues to bark and begins growling, in my opinion, has temperament issues. I have been in homes where the pet Chihuahua went behind a sofa and barked the entire time I was in the home. This behavior speaks volumes of a less than stable temperament. My expectation would be to encounter a Chihuahua in the home that barks the alarm, probably retreats a distance from the stranger, and finally comes to check out the situation. This is usually cautious; however, after checking out the stranger, a stable temperament will allow for some sort of interaction between itself and the stranger. This interaction may be no more than a sniff of an open hand. This sniff, when done by a Chihuahua of stable temperament, will lead to more and more interactions with the stranger.

The bottom line is that we produce litters of puppies, and need to assume the responsibility to breed only Chihuahuas that possess good breed type and are of stable temperaments. The next step in the process is to nurture the temperament with adequate socialization. I have had others tell me that they have never known such an outgoing Chihuahua as mine. This is no accident. Selection of stable parents and socialization produces a Chihuahua that is ready to interact with anyone.

Since I hold socialization so very high, I will dedicate a future article to how this can be done.

Reprinted with permission from the author.
Traveling around the country judging dog shows gives a person the opportunity to see and feel the pulse of the dog world today. I was recently engaged in a conversation in that regard that led me to remember two remarkable women. Both were icons in our world of dog shows and both are legends in their own breed. The method of how they achieved that position is worth thinking about.

The first is a breeder from the United Kingdom and her name would not be as familiar to us as the second. But all who admire the classic look of a quality Pointer owe much to this woman and her breeding program. About twenty-five years ago Cecily Robertshaw judged our Pointer National. A few days after that I had the pleasure of joining her for dinner. That evening we had a conversation that has greatly impacted my thinking regarding both the breeding and judging of dogs.

Cecily was the daughter of Mrs. Walter Edmondson who bred Pointers under the Crookrise prefix. She created the look of the Pointer as we know it today. Anyone who admires a quality Pointer with that classic chiseled head and bee sting tail has Crookrise to thank. Cecily asked me this question that evening; “Do Americans breed for a pedigree?” I answered by saying; “Before I answer your question, I would love to hear what your mother did.” She responded by telling me that Mother never looked at a pedigree. Her mother, from the beginning, had created a picture in her mind of what she wanted her Pointers to look like. She would breed the dog and bitch closest to that picture and, after a few generations, had created her own pedigree. I wonder how many breeders today have a picture in their minds of what they are striving for.

The second woman has a name many of us who have been around a while will recognize. A large percentage of Gun Dog fanciers and most all Springer Spaniel people will know her name. She is Julia Gasow of Salilyn Springer Spaniel fame. She alone created the breed as we know it today on this continent. You would be hard pressed today to find a Springer Spaniel without some Salilyn behind it.

Julia, like Mrs. Edmondson, did not put much weight in the printed pedigree. She, too, told me that early on she developed a picture in her mind of what she wanted to create. Salilyn, like Crookrise, went on to create their own pedigrees. Both these remarkable women did their due diligence. They were right-brain thinkers and had a picture in their minds of what they wanted to create.

Let me explain myself regarding a right-brain thinker. The last twenty years have been years of discovery regarding the human brain. We now know that the left side of the brain controls our mechanical thinking; looking at, examining, weighing and measuring each part of a whole. The right side of our brain is our artistic side, our creative side. The right side is where we would create a total picture. Yet the majority of dog people never seem to cross over to the right side of their brain to evaluate their dogs. However, in their defense, we are conditioned to use the left side of our brain and not the right. Ever since the industrial revolution, our education system has stressed math and science. We are taught how to evaluate things by measuring and weighing all the parts. All those are left brain tasks. We are not taught art, which is a right-brain function.

Think of the newcomer to our dog world. They first learn to evaluate dogs by their parts that could be better, their faults. Indeed the first terms they learn to identify involve the description of faults. Their vocabulary starts with, cow hocked, east west fronts, close behind and terms like fiddle front. They will make statements like, “how can the judge place that dog first, when the one behind it has a better hindquarter?” They don’t see nor can they describe the overall symmetry or the total picture, a right-brain function.
Our outstanding breeders and judges have managed to make that jump from left to right. Indeed those that I have admired as having an eye for a dog have been right-brain people. Alva Rosenberg, Bill Kendrick and Annie Clark never missed seeing a beautiful dog whether in or out of their ring. Upon close examination they might not be able to give it an award. Or upon a hand examination they might even find a disqualifying fault. But they never missed seeing and appreciating the overall beauty of that animal.

When I answered Cecily’s question regarding how Americans plan a breeding program, I did not place a pedigree as a first priority. I told her that most of the people I have observed breed to correct a weakness or a fault. They look for a mate that is strong in that area first and foremost and are most often unaware of the overall picture. Or more often than not, they just breed to the current top winner in their breed. The two women I mentioned above would have looked at the total picture first. Of those that met that picture they would have chosen one that was not weak in that area. They used their right brain first and then moved to their left side.

I had asked Julia what was the dog of her breeding whose picture was closest to meeting her goal. I was surprised at the time that her choice was not one of her top winning dogs. The dog closest to her goal was weak in a spot that held him back from being a top winning Sporting Dog. However he is prominent in the pedigree of many. Both Mrs. Gasow and Mrs. Edmondson had a mission statement, a picture in their mind that was their goal. I do wish our dog world had more people who thought like these two women.

We all are comfortable taking the course of least resistance, and we have been conditioned to measure and comfortable understanding the mechanics of movement. A large percentage of breeders and judges alike will evaluate a dog predominantly by moving it up and down. People are afraid of making a mistake and feel safe saying, “it is a really good mover.” It is something they can see and point a finger at. It gives one a just reason, even though the dog in question may greatly lack the details that make up beautiful breed type.

I think many breeders today “fear breed.” They breed just to dodge health concerns. It is a very important consideration, but it is the first, and sometimes the only, concern they have. They will not use a dog because six generations back a dog in the pedigree had a health problem. So rather than breed for virtues, they choose a dog that is wrong for the bitch, or has absolutely no breed type. I can assure you that these two women, who made such an impact on the dog world, did not think like that.

I don’t have a formula for turning on the right side of our brain. But I do believe the first step is awareness. I will recommend a few books that might turn a person in the right direction. The first two are by well-known breeders: McGuffin & Co., by Robert Oppenheimer, and Advanced Labrador Breeding, by Mary Roslin Williams. After reading their books, I know they are right brainers. I wish I had the opportunity to meet these two people.

A book that will lead one to make a personal evaluation and tweak the right side of a person’s brain is: Solving the Mysteries of Breed Type, by Richard G. Beau-champ. This book presents an outline to get the reader into looking at the whole picture first. It offers a program to shift one’s thinking to the right side of the brain. It gets one to appreciate the sum of the details that makes up that picture called breed type. Reading these three books will help people do their due diligence in seeking to appreciate the beauty of breed type.

In closing, I will share a quote from a woman named Annie. “A sound dog that lacks breed type is worthless in a breeding program. A beautiful type dog that is sound is priceless.”
NEW CHAMPION

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HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the Classic Peanuts Kids!! Celebrating turning Eleven are "Rerun" (CH Harbour Hill Rerun Van Pelt), "Linus" (CH Harbr Hill Where's My Blanket?), "Peanuts" (CH Harbr Hill Little Red Haired Girl)
The Hardest Word

According to Elton John, it’s “sorry.” He has a point. We should all be ready to say sorry…if we mean it.

But the difficult word we often struggle to get out is a lot shorter.

“No.”

My husband was once told he should learn how to step on someone’s shoes without ruining the shine. Everyone needs to figure that out when it comes to dogs. I don’t mean naming your new puppy “No No Bad Dog”…the 2011 MCKC catalog, page 95…but saying it to people.

We all deliver some form of “no” to people contacting us for a puppy. Oft-times it’s simple…we don’t have a litter. More often, it’s difficult. Maybe it’s someone who doesn’t match up to what we want in a placement. Maybe it’s someone we think isn’t a match for a Wheaten period.

Those are hard “Nos.” No matter how well intended, you’re telling someone they aren’t good enough to own a dog. It weighs on us if we alienate the person….ruin the shine….they’ll run to a pet shop and puppy mill Wheaten.

I’ve gotten better at that “no.” I listen to the person for some time, get a sense of what’s going on and then have the conversation. We talk through the issue that’s bothering me in a neutral way. Most people get the point I’m not going to place a puppy with them without my having to tell them directly. They may be annoyed but they can never say I wasn’t courteous to them. Sometimes, they see my point.

The harder “Nos” are for potential owners willing to show the puppy. There they are…saying you can show the puppy and all the while, you know it’s a bad match. Now the devil’s sitting on one of your shoulders and the angel on the other. AAAGGH! The rules don’t change when a “pet show home” is involved: always go with your gut and when there’s any twinge, don’t do it. Always remember: when they’re out of your house, they’re out of your control.

But that’s not the toughest potential owner “no.” Reserve that for the person you’ve talked to for some time, have committed to a placement and may have their deposit. Now you can’t go through with it. Your stomach is tied in knots. Visions of lawsuits dance in your head.

Here’s what you do: write two letters/emails. The first outlines everything wrong and why you can’t do it. The second one thanks them but says you have decided to make other arrangements for the puppy. Send the second one. If you have taken a deposit, enclose a check for the full amount before they can ask for it.

No matter what you say, the person is going to be mad, they will never agree with your assessment, and the less said, the better. If you must give a reason, keep it short and sweet and never make it anyone’s fault. When I have done this, I simply said that I felt they would be better off with another puppy. Period, end of story. Your obligation is to be courteous, not to debate your decision.

By the way…always do what you need to do but don’t make this a regular practice. In 20 years, I’ve done it twice…and once I was comfortable sending the individual to another breeder who made a highly successful placement. If you’re doing this frequently, you need to examine how you screen for potential owners.
people. Remember, just as potential owners don’t understand we’re a tight community, your fellow breeders hear about your placement practices.

Saying “no” to each other is also fraught with difficulties. We’ve all faced that most difficult question, “What do you think of my puppy?” My husband wrote possibly his most memorable Dog News column about humorous answers to that question…no, I am NOT telling you what they are!

Telling the sad truth about a puppy proudly presented to you is a form of saying “no.” If the person is your friend, you owe him/her honesty. Beware of the trap of avoiding faults – no “fault judge” you, but candor is required. Sure, cite virtues. But do you do a friend a service by pretending faults don’t exist? When “pretty earset” is all you have to say, not every proud breeder will get the hint it’s the only good thing about the puppy.

It also helps no one when stud dog owners uncomfortable about a breeding are unwilling to say so. I fully endorse the proposition stud dog owners must look at all progeny as reflecting their judgment as well as the breeder’s. Most stud dog owners know when they don’t want any part of a breeding…you can quickly find out about breeders and their bitches, if you don’t already know them, pedigrees are available online and bitch owners should supply you with health information without hesitation. Dragging out the process and then saying no won’t make the bitch’s owner any happier, not to mention further annoying them if they have to scramble to find an alternate Mr. Wonderful.

Judges uncomfortable with saying no in difficult situations should remember the first rule of judging: they don’t get any better the longer you look at them. Heaven knows, it’s the rare person who is going to be happier with second place just because you dithered about it.

Boards of Directors and Club Members? Saying no means you, too. A Board that is more worried about making people happy than about getting things done is irresponsible; equally so members who only want to hear “yes.”

Board members are elected to be club leaders … every Board member, not just the President. As Tony Blair, the former English Prime Minister said, “The art of leadership is saying no, not yes. It is very easy to say yes.”

It’s easy for Board members to shy away from saying no. Just because a member…or a lot of members…think an idea is great doesn’t mean it should be done. Maybe it’s not worth the cost or the effort, maybe it doesn’t have broad appeal or maybe it’s something the club shouldn’t do. If you believe you have the capabilities of leading SCWTCA such that you ran for the Board, then be a real leader and don’t be afraid of “no.”

Members, we have to hear those nos. We have the right to an explanation and the right to be treated respectfully. But we better pull up our big boy and big girl panties and listen.

Finally, the hardest of “no’s”: those we should say to ourselves. The puppy we shouldn’t keep. The breeding we shouldn’t do. The things that might take us close to the edge. Perhaps these decisions shouldn’t matter; after all we usually have no one to answer to but ourselves. Oh…and that queasy feeling and the whispers in our heads. But if we cannot say no to ourselves…who do we have the right to say it to?

My recently-married niece walked down the aisle to words from those two great contemporary philosophers, Mick and Keith, which tell us why “no” is important: “You can’t always get what you want, but…sometimes…you get what you need.”
A love affair with a dog is so different from a love affair with a person. Trite but true. Love affairs between people can be very disappointing, but a good dog just keeps getting better. People can have wonderful, loving, fruitful relationships that lead to marriage, children, and days of companionship beyond compare, but our society sees that as the exception, not the rule. A puppy may disappoint you by messing on the oriental carpet or by chewing on your favorite piece of furniture, but a hole dug in the backyard is nothing compared to the years of love that are to come. Careful training and defined expectations (perhaps also a good idea for marriage), will make a companion that will love you for the rest of its life. There is nothing like a great dog. I believe that God developed dogs as a way for us to understand His unconditional love for us.

I have a dog visiting that I’d love to keep forever. Her name is Rosie, and she is beyond sweet. Rosie sleeps with her head on my stomach or my leg next to me in bed. She has helped me with my mourning over losing my favorite dog that died three months ago. She is not a replacement, but a loving, delightful, fuzzy friend who treats me like I hung the moon. She is precious to me, and I have only had her for a month. Rosie was well-trained, and has a natural desire to please. She is my second skin. If I get up during the night, she comes off the bed, and she is lying next to the door to the water closet. She is at my feet and is already devoted to me. Would a human do that in a month with no expectations but a cup of dog food and lots of pats? Sure, but it doesn’t last, and the dog food wouldn’t cut it. Rosie would continue like this forever.

Gay calls me often now to give me updates on Michaela who is 15 and declining but not quickly. She is Gay’s precious dog. I will never forget the day that Gay picked her up. Michaela was from Doc’s (CH Gleanngay Holliday) first frozen semen litter — one of my little pupsicles. She has been Gay’s best friend through thick and thin, even during that stage when those little knits showed up in the coat. They drove Gay crazy when trying to brush them out as they continued to knit in another place. Michaela will leave us, but Tilly is there, ready to take her place.

I had no adult dog to replace my Zoom. She had slept on my bed, sat on the sofa as I read the Bible to her, and followed me from room to room. She never was allowed to sleep in bed until the day that my mother died, and believe it or not, she hugged me that night. That made her even more special to me, and I am so grateful to have Rosie right now. Tom and Wendy, who loaned her to me, have two other dogs to comfort them, and I know that Rosie is special to them. She certainly is to me.

We Wheaten owners have a love affair with one or many special dogs. It is so different from the one we have with people. Obviously there are different physical expectations; how many people want to cuddle for hours for a 10-to-15 year period? How many people will follow you, only needing to hear their name or a kind word? Perhaps if we treated people with the love we shower on animals, relationships would be better, but I doubt it. Dogs are so forgiving, so unconditional in their love, and so undemanding, except for food and love. They are much less complicated than people. Sure some dogs get angry and pee on the bed, but that is a message that can be understood. They don’t pout for hours about a ding on the car, or the fact that you forgot to bring home the right cereal. They love us even when we make a mistake. Dogs are our Best Friends Forever.
Inspired by the theme BFF, Susan Waitt, a professional singer and songwriter, developed a DVD based on the love affair between her sister and her dog, Darby. The DVD also includes many other dogs. Darby’s story makes a great present for all puppy buyers. 100% of the monies from this gift goes to the SCWTCA Health Fund. The DVD sells for $10 plus $5 shipping in the U.S. Call for shipping costs to other countries.

Call: Emily Holden
770.236.8035
Celebrating Long Life!

Happy Birthday to Greentree Princess Aly (Aly)
(CH Waterford Just Meant To Be x CH Greentree Alysheba ROM)
Date of Birth: November 22, 1996

Almost 15 years ago we were blessed to have Aly as our first wheaten. She had us wrapped around her paw from the get-go! We could see the wheels turning in her head as she figured out how to make us HER people. In her earlier years, she enjoyed barking at squirrels and at dogs on TV, boating, running on the beach, and filling her beard with leaves on long walks. She was a fantastic mom to her puppies and was pleased to keep one for herself…Boomer, CH Bayberry Greentree Sea Hero.

Over the years she always maintained her puppy-like disposition and joy of life. After earning her Herding Instinct Test Certificate, the tester told us she had great herding instincts for a puppy. Puppy? She was 11 at the time! Recently she’s had trouble with stairs, some senior moments, and hearing problems, except, of course, when we jingle her collar and leash for a walk or even just think about it…yes, she can read our minds! Then she prances toward us, tilts her head with a sparkle in her eyes, giving us “that look” which originally captured our hearts.

Owners: Gerry and Keith Meyers
Breeders: Beverly and Kevin McDonald

Happy Birthday to CH Shar-d’s Happy Go Lucky (Anthony)
(CH Shar-d’s Stunt Man x Eridanus Lady in Red)
DOB: October 9, 1997

Anthony came to me when he was only six months old as a visitor, from his breeder, Dee Boyd. The deal was to show Anthony and hopefully finish his championship. Well, 14 years later, he is still here! Anthony finished his championship rather quickly and became a junior showmanship dog with Mary Payton Noah. I could not ask for a better companion. Today Anthony spends most of his time sleeping, but when he hears the sound of the food bowls clanking, he is “Johnny on the spot.” Eating is his favorite part of the day. Thank you, Dee, for sharing this wonderful soul with me!

Owned By: Amy Havely and Mary Payton Noah
Bred By: Dee Boyd
Happy Birthday to Greentree Lady (Jasmine)  
(CH Waterford Just Meant To Be x CH Greentree Alysheba ROM)  
DOB: November 22, 1996

Jasmine has lived a wonderful full life and has been a blessing to our family. She is devoted to her family and is her happiest when our grown children are back in the house and there is lots of activity. Our son and daughter grew up with Jasmine by their side, went through their junior, high school and college years with her and now as professionals, love to come home to her warm Wheaten greeting. Jasmine has a special relationship with my mother as well, and my mom is certain that Jasmine understands absolutely everything that is said to her. Very often, she will cock her head to the right as she listens, just like you would expect a longtime friend to do.

Up until this year, she walked 1-2 miles with me almost every day. We greeted our neighborhood friends and animals together and caught up with everyone’s life. She has been a loyal, trusted companion. Still today, she walks around the block several times a day, albeit slower, sharing a special last walk each evening with my husband. She has such a loving, sweet temperament and is a joy for all of us! Happy 15th Birthday, Jasmine!

Owned and loved by Linda and Tom Hurd  
Breeders: Beverly and Kevin McDonald

Happy Birthday to CH Greentree Ice Dancer (Kayleigh)  
(CH Waterford Just Meant To Be x CH Greentree Dozen Roses)  
Date of Birth: November 16, 1996

I was so proud of Kayleigh when she turned 15 years old on November 16. She is such a joy and I am so thrilled that she continues to be in my life. She still lives a happy and fun life. People cannot believe her age when we meet them out and about. She travels well and is always ready for an adventure, having just returned from a trip to Vermont.

Kayleigh’s son, CH Greentree Emerald Evening Attire, whom she still spoils rotten, also lives with us. Kayleigh adjusted wonderfully when we recently moved out of the home she lived in for all of her life. At our new home she just went about finding her own new spaces to hang out. Her hearing may be a little more selective, and she may be a little more demanding at times (aren’t we all??), but she always gets her point across.

Janet Cusick, Owner
Happy Birthday to CH Winterwheat JNA O’Perky (Meara)
(CH Aranbriar Adonis ROM x CH Winterwheats JNA Peggy Sue ROM)
Born: September 5, 1998

Meara finished her championship November 28, 1999 from the Bred-By class, going breed over specials. In July of 1999 Meara had her first litter, nine puppies (three born in the car at 2:00 a.m. on the way to Nancy’s house), the remainder nicely in the whelping box. When Meara went home from her matron duties, she brought one of her daughters home with her to live with their best friend, and human brother, Justin.

Some days she seems to be slowing down and other days she still finds the puppy energy to do that special wheaten run around the yard. Her deep bark, which she inherited from her mother, sets her apart from others. She has such a gentle personality and is loved by all.

Owned and loved by: Mike & Kelly Perket, Bette Eckstrom & Nancy Andersen

Happy Birthday to Tiamo’s Strike Up The Band (Trumpette)
(Maroc Ceadean x CH Tiamo’s Royal Gala)
Date of Birth: November 1, 1997

Trumpette began her show career at 11 months of age when Nick Hammond selected her as his Best of Breed winner at the SCWTCA Inc’s European Heritage Competition (during Montgomery Weekend, 1998). At that time, she sported the harsh red coat of an Irish-type Wheaten puppy, so her win was totally unexpected. By the time she was two years of age, the harsh red coat had given way to a beautiful silky, wavy and easy-to-care-for Irish coat. Trumpette went on to whelp a lovely litter of pups in March 2000, sired by Maroc Captain.

Then, at three years of age, she became a therapy dog for a young man who was confined to a motorized wheelchair due to Larson’s Syndrome. She spent her days as his companion, often riding around on the foot platform of his chair, and her nights on his bed, keeping his aching joints warm with the heat of her body. She was the perfect “bed dog” – a gentle snuggler – and a loyal companion. Her young man grew up, developed an international singing career, began to travel a lot, and got married. It was time for Trumpette to retire.
Maggie was our first Wheaten and has been a loving, devoted companion who gives the best "wheatie kisses" for 15 years. She was appropriately given the registered name "Princess", as she has always been a proper, well-mannered lady. Maggie was her "daddy's" girl. Their weekend rides to Wawa to get a paper for him, an egg sandwich for her, were special times they shared together. It has been 10 years since he passed, but she will still perk up her head when I mention his name to her.

It saddens me to see her slowing down as she approaches 15, but she brings a smile to my heart when she gets off the grooming table, and still does her wheaten whirls and twirls. She still thinks she has gotten pretty to go to a dog show. Maggie loves the show ring - in May 2011 at 14-1/2 years she was Best Veteran Bitch at Bucks and Best in Veteran Sweepstakes at Trenton. It brought tears to my eyes watching her happily go around the ring and then stacked, waiting anxiously for the bait that "Grammie Bev" had hidden in her pouch for her.

Maggie shares our home with her daughter, CH Greentree Fairy Tale Autumn Bud (RoseBud) and her son, CH Greentree Fairy Tale Only Time Will Tell (Tadhg). She is still always ready to help them bark at the squirrels.

Oh - Maggie hates the camera. I was fortunate to catch her off guard last winter and get a candid picture of her in the snow.

Happy 15th Birthday to my wonderful Wheaten Maggie!

Owner: Nancy Pedersen
Breeders: Beverly and Kevin McDonald

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At 12 years of age, Trumpette returned to live with her breeder. Over the past two months, now almost 14 years of age, she has re-entered the show ring ("just for the fun it"), winning Best Veteran in Sweepstakes under Emily Holden at the SCWTAC 2011 National Specialty in Nova Scotia and then Best of Breed under Sean Delmar at the Irish Breed Spectacular in Toronto, Ontario. Despite her advancing age, Trumpette is still a great traveller who enjoys car rides and going for long walks. Jolijne feels blessed that Trumpette has joined her in retirement.

Owner/Breeder: Jolijne Ubbink
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Articles and letters for March issue are due February 1

Advertising Rates
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Ads may be sent as e-mail attachments, photo 300dpi .jpeg format
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Only photos with un-retouched dogs will be accepted. Limit health references to hip and eyes and/or “health testing current and shared upon request.” Ads accepted from club members only and limited to two pages per issue. ONLY CLUB MEMBERS’ CHECKS WILL BE ACCEPTED for ads of co-owned and/or bred dogs.

Ad closing date for March issue: February 1

Send advertising to Molly O’Connell, 7912 South Vincennes Way, Centennial, CO 80112. (If sent by overnight service, sign “signature waiver” so driver will leave package). If you have copy submitted by February 1, a draft layout will be sent to you for edits. Include e-mail address for quick turnaround. Payment should be sent to the editor, payable to SCWTCA.

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Celebrating Long Life submit to:
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February 1: jgvoyles@comcast.net

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