MUSH! There is no end to what our Wheatens can do when put to the test. And Jean Straub did just that. Her story is a great one!
OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS OF THE SOFT COATED WHEATEN TERRIER CLUB OF AMERICA, INC

jinx moore, president
sedalia, mo 65301
660 826-4342

anna marzolino, corres sec
orange ca 92869
714 538-3512

willie rueda, director
washington, dc 20009
202 986-7671

susan mc gee, vice pres
kansas city, mo 64113
816 444-4637

lori kromash, treas
spring city, pa 19475
610 469-4993

pam tinnelly, director
garden city, ny 11530
516 248-4843

nancy draper, rec sec
adel, ia 50003
515 689-7557

kay baird, director
roscoe, il 61073
815 389-8073

gary vlachos, director
sewickley, pa 15143
412 741-9424

BENCHMARKS EDITOR

gay dunlap . 1134 south oak court . gilbert, az 85233-8109
phone 480 926-1622 email gaydunlap@cox.net

table of contents

from the president
page 3
from the editor
page 3
an integrative approach to protein losing nephropathy
pages 4-6
champion and performance titlists
page 8
grandma’s attic...size and substance
page 9
mush, you wheatens!
pages 11-12
learning to “interpret” the language of undocked tails
pages 13-15
celebrating long life and happy birthday seniors
pages 16-18
the devil’s advocate
pages 19-20
ectopic ureters, pelvic bladders, sphincter muscle control issues
page 20
so you want to have a raffle
page 21
grf and colony dog donations
page 22
new members of the open registry
pages 23-24
endowment fund donations
page 24
long beach meet the breeds
pages 25-29
travels with darby
page 29
enzymes...the spark plugs for your dog’s engine
pages 30-31
pilot association study of ple/pln in scwts
pages 32-33
informative family and open registry report
page 33
page 34
I t's that time of year to be thinking about the selection of the Nominating Committee. The committee consists of five members and two alternates that will be elected at the February Board meeting and announced on Updates as soon as those selected agree to serve. As you will remember, officers and directors are elected for two-year terms with staggered terms, and no officer or director can serve more than six consecutive years. Those Board members fulfilling the second year of their two-year term and who do not need to be re-elected for 2010-2011 Board are: Jinx Moore, President; Lori Kromash, Treasurer; Anna Marzolino, Corresponding Secretary; Willie Rueda, Director and Kay Baird, Director.

January 20 2010, the Rose City Classic in Portland, Oregon was the site for the first SCWTCA Supported Entry medallions to be presented. The medallions were designed by Darcie Olson and produced by Wendell August Forge. Best of Breed, Best of Opposite Sex, Best Bred By Exhibitor, and Winners all received these beautiful medallions. Congratulations to the winners! Seven local clubs have requested Supported Entry medallions for their shows this year.

Make plans to attend the Roving Specialty June 26, 2010, in Long Beach, CA at the Queen Mary Park. This is a beautiful show site and will be hosted by SCWTSCS. Peggy Biesel-McIlwaine will be judging the Speciality and Willie Rueda will be the Sweepstakes judge. Please join the fun, and take advantage of hearing Dr. Littman speak.

October will be here before we know it; don’t hesitate to make your plans for Montgomery. Emily Holden is planning a grand weekend, and you will not want to miss it. Denise Cronin Kerby is the new trophy chair and with the help of Lynn Cone, they will be taking care of all the trophies for the event. If you would like to make a trophy donation, please contact Denise at kinsale1976@yahoo.com or Lynn Cone at raelyn6@bellsouth.net.

“Celebrate the Breed. Celebrate the Friendships”

Jinx Moore

From the Editor...

I am beginning to see our future as rather bleak. As new members join our club we are finding few who understand the inner workings of kennel clubs in general; few who are willing to support their local all-breed clubs by joining and becoming active. Wheaten folk are a rather myopic bunch. And don't take this personally if you are among the few who have jumped in and have a good grasp of what breed clubs are about, how and why they function and have become experienced enough to take on important roles within these clubs. I am reminded of the ad used during World War II...the one where Uncle Sam points a finger out to the world saying, “We Need You!”

Back to our myopic tendencies...it came to my attention that, following a very successful well-attended dog show circuit, complaints from some of the locals rose (no pun intended) to the surface...there were questions about just how smart it was to agree to a supported entry or to play up the importance of attending or otherwise plugging the shows. It seems some folks were annoyed that people were coming from outside the area because this would drive up the point schedule. Never mind supporting your local clubs...helping to support successful dog shows taking a back seat to extremely self-absorbed concerns. What’s interesting is that some of those doing the fussing just happen to travel out of their area on a regular basis to show their dogs, looking for majors.

This is the sort of stuff that happens when fanciers do not bother looking beyond their respective noses...don't appreciate that supporting the success of show-giving clubs is a duty that is a necessary precursor to maintaining the privilege of even having dog shows. But more than that, active membership in an all-breed club is a training ground like no other for future service to SCWTCA. Every year, our nominating committee finds it is desperately searching for board members with kennel club experience.

Not only are we short on members with dog club experience, our exhibiting members seldom stay at a dog show beyond Wheaten breed judging. They know little about other breeds, are never seen ringside watching other breeds being judged, and are gone from the show grounds long before the group judging begins. For many interest in the fancy stops short...beyond Wheatens there is nothing! They do little more than attend shows and complain about ring times or access doors or parking.

Considering these deficiencies is it any wonder that some of us are concerned about our future? Let's face it, the "old-guard" is getting older and older...or put in kinder terms, we are not getting any younger. Please consider getting involved with clubs and events; learn what it takes to put on shows and sustain those clubs that put on shows; gain knowledge of what goes into putting on these shows, the costs, the risks, the small amount of money made by the shows and the overall amount of work that goes into each and every show. We need you!

Gay Dunlap

One more use for Benchmarks!

Thanks to Bonnie Wirth

From the President...

Thanks to Bonnie Wirth
Protein-Losing Nephropathy (PLN) in Wheaten Terriers has become a common malady in the recent decade. While there is research into the genetic relationship and correlations made with Protein-Losing Enteropathy (PLE), the actual cause of the disease eludes western/conventional medicine as does curative therapy.

**THE CHINESE MEDICINE PARADIGM**

This article examines PLN within the paradigm of Chinese medicine. This medicine focuses on optimal health and prevention. Rather than seeing each symptom or problem as a separate issue, Chinese theory allows the symptoms to be linked together into patterns, seeing the body as a whole. There are many patterns of harmony and disharmony within the body which have been elucidated and validated over thousands of years. Diagnosing a pattern involves observation with all the senses, a detailed history, palpation of the body and acupuncture channels, and the appearance of the tongue (color, shape, coating, etc.). The pulse is also critical in diagnosis, with many known variations on the pulse giving valuable information about the quality and movement of blood within the body. Therapy in Chinese medicine includes food therapy/diet, exercise/meditation, rest, herbal medicines and acupuncture - roughly in that order of usage on a daily basis.

The depth and subtleties of Chinese medicine are a lifetime worth of study, but some basic principles help explain one of the predominant patterns with PLN (and PLE). Life energy, or Qi (pronounced “che”), is generated by the mixing and balance of Yin and Yang within the body. Yin is the cooling, moist energy while Yang is the hot, moving energy. Imbalances of these forces create patterns of disharmony - what is described as disease in western medicine. Too much Yang energy, or too little Yin energy creates excess Heat or Dryness. Heat (especially combined with excess moisture, called Damp Heat) in Chinese medicine correlates with inflammatory diseases in conventional medicine such as dermatitis, otitis, cystitis, colitis, arthritis, etc. Too much Yin or too little Yang creates excess Cold or unusable fluid (Damp) in the body and symptoms like vomiting, watery diarrhea, edema, etc. As we combine basic Yin/Yang theory within the organ systems and with environmental influences, we begin to understand how to correct these imbalances.

**PATHOPHYSIOLOGY OF PLN**

We know from western medicine that PLN is associated with, or generally begins with glomerulonephritis. The glomerulus is the filtration system within the nephron, or basic cell of the kidney. The basement membrane of the glomerulus is like a fine filter that keeps good protein in the body while allowing smaller waste particles to pass through to be excreted in the urine. Inflammation (Heat +/- Dampness) in the glomerulus (glomerulonephritis) creates holes in the filter that allow proteins such a albumin to leak out into the urine. This lowers the albumin level in the blood and accounts for protein showing up in the urine. The urine protein to creatinine ratio (UPCR) measures the severity of the protein leak, and therefore, the degree of disease or inflammation.

The inflammation also congests blood flow to the kidneys themselves and kicks off a complex cascade of reactions in an attempt bring more blood flow to the kidneys. As a result, the entire body’s blood pressure is increased in order for the kidneys to have adequate blood flow. Angiotensinogen Converting Enzyme Inhibitors (ACE Inhibitors) such as enalapril and benazapril are used to treat high systemic blood pressure when it reaches a level where it is more dangerous to the kidneys and other organs than it is beneficial. The cause and safe treatment of the inflammation then becomes of supreme importance in this stage of PLN. Later when the inflammation is reduced, bringing blood flow back to the kidneys is key.

**CAUSES OF INFLAMMATION**

Sources of inflammation for many of our pets over the past decades have arisen mostly from their environment. If the inflammation is consistent enough from generation to generation, the disease can then become so prominent that it becomes hereditary. Because dogs can produce several generations within a relatively short time period, a hereditary disorder can be generated rather quickly.

The most significant environmental factor that has changed over the past few decades is diet. Processed foods, especially kibble, contain a high content of carbohydrates and other inflammatory ingredients such as gluten and corn. There is an impressive amount of research linking fats and carbohydrates directly to inflammation. Even canned foods can have 40-50% carbohydrates on a dry matter basis. Processing increases the amount of Heat in the food from an energetic sense and increases the glycemic index, amplifying the problem. Processed foods also tend to produce Dampness, or unusable fluid or body substances like body fat, warts, lipomas and mucus. It is no coincidence that these dogs also have PLE and food sensitivities as the gastrointestinal tract is the first organ to have to...
continued from page 4

The number and type of vaccinations has also increased significantly in the past 15-20 years. Vaccination bypasses natural defense mechanisms of the body by depositing a foreign substance below the skin. The immune system is stimulated and the liver has to process and detoxify adjuvants that are added. One particular vaccine may not create enough inflammation to cause a problem for a particular animal, but the cumulative effect of many vaccines within a short time in the life of our pets can create significant neurologic, inflammatory and autoimmune diseases. There are plenty of challenge studies to show that protection from disease can last many years, even a lifetime, with one or two vaccines for a particular disease when immunization is done properly (see the work of Ron Schultz, PhD). Effects of over-vaccination can be exacerbated if the pet is already on an inflammatory type diet. Vaccinations and infectious diseases can produce antibody-antigen complexes which have been linked to glomerulonephritis and other immune-mediated diseases.

The lining of the glomerulus, gastrointestinal tract, and skin are all comprised of epithelial cells. When they are inflamed, the corresponding clinical signs appear with each system, but they are the result of the systemic inflammatory reaction. Each animal may manifest symptoms differently depending on which organ systems are the most affected, but they are not separate disease processes. A more holistic view of the animal clearly shows the link among all of these syndromes.

TREATMENT

While there can be other patterns of disharmony involved in PLN, Damp Heat is usually prominent. Treatment is geared toward clearing Heat and draining Dampness - in other words, reducing inflammation, de-congesting blood flow to affected areas and making bodily fluids more usable. Western drugs can be effective at some of these issues, but come with a lack of specificity to a target area and often with unwanted side effects.

CASE STUDY

Riley is a 10-year-old, neutered male SCWT who was diagnosed in April 2007 with PLN on a routine geriatric screen. He was having no known symptoms at that time. He was also diagnosed with systemic hypertension (high blood pressure). His UPCR was 8.8 at that time (normal is less than 0.5). He was placed on enalapril at 10 mg twice daily to regulate his hypertension. He had low albumin at 2.2 g/dL (normal 2.5-4 g/dL), and increased eosinophils (white cell associated with allergies or inflammation). His blood urea nitrogen (BUN) and creatinine were normal at that time. He was placed on dry Hill’s Z/D diet. He continued with that therapy for approximately one year, with the UPCR fluctuating between 4.9-6.2, and his albumin dropping to 1.8.

In May 2008, Riley presented for a holistic/integrative medicine consult. He had a history of chronic allergic dermatitis, ear infections, runny eyes, warty growths and gastrointestinal problems. He was heat intolerant, ate a lot of grass and had mucus in his vomit and stool frequently. He also had noise sensitivities. He was happy, bright and had a great appetite. His coat was oily and he was overweight. Heat was palpated over the kidneys and acupuncture points showed heat and blockages around the kidneys and issues around digestion and fluid regulation.

Riley was switched to a home-cooked diet of fresh, lightly-cooked chicken, turkey or beef (in rotation) of about 40% by volume, fresh cooked vegetables including kale, spinach, cabbage, chard (and seasonal veggies) at about 30-40% volume, and 20-30% carbohydrates. Carbohydrates rotate among quinoa, gluten-free oats, millet, and sweet potatoes. Grains are cooked after being soaked overnight. He started getting raw chicken necks twice weekly to keep teeth and gums healthy. There is research to support that diets higher in protein actually increase blood flow to the kidneys, so his protein was moderated in the beginning as he still was in the inflammatory stage of his disease.

Riley was started on Chinese herbal formulas, including one to clear Damp Heat (inflammation) from the kidneys and GI tract. He started probiotics, digestive enzymes and omega-3 fatty acids. Riley also received treatment from a Manual Physical Therapist between acupuncture treatments. This therapy is based in osteopathic tradition and works synergistically with acupuncture by opening blood flow and energy (see article next quarter for more information regarding those therapies).

Acupuncture and herbal consults were continued through 2008 and 2009 approximately every 6-12 weeks with manual therapy treatments at the same frequency. Within just a few months, his skin and coat improved dramatically and the vomiting stopped. Stools normalized except when exercising. He became less sensitive to noise. Within 6 months of starting treatment, his UPCR had dropped to 2.0 and his albumin was up to 2.3 g/dL (see Table 1 and 2 on the following page).

As the inflammation decreased in the skin and kidneys, his BUN and creatinine started to rise in Spring 2009, raising concern that the enalapril was pulling too much blood away from the kidneys. The enalapril dose was gradually reduced over the next few months. His blood pressure was monitored and the enalapril discontinued. At last check in July, the UPCR was down to 1.6 and the BUN and creatinine returned to normal. The albumin was 2.5 g/dL.

CURRENT THERAPY

Riley continues to make progress toward optimal health. He is moving to a higher protein, raw diet as his digestion improves and his kidneys are ready for more perfusion. Other pets with similar inflammatory diseases can move quickly to raw diets and thrive. His herbal formulas are adjusted at each visit based on his pulse and tongue diagnosis, palpation of the acupuncture channels, and pattern diagnosis.

For further information about holistic medicine and/or to find a practitioner, see the following websites: avma.org, ivas.org, tcvm.com.

Many thanks to Riley for his patience and cheer, Riley’s guardians for their willingness to be open to the holistic world and their dedication to Riley, Jean Pierson, PT who has been instrumental in continued on page 6
Riley’s recovery, Dr. Amy Twardzik and the staff at Pacific Veterinary for their cooperation and care of Riley, and to my many mentors who have given me a much bigger tool bag, including Steve Marsden, ND, DVM, LAc, MSOM, Dipl.CH, RH, Huisheng Xie, DVM, PhD, MS, Connie Dinatale, DVM, CVA, Bruce Ferguson, DVM, CVA, LAc

About the author: Dr Madsen received her Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine from Colorado State University in 1996. After practicing small animal medicine and surgery for 8 years, she started studying and integrating Chinese medicine in 2004 and obtained certification in acupuncture in 2005. She is involved in ongoing advanced studies in Chinese medicine and other naturopathic therapies. She practices in Oregon.
It Was A Wheaten Kind of Day!

TAMPA BAY TERRIER CLUB

NOVEMBER 5, 2009

BEST IN SHOW: CH SHO-WELL’S BREE’S BOY TOY

BEST PUPPY IN SHOW: MOONSTRUCK SANDDOLLAR SASSY SALSA

Courtesy of Susan Wuerz
### SCWT CHAMPION and PERFORMANCE TITLES
#### October - December 2009
Compiled by Sheila O'Connell

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
<th>SIRE</th>
<th>DAM</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ch Anamcaras Ivan Vasilevich</td>
<td>Modny Style Great Expectations</td>
<td>Ch Wheatnbrook's Anam Cara</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Baroque Top Shelf Wild Irish Rose</td>
<td>Ch Stratford Top Priority</td>
<td>Ch Marque's Birthday Toast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Bon Aquarel Icon O'Kaler</td>
<td>Crispas Bushman</td>
<td>Wheaten Rebel's Evolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Bonney Siren Song</td>
<td>Ch Bendacht King Of The Faeries</td>
<td>Ch Bonney Marchael Sorceress</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Bonney Vintage Super Tuesday</td>
<td>Ch Vintage Green Beret Ballad</td>
<td>Ch Bendacht Bonney Bedazzled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MACH2 Cell's Hot Temper Leaps CDX XF</td>
<td>Ch Choroschie Drusja's Nijinsky</td>
<td>Ch MACH Cell's Calypso CDX RA OAP OJP OF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charlie Trotter MX MXJ OF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daisy Mae Of Gable Oaks OA AJX</td>
<td>Jo's Jasper Of Sharon Hill</td>
<td>Misty Lanes Lucy Lou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diamonds Breakfast At Tiffany'S</td>
<td>Ch GreenTree Fairy Tale Only Time Will Tell</td>
<td>Ch Diamonds Magic Moments</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Dudream Dash Of Pizazz</td>
<td>Ch Dudream Quicktime</td>
<td>Duidream Dance Of Erin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunluce Being A Real Mic OA OAJ AXP MJP</td>
<td>Ch Choroschie Drusja's Valesco</td>
<td>Briankeen Mo Creideamh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Edgewood Ruffian</td>
<td>Ch Mil Mear Geragold How Far?</td>
<td>Ch Edgewood Bugaboo Bamboo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Eringlo Choc' Late Chip Crunch</td>
<td>Ch Eringlo Rise Above The Mist</td>
<td>Ch Eringlo Cuddlebug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Eringlo Playing With Fire TD NA</td>
<td>Ch Starlight Treasure Chest</td>
<td>Ch Eringlo Cuddlebug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Eringlo Uncanny Cashew</td>
<td>Ch Eringlo Rise Above The Mist</td>
<td>Ch Eringlo Cuddlebug</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gleanngay Hallabaloo Square One RN</td>
<td>Ch Marland's Awesome Dandy Andy</td>
<td>Ch Gleanngay Ti There Wazoo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gleanngay Keep The Faith VCD2 UD RA</td>
<td>Ch Gleanngay Daring Display</td>
<td>Ch Gleanngay Af'N Annie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greentree Sheelin Rocket Man</td>
<td>Ch Gleanngay Trinity Heart Break Kid</td>
<td>Ch Greentree Fairy Tale Brown Eyed Girl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Haldane Running Wild NA OAJ NF</td>
<td>Ch Heirloom T&amp;T's Tige In A Shoe CD RN AX AXJ</td>
<td>Ch Deryni A Promise Kept</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Heirloom T&amp;T's Tige In A Shoe CD RN AX AXJ</td>
<td>Ch Geragold Oria Finlandia</td>
<td>Ch Wheatstone Fairy Tale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Hion Renaissance Man</td>
<td>Ch Paisley Forever Man</td>
<td>Hion Summer Fling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Inishkeen Maille Of Vanbeard</td>
<td>Ch Vanbeard's Sir Chancellor</td>
<td>Vanbeard's Sunsprite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jethro NA NAJ NF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joydell's New Beginning For Maquiness NAJ</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mach4 Joy-Dells New Years Malley MXF</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Jubilee Proclaiming Liberty</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kajun Kenzie Settoon RN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Kaldancer Hangtime</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Kaldancer Look At Me Scamper</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Kenna's Had Passion 4 Fashion</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lady Abigail RN</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexis Fashion Junkie RA AXP MJP</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Lismore The Best Of Both Worlds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Lismore The World As I See It</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lissadel Line Dancer CD RA</td>
<td>Mariner's Catch As Catch Can</td>
<td>Joy-Dell's Kelly Stormin Nite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Lochlinear Finnegan Inverlochy</td>
<td>Ch Edgewood At The Apollo</td>
<td>Joy-Dell's Kelly Stormin Nite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lonestar Play By Play OA AXJ NF</td>
<td>Ch Deryni Heart Throb</td>
<td>Ch Jubilee Liberty Belle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Lovesong's Top O 'The Mornin'</td>
<td>Big Oaks Dallas</td>
<td>Kayo's Shea Of Rivendell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Marchael Unexamined Life</td>
<td>Duidream Mississippi Mud</td>
<td>Katdancer Heartfelt Opinion NAP NAJ NJP</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marlow Run McClean NA NAJ</td>
<td>Ch Katdancer Ez To Look At</td>
<td>Katdancer Matter Of Opinion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Marymore Last Call For Martini</td>
<td>Heirloom Tattletale</td>
<td>Ch Acacia Christalino Per Kenna</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Moonstruck Dreams Can Come True</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Moonstruck Fairest Of Them All</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Moonstruck Happily Ever After</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Moonstruck Million Dollar Baby</td>
<td>Ch Gleanngay Derring-Do RN OA NAJ</td>
<td>Ch Deryni One For The Money</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paisley's Scooter Boy OA OAJ MXP2 MJP3</td>
<td>Ch Stratford Top Brass</td>
<td>Ch Stratford The World Revolves Around Me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Paradise Islander Girl Of Holwelt</td>
<td>Ch Stratford Top Brass</td>
<td>Ch Stratford The World Revolves Around Me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ch Rolfeian Courtin' In The Kitchen</td>
<td>Ch Gleanngay Boot Scoot'N Cowboy</td>
<td>Lissadel Splash</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch Harbour Hill Mike Delfino</td>
<td>Ch Keepsake Inverlochy Lochlinear</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch Islander's Kiss The Girls</td>
<td>Ch Lonestar's Golden Snitch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch Mil Mear Geragold How Far?</td>
<td>Ch Lovesong's New Day Dawning</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch Lakkas Ustilago</td>
<td>Ch Marymore Issey Miyake</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Ch Marymore Martini Straight Up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch Marland's Awesome Dandy Andy</td>
<td>Ch Marland Moonstruck Minx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch GreenTree Darcove Fairy Tale CD RN</td>
<td>Ch Marland Moonstruck Minx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch GreenTree Darcove Fairy Tale CD RN</td>
<td>Ch Marland Moonstruck Minx</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch GreenTree Skellig's Samba Par Ti</td>
<td>Ch GreenTree Moonstruck Fairy Tale</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch Paisley After Midnight</td>
<td>Ch Paisley Part Of The Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch Islander's Jamakin Me Krazy</td>
<td>Ch Holwell's Keeper Of The Light</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ch Geragold Riders To The Sea</td>
<td>Ch Rolfeian Oonagh</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I’m sure the ’09 Montgomery experience has been well covered by others, but I must add my kudos to Kayce and Kathy and their spectacular team for a job well done. They made it look like a piece of cake. Mea culpa, I missed that wonderful innovation, the Sunday night post-show party. It got rave reviews from everyone who attended … a fun filled and gustatory delight and a great new tradition!

Spending a great deal of time in the company of judges, I became increasingly aware of how differently one views an entry when one is intimately involved in the breed as a breeder. I found many more attractive and worthy exhibits this year. The final cut Sunday had real depth of quality. As a breeder, in addition to observing head, outline, tail set, coat and movement, all a concern of the judges, I was considering pedigrees and breeding potential. I was looking for those characteristics I feel most needed and the faults most burdensome at the present time. A moderate size, compact, square in outline, high tail set, a pretty coat, all elicit very positive reactions. Small, well-set ears are a bonus. How wonderful when they match up with a “safe” pedigree.

There were a larger number of correct dogs in the ring this October. But there were too many that failed to adhere to the Standard, to its key stricture… “moderation.” Moderation must be applied not only to size, but to substance and movement as well. Size is a function of height and length, and that is what you see from outside the ring. Hands on we discover substance, created by bone and muscle. Too much is as faulty as too little. Overly heavy bone and muscle cause clumsy, ponderous movement. Adequate leg bone gives strength, too much, often expressed in an overly sprung rib cage negates agility and grace. The term “graceful” appears twice in our standard’s section on movement. Heavy back skulls, prominent cheekbones, shoulder heft, work together to make for a coarse animal. With so much of our entry composed of youngsters, a breeder is left to wonder if that very “finished” looking puppy is going to coarsen as he matures.

Since moderation, soundness and grace, are key attributes of movement, I’m not the only one who is conflicted by the rewards given to the generic, wide open “go around” that prevails in so many breeds. It is neither “moderate,” nor terrier. It is dramatic, but a waste of motion and energy, ill fitting a dog who must exhibit endurance when guarding the boundaries of a small farm.

Observing a specialty when looking for input into one’s breeding program is multi-tasking of the highest order. So much can be camouflaged by grooming. We have to concentrate on the essentials… the “right amount of bone,” moderation, not excess.

On another note, please join us at the Sun Country all Terrier show, part of the Fiesta Cluster in sunny Arizona in March. Five shows, and a great opportunity to visit, evaluate, and perhaps garner a major for your young hopeful! ☞

“Please accept my resignation. I don’t want to belong to any club that will accept people like me as a member”.... Groucho Marx
The Colony Dogs fund is short for this year—we need $35,360 annually, and we have just enough to see them through July.

You can donate via check or PayPal.

Please go to the donation page on the Colony Dog website:
www.colonydogs.org/ColonyDogsDonationFormJun07.pdf

or the donations page on the Endowment website:
wheatenhealthendowment.org/endowmentform.html

[When using PayPal, be sure to specify the Colony Dogs.]

Thanks you so very much for any support you can give!

Many thanks for the Christmas bed, bones, & clippers!
I was in search of a new breed. I wanted an Irish working dog and came across the website for Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers. What hooked me was the statement, “Strangers are friends they have not yet met.” I wanted to rescue a dog and give it a good home. So, I applied to the Wheaten Rescue.

My chance came when Nancy Butler called me from New Mexico and said she had a dog for me. The hitch was I had to drive to Alabama, so I drove from Chicago to Alabama for my first Wheaten Terrier. Her name is Malley. She has been the best dog ever. She is responsive and eager. She is the love of my life. We are very active together; we run a couple times a week together and do other dog-fun things, like going to the dog beach.

After a couple of years I wanted another Wheaten. I tried again to adopt a Wheaten. This time I was offered two Wheatens, a female (Makayla) and male (Clancy). I did not want two but I was told they had never been separated, so I agreed to take them both. These two were so unlike Malley. I believe they were puppy mill dogs. They were deathly scared of people. They would hide from people including my husband and me. Outside was the most difficult because I never knew where they would be hiding. Even when there was no place to hide, they would hide. They would not come near us in the house. I had to put a leash on them in the house and pull them around with me. At the end of the day they would not even want to sit with us to watch TV, not even just to be petted. They were just petrified. They were not interested in other dogs. They had diarrhea for 4 months. They did not know they could stand up to eat. But one of the biggest problems we had to overcome was constant itching. The female’s ears were red hot.

Four vets later, she was diagnosed with multiple micro-organisms in her ears, fungus between her toes and mites. I took her to see a canine allergist and, finally, with the right treatment, she was cured. After much loving and hugging, they started to appreciate the human touch. The male was more responsive than the female. Now, after almost two years they are coming around. Today, they are open and friendly with us but Makayla is still very timid around strangers.

We have two other dogs, five horses, and four birds. We go camping about once a month and we take all our animals with us. We look like Noah’s Ark coming into the campground.

Over the Columbus Day holiday, a couple of years ago, the horse campground was very crowded. My husband, Kurt, and I were out walking the dogs. Or perhaps it appeared that the dogs were taking us for a walk. I say this because somebody asked me, “Who is taking who for a walk?” She was right! We live on ten acres, so I did not have to walk the dogs. I decided that when I returned in April my five dogs would be trained. When I got home, I started the training sessions but soon realized it was taking all day, to get in the training sessions for five dogs. After much thought, I decided to try group training. Before I knew it I was laying down the foundation for mushing. I did more and more researching and reading about how to train for mushing. My dogs soon learned the most valuable verbal cue and that was “whoa.” They learned “hike” (to move forward) and turning cues such as “gee” for right turn and “haw” for left turn. When I was extremely pleased with the way things were going, I would say “Alrighty.” We practiced in every kind of weather; rain, snow, sleet and even subzero temperatures.

I had to figure out who were to be my lead dogs, my team dogs and my wheel dogs. Up until this time my five dogs were just pulling me around. By spring I decided they needed to start pulling some weight. We run a Christmas tree business. So I thought they should start pulling trees out of the field. I created a make-shift line and hooked up a dead tree that had been chopped down and told them to “hike” and off they went pulling the tree. I thought this would be a great attraction for our business. They did extremely well.

The most notable change in my dogs was the camaraderie and self-confidence. Makayla benefited the most. In the past, she would never be in the same room with the other dogs. It was so sad. But today she has claimed her spot within the pack. It has been quite a journey for Makayla and Clancy.

I decided to try group training. Before I knew it I was laying down the foundation for mushing. I did more and more researching and reading about how to train for mushing. My dogs soon learned the most valuable verbal cue and that was “whoa.” They learned “hike” (to move forward) and turning cues such as “gee” for right turn and “haw” for left turn. When I was extremely pleased with the way things were going, I would say “Alrighty.” We practiced in every kind of weather; rain, snow, sleet and even subzero temperatures.

I had to figure out who were to be my lead dogs, my team dogs and my wheel dogs. Up until this time my five dogs were just pulling me around. By spring I decided they needed to start pulling some weight. We run a Christmas tree business. So I thought they should start pulling trees out of the field. I created a make-shift line and hooked up a dead tree that had been chopped down and told them to “hike” and off they went pulling the tree. I thought this would be a great attraction for our business. They did extremely well.

The most notable change in my dogs was the camaraderie and self-confidence. Makayla benefited the most. In the past, she would never be in the same room with the other dogs. It was so sad. But today she has claimed her spot within the pack. It has been quite a journey for Makayla and Clancy.

I decided to try group training. Before I knew it I was laying down the foundation for mushing. I did more and more researching and reading about how to train for mushing. My dogs soon learned the most valuable verbal cue and that was “whoa.” They learned “hike” (to move forward) and turning cues such as “gee” for right turn and “haw” for left turn. When I was extremely pleased with the way things were going, I would say “Alrighty.” We practiced in every kind of weather; rain, snow, sleet and even subzero temperatures.

I had to figure out who were to be my lead dogs, my team dogs and my wheel dogs. Up until this time my five dogs were just pulling me around. By spring I decided they needed to start pulling some weight. We run a Christmas tree business. So I thought they should start pulling trees out of the field. I created a make-shift line and hooked up a dead tree that had been chopped down and told them to “hike” and off they went pulling the tree. I thought this would be a great attraction for our business. They did extremely well.

The most notable change in my dogs was the camaraderie and self-confidence. Makayla benefited the most. In the past, she would never be in the same room with the other dogs. It was so sad. But today she has claimed her spot within the pack. It has been quite a journey for Makayla and Clancy.
As I proceeded with the mushing training, I had the dogs in makeshift harnesses and a makeshift gangline. By August, I purchased the appropriate equipment. Having the right equipment made a huge difference in their performance.

The most notable change in my dogs was the camaraderie and self-confidence. Makayla benefited the most. In the past, she would never be in the same room with the other dogs. It was so sad. But today she has claimed her spot within the pack. It has been quite a journey for Makayla and Clancy.

By fall, I found a mushing club just outside of Chicago. In the off-season they pull a dogcart. I borrowed a club member’s cart and hooked my three Wheaten, my Doberman, and Schnauzer up and off we went. It was awesome having them pull us through the forest. And everybody was in awe because these were not Huskies but Wheats doing the work. It was a great day.

All I wanted for Christmas was snow and a dog sled. It snowed and my husband and I both got dog sleds. We had more snow than I can remember in a long time. The dogs were the best!!! The Miniature Schnauzer ended up riding in the sled because the snow was too deep and the other dogs were just too fast for him to keep up.

After a season of dog sledding, Makayla’s social skills continued to improve. She is no longer a loner but appears to be an important part of the group. Dog sledding has given her self-assurance. She is not a lead dog, but she is a good wheel-dog (by the wheels) or team-dog (in the middle) and performs the best with her life-long partner, Clancy.

Last winter along with dogsledding we also tried ski-jouring (where the dog pulls you on skis). That was fun, too.

When there is not enough snow we use a scooter instead of a sled. The power of the dogs amazes me every time we go out. The dogs get so excited when we bring out their harnesses and the first one to make sure she is included in the outing is Makayla.

Our mushing club had a summer party in August. They imported snow. Everyone brought their dogs. The host had a huge backyard and all the dogs were running loose. It was like being at a dog beach. There were about 35 dogs running around. I brought my three Wheats. Malley and Clancy were not particularly party animals. They pretty much stayed by us. Makayla had the time of her life. She spent a lot of her time in the snow and running around with the Huskies. She ran and ran and ran with them. Remember, this is my meek, timid, and shy dog. She was a wild and crazy party animal.

We have been recently blessed with another rescue dog, Murphy. He is also a Wheat. The Doberman and Murphy will be their own team. I will run with Clancy, Makayla and Malley. Life is good!!!!! Happy Snow Days and see you on the trail!!!!!
Learning to “Interpret” the Language of Undocked Tails

by Jolijne Ubbink

On August 11, 2009, the American Kennel Association approved the SCWTCA’s proposed change to the AKC breed standard to allow for “undocked” tails on Wheatens in the AKC dog show ring. This follows similar changes (albeit different wording) in breed standards in Canada and Europe. Formerly the AKC standard allowed only for a docked tail, but the updated AKC standard now reads: “Tail is set on high. Docked tail preferred. Whether docked or natural, the tail is to be carried upright 90º from the back, either straight or with a slight curve forward. Any deviation from this ideal is to be penalized accordingly.”

Recently Anne Holahan and I had the opportunity to attend a seminar for aspiring AKC Wheaten judges. We had been invited to bring one of our Wheatens with a natural (that is, an undocked) tail for the judges to examine.

Anne and I have been living with Wheatens with “natural tails” for close to a decade now, starting with our first European imports from Germany and the Netherlands. With some of our puppies going back to breeders in Europe (where docked tails are no longer permitted in the show ring), we stopped docking tails on some of our litters. So, over time, we have gained experience from living simultaneously with Wheatens with both docked and undocked tails.

Initially, it took some time for us to adjust to the “look” of these natural tails. At first, all we could see when we looked at these Wheatens was this long thing wagging back and forth. And, bathing them was a new experience – as the long, lathered tail wagged, it often felt like a wet whip across our faces. Grooming was another new challenge – we both objected to the “Golden Retriever fringe” that some of our puppy owners were getting from their groomers. But, with time, we grew to appreciate the “natural tail”, to the point where some of our “docked” tails almost look mutilated to us now.

What we value most about the natural tails is the way the dog is able to communicate its feelings with its long tail. Docked tails also communicate some things, but there are many muscles along the whole length of the tail and as we watched and interacted with our “Long Tail” Wheatens, we learned that the dog could manipulate these muscles to communicate his/her state of mind much more precisely than when the tail was docked.

Aside from the tail-between-the-hind-legs” scenario, which we all know and understand, there are many more “tail messages” to be learned from watching the ”Long Tailed Wheaten” position its tail. Here are some examples with our interpretation of their “tail language”:

FORWARD ARCHED TAIL

“Happy & Alert”

“I am feeling confident but the situation is a little unpredictable so I need to stay alert, vigilant and prepared to respond.”

This “Forward Arched Tail” shows both confidence and a terrier-like alertness to the environment, and should, therefore, be an acceptable position for a natural (undocked) Wheaten tail in the show ring.

CURLED / GAY TAIL

(objectionable)

However, ideally, the arch of the long tail should never be exaggerated. If the forward arch is too curled, for example, with the tip touching the top-line, then the “balance” of the Wheaten outline is disturbed.

And, if the tail set is “gay” (more forward than the ideal 90º angle), the long tail can arch all the way over and down the side of the dog, which affects the overall appearance.
My personal preference for the “ideal” natural Wheaten tail in the show ring is the “Gently Arched Tail” because the dog is showing that he is feeling secure despite any stresses he may feel from the demands of being in the show ring.

**GENTLY ARCHED TAIL**

“Happy & Content”

“I am feeling relaxed, secure and at ease with the situation. Things are going well for me.”

---

Here are our interpretations of some other long-tail positions:

**POKER STICK TAIL**

“Happy but on-guard”

“I am feeling just a little unsure about the situation so I should be on my toes and watchful in case I need to react. I may change my mind very quickly. If my confidence improves, you will see me arch my tail forward. If my confidence drops, I’ll probably arch my tail backwards.”

**REVERSED GENTLY ARCHED TAIL**

“Feeling Conflicted”

“I am starting to feel a little anxious and not overly comfortable about this situation. I am a bit unhappy about it and hope things improve quickly.”

**BACKWARD ARCHED TAIL**

“Starting to feel a bit insecure”

“I am feeling ill-at-ease and a bit tense. I don’t really like it and wish I could get out of this situation.”

---

continued from page 13

continued on page 15
QUESTION MARK TAIL

“Indecisive”

“When I am uncertain and question the situation, sometimes I curl my tail into a question mark like this. Part of my tail wants to arch forward and part wants to arch backward. It means I am hesitant and I am still investigating and deciding how I should feel and what I should do in this situation.”

RELAXED TAIL

“Feeling comfortable & just hanging-out”

“When I am calm, hassle-free, and just hanging-out, I let my tail relax too, but I don’t tuck the tip away between my back legs. I only do that if I am scared and feeling really insecure.”

This “relaxed” tail position, however, is not just used when the dog is “hanging-out”. The tail position can also change depending on the physical demands of the job at hand. It can act as a balancing rudder by being lowered when the dog is “stalking” and ready to “pounce” (left), or it can be used to help keep the dog well balanced on his hind legs for a long length of time when he needs to raise his viewing height (right).

The muscles that control the natural (undocked) tail of a Wheaten can manipulate the shape of its long tail into countless configurations. The line-drawings presented in this article are generalizations. Knowledge of the situation is important when interpreting the tail’s language.

For example, the Wheaten (below) is showing overall good confidence in the situation, but just a little bit of uncertainty can be noted in the slight change in angulation in the upper half of her tail. She was facing into a very strong head wind, something she had never experienced before, and while she exhibited confidence, she couldn’t totally hide her little bit of hesitation as she faced into the wind.

It will take time for Wheaten owners, breeders, and judges to get accustomed to natural tailed Wheatens and to understand and interpret the positions in which these natural (long) tailed Wheatens hold their tails.

While Anne and I have thoroughly enjoyed learning to interpret the “language of the long-tails,” there are other new challenges when living with a Wheaten with a natural (undocked) tail. For instance we have had to learn not to accidentally step on the long tail (far right). And it can be very frustrating trying to take a nice photo when the dog is wagging a long tail, especially if it is fringed with too much hair (left) ☹️
Celebrating Long Life

wheatens that shared their lives with us for 14 years or more
compiled by toni vincent

“LARKE”

CH DOUBLOON’S QUIET MAN X CH ORION’S RED STORM RISING

December 9, 1993 - January 2, 2010

Born on the first night of Chanukah, Larke was destined to be Sherry and Robert Gratz’s pet. She passed away 16 years and almost 1 month later. Larke was their beloved pet, just as Ch Lontree’s Pocketful O’Rye had been before her.

Larke lived a long and charmed life with people who loved her and catered to her every whim, which included buying a summer house at the Easton, MD shore so she would not have to stay in the kennel! Larke continued the job of her predecessor, Katie, in raising two teenagers, Lisa and Michael. She was a sweetheart of a Wheaten and is much missed by her family.

Tom & Wendy Neill

Happy Birthday to our Wheatens, 14 years and older!

... compiled by toni vincent

CH FRONTLINE SILVER DARLING AT SANZERENA “TARA”

Starcadia Tailspin X Kilcleagh Goldcrest In Frontline (IKC)

March 16, 1996

Tara is a rock-solid girl both physically and mentally. She has a couple of affectionate names including TTFB (Tara, Tara, Fat Bum) and Lady Tara, as she tends to be a little ‘snooty’ and only gives affection on her terms! Tara is coping with age reasonably well; a little wobbly on her legs at times but she still loves her food.

Owners: Sandra & Malcolm Jeffries

continued on page 17
Happy Birthday to our Wheatens, 14 years and older!

... compiled by Toni Vincent, continued...

CH DUIDREAM FIESTA CASCARONES  “PEEK A BOO”

Ch Doubloon’s Quiet Man, ROM
X
Ch Winterwheat Bonbon Duidream, ROM

February 2, 1994

Peek A Boo turned “Sweet 16” on February 2, 2010. She is partially blind and hard of hearing. She growls at the furniture and gets stuck in corners but she loves her neck rubs and snacks. Right now we are taking it one day at a time...We will love you forever, Peek A Boo.

Owners: Deb Hanson & Bonnie O’Connor

VANBEARD’S SNAP KRACKLE POP  “POPPY”

February 9, 1995

Vanbeard’s T’e Mighty Quinn X Vanbeard’s Honey Gold.

Poppy has never met a piece of food she didn’t like - even if it happens to be in the garbage. She also snores - a lot. But she’s a sweetheart who is the first to greet you when you come in and then is smart enough to back off when the rest of the herd gets there. She’s a little hard of hearing, but it is selective. She can hear the quiet rustle of the cheese package coming out of the refrigerator as well as cats walking three blocks away - but she can’t hear you yelling her name to go to her crate.

Kathleen Ostrander

VILLA ROSAS NITTY GRITTY  “SKATAN”

Int Ch Danterri Wheaten Man About Town X Multi Ch Maroc Inishkea

January 11, 1996

Skatan, born in Sweden, joined our family in 2000. As a new resident of Michigan, Skatan quickly became an American Wheat. When she first arrived, Skatan would not eat any treats from our hand but now she has the fine art of persuasion down to a science! Skatan will eat anything if she thinks it is a treat.

Skatan’s favorite summer activity is riding on the tractor next to her person (this would be Keith.) When Keith gets off the tractor to pick something up, Skatan sits on the seat waiting for him. She loves car rides and sleeping on the bed. It became quite evident Skatan was Keith’s dog quickly, stealing his heart and has been officially known as his “blond” for the last 10 years.

Skatan is still in excellent health and we thank Kickie and Chris Norrby for trusting us with her. Skatan is truly the queen of our house (and in her mind) and we’re sure she is the Supreme Queen of all Wheatens.

Happy Birthday girl!!

Owners: Keith and Karen Mueller

continued from page 16
Happy Birthday to our Wheatens, 14 years and older!

... compiled by Toni Vincent, continued...

GLEANNGAY LAST KNIGHT  “ROONEY”

Ch Legacy Moonlit Knight X Ch Gleanngay Juniper Berry

January 19, 1996

My Muse, My Best Friend, My Soul Dog

All I can say is, because of Rooney, my life has changed for the better. I have a new career, new friends, and more wheatens living with us (Jezebel age 8, and Teddy age 4, from Kayce Healey). I’ve learned patience, and how to really listen to my dogs’ needs. I’ve come to understand that these beautiful creatures touch our lives in ways that we can’t even describe or possibly anticipate. I hope you have had the same wonderful experience with your Wheaten as I’ve had with Rooney.


When Rooney was about 4, my husband, Rooney and I went to visit my parents in Santa Fe. The guest bed was a pull-out sofa bed that sits smack in the middle of a large TV room. One night when we were all in bed, my husband fell asleep while I continued to watch TV until very late. When I finally decided to turn in, I turned off the TV and snuggled in by pulling the poofy comforter up under my chin. Poor Rooney! I forgot he was there, cozy and sound asleep, and the mere tug on the covers sent him flying off the bed. Rooney walked and growled circling that sofa bed three times, complaining constantly much like Archie Bunker in All In the Family. And that is how he got the nickname Grumpy Old Man.

Loved by Heather Frost, Jeff Mason, Jezebel and Teddy

Duffy at Camp Dream Street

Dorice Stancher’s Duffy (Holweit’s Stancher, CGC, CD, CDX, RN, RA) was a regular at Camp Dream Street for children with cancer and blood-related disorders, run by Tomorrow’s Children at Hackensack Hospital and Columbia Presbyterian. Dorice is the head of the therapy dog team there and, along with Duffy, had been visiting for the past 10 years. He just received his sixth Golden Bone award from the American Cancer Society for outstanding fundraising. He died on December 10 of a cancerous nasal tumor. Duffy has been nominated for a New Jersey Veterinary Medical Association Award in honor of his therapy work with children.
“Ya gotta give ’em hope. Ya gotta give ’em hope.
Ya gotta give ’em hope.”

Sean Penn as the late Harvey Milk

It really is all about hope. The promise of a new litter. Sending a puppy to a new home. Starting a youngster in the ring. Anticipating specialty weekends.

Hope was in short supply in 2009, a year in which we came to dread answering the phone or opening emails.

Late last year, Shari Boyd Carusi’s Benchmarks article and some Breeders’ List posts about contributions to the geriatric study, collecting and saving tissue for DNA, rumors concerning a dog helped me gain perspective on our experience. Many may react with a “well, duh!” but others may find a helpful nugget.

In November just a few weeks after her 12th birthday, we lost our beloved Brio to PLN complicated by Addison’s disease. That morning we heard from the owners of her daughter, Morgen, age 7½, that she had just died from the same causes.

This story began nearly 3½ years ago when Brio’s daughter Addie was diagnosed with PLN. Subsequently, two of Addie’s offspring were affected and we’re watching others in this extended family; two more of Addie and Morgen’s siblings are also a concern. We learned our Cookie, Brio’s great-grandmother, whose samples were submitted to the Geriatric Study after her death at 16+ years, was one of the “surprises” Dr. Littman found: a healthy geriatric with post-mortem studies showing signs of PLN.

We became a “Cooperative Family” as Dr. Littman recently reported, working with her and veterinary student Amy Smagala (someone will be lucky to have her for a vet someday). It was spurred by a few things: diagnoses coming one upon the other, treating vets reaching out for assistance, having a fair amount (albeit incomplete) of information on the dogs…and a passing comment to Dr Littman about the youngest generation’s frozen tails and dewclaws.

Yes, those tails and dewclaws many have saved for a long time have value. Don’t forget them. The 14 samples we shipped to Dr. Littman will take up less space in Penn’s freezer than a couple of test tubes. Take a minute to go back and insure they are properly tied to the correct dog. Ours were marked with the puppy ribbon color…but in a couple of instances, the color had been changed and I wound up looking at puppy photos to be sure…giving me a much needed smile.

There are many ways to help with research. Just keep it in mind. This summer while looking on the SCWTCA site, the Siblings Project caught my eye again, and I kicked myself for having forgotten it. We have always believed this is potentially as illuminating a project as we’ve ever had…and Brio has a healthy sibling. Thanks to Jeter’s owner, Sue Stone, their samples are now at Missouri.

It would be great to reach the Holy Grail of a genetic test but in the meantime I would settle for one day saying that if we do X, Y, and Z, there’s a good chance our dogs, even if affected, can live into double digits. The Geriatric Project could get us there. Please submit any eligible dog you have to the Geriatric Project.

Never stop testing. We have all heard and said that testing is a snapshot, and one set of good results is no guarantee. At age 10½, Brio’s UPC was 0.2, at age 11½, it was 2.0 and 7 months later she was dead. A deceased granddaughter reportedly had good results…but was diagnosed post-mortem following a series of blood clots at age four.

Age doesn’t matter. I never believed, as some do, that “they all have to die of something.” This family shows why…in every subsequent generation, age of onset decreased.

Always review annual results. We are long past the time for any Wheaten breeder to not have a working understanding of health issues and test results. And get them in black and white. The Geriatric Project could get us there. Please submit any eligible dog you have to the Geriatric Project.

Do you think “health contracts” and reminders make your owners test? Don’t assume they are or are testing correctly or that their vets understand the test results…no matter how many reminders you give them or how many copies of the protocols you send them or how “great” their vets are.

Do you think “health contracts” and reminders make your owners test? Don’t assume they are or are testing correctly or that their vets understand the test results…no matter how many reminders you give them or how many copies of the protocols you send them or how “great” their vets are.

Always review annual results. We are long past the time for any Wheaten breeder to not have a working understanding of health issues and test results. And get them in black and white. ALWAYS. Brio’s March results were reported to us as normal. That morning we heard from the owners of her granddaughter, Morgen, age 7½, that she had just died from the same causes.

Age doesn’t matter. I never believed, as some do, that “they all have to die of something.” This family shows why…in every subsequent generation, age of onset decreased.

Always review annual results. We are long past the time for any Wheaten breeder to not have a working understanding of health issues and test results. And get them in black and white. ALWAYS. Brio’s March results were reported to us as normal. In fact, our vet saw the wrong set because they had been misfiled. Their administrative mistake…but our fault we didn’t pick them up immediately…delaying treatment for two months.

Do you think “health contracts” and reminders make your owners test? Don’t assume they are or are testing correctly or that their vets understand the test results…no matter how many reminders you give them or how many copies of the protocols you send them or how “great” their vets are. For years, we’ve sent an annual reminder and copy of the protocols…and some owners never tested until they got the news about Addie or Morgen or Brio.

The Open Registry remains critically important. We must stop thinking of it as a list of affected dogs and recognize it’s a gold mine: an extensive database of health information on a related population. I hope researchers are aware of it and using it.

continued on page 20
We know the OR has gaps, right? Neither we nor Penn have been able to secure signed forms from one of our owners, others never responded to contacts, and we don’t know what is going on, good or bad. Some may be horrified we have not been able to bridge that…I wish I knew how, short of stalking…but I suspect most will nod in recognition. Still, those “gaps” should never be dogs in your own home…ever.

Those gaps are why a breeder must do their own digging into a pedigree of interest. Responsible breeders are personally accountable for their decisions. Any dog in your pedigree that’s important to you…whether it’s a sire or a great-great-great-great-granduncle…it’s your job to find out everything you can. Your breeding choices, your obligation.

Still, one cannot experience a breeding program’s implosion without replaying the thought processes going into each decision. I would urge anyone doing the “what was I thinking?” rerun to not forget the passage of time. What looks today like a questionable decision may have been reasonable yesterday.

An observation: if you’ve not previously experienced a PLN diagnosis in a dog you bred, your first instinct may be to pull the covers over your head and hide from the storm of retribution you anticipate. Don’t. Your owners will surprise you. In the days following Addie’s diagnosis, Michael and Mike, who also own her daughter and whose first Wheaten, a rescue, sent Michael to the emergency room, told us “We are committed to this breed. We will always have a Wheaten in our lives.” “Cyd” joined them 3 years later. While I expect most owners won’t get another Wheaten, they’ve consistently understood we didn’t recklessly expose them to disaster.

Finally…

Never, ever forget what was said when the OR was established: “There is no shame in having a sick dog. The only shame is in hiding it.”

We tell our owners “we’re in this together.” I am telling all of you right here and right now…as long as we breed Wheatens, we are ALL, every one of us, wherever we live, in this together.

Give your time. Give your resources. Most of all, give your honesty.

That’s hope.

ECTOPIC URETERS, PELVIC BLADDERS, SPHINCTER MUSCLE CONTROL ISSUES, OH MY!

Shari Boyd Carusi

I chose this title for those of you who separate these issues as unique and then lump them all together to make a point. In my previous article about urinary tract dysfunction, I stated MY story about MY litter, included MY pedigree, with MY facts (all of which cannot be changed). I am certain I did not blame one person or one country. I just stated MY facts. Ask yourself this question: How are you affecting the future of the breed? Ectopic ureters, pelvic bladders, lack of sphincter control and other urine leakage conditions in dogs of any breed are NOT NORMAL.

My previous article related to the course of action I followed regarding a problem in a litter. How are you addressing yours? Are you treating your leaky dogs and breeding them later? Are you breeding the littermates, hoping not to double on the bad gene? Denying the severity of this problem is hiding your head in the sand or sweeping it under the proverbial rug. As far as I am concerned, I am not interested in having anything of this sort in my breed.

Thanks to Nancy Butler, I was turned onto a family who had rescued two Wheatens in the past. When I spoke with this family, they were willing to treat my ABNORMAL puppy for the rest of her life. We met, they fell in love and they will live happily ever after. Again, thank you, Nancy!

Additionally, I had a lovely unaffected sister in this litter. I had two choices: A) grow her up, show and breed her OR B) alter the whole litter and cut my losses right there. I chose B. Because of my hectic travel schedule and because breeding decisions take years for me to make, this was my litter for the year. I am thankful for the education it provided me and I am thankful that no one else was affected by it.

What would the implication be for the breed if this had happened to a breeder who pumps out, say, four litters a year and who farms out the crop across the continent for many others to breed from? It is a travesty for the others to build their foundation based on information that has been swept under the rug. As I stated earlier, MY decision was right for ME and I was able to control the future of what MY breeding program produced. How many other animals are being bred down from these problems? What, as ethical breeders, are we going to do to breed this problem out? ANSWER: Why not start with the healthiest stock available?

First and foremost remember that this is about the dogs. After the dogs, this is about the people and what they should choose to give back to dogs. It is the obligation of those who have already given their lives to this breed to, in turn, ethically mentor the newcomers.

In closing, let me add that I have been working with SCWTCA’s Health Committee. The goal is to get data and DNA collection started, form a sort of registry with research to follow. Breeder/Owner cooperation and participation will be key.
BLAME...

Shari Robinson

Blame is a funny thing. If you are the first to “place” it, it may be able to exonerate you from any wrong doing (intentional or unintentional). People feel safe when they put the blame on someone or something else. There must be a feeling that once you have put it out in the community, it’s now away from you. Unfortunately in doing this, you give little thought to who or what gets blamed. Maybe you really don’t care, because Hey! It’s not YOU. There are other motivations for moves like this, which include envy of our peers...there are those who simply relish other people’s unhappiness, and then of course there are those of us who thrive on the drama.

When we breed dogs, there are lots of opportunities for blame. If your bitch didn’t produce her beautiful coat, it’s the stud dog’s fault. If the litter has bad temperament, it’s the breeder’s fault, or it’s the bitch’s fault...someone or something is to blame. Forget the odds of producing a quality animal, forget the chances of getting what you wanted from a specific breeding...it’s not as though you “inserted a tab into slot b” and you got exactly what you wanted. This is one of the hardest realities when breeding dogs. Not every combination will work.

The biggest problem with blame though is that the “blamee”...if you will...often isn’t to blame, especially in reference to dog breeding. And yet we continue to place blame and people continue to listen. The health issues in our breed are not easy and just when you think you’ve grasped one part of it, something else comes around and kicks you in the a**, and we are looking at who we can blame. Which dog is at fault, which line is taboo and who is the breeder who caused this? The reality of our breed is they are pre-disposed to a plethora of health issues that are heartbreaking when they show up. Many breeders suffer in silence, afraid if they verbalize their plight, they will be marked as the line that has RD or the breeder whose dogs produce ectopic ureters, or PLE/N. Many of us claim to want things out in the open...which is an excellent goal...but it means we all have to be accountable. When the phone rings and you hear bad news about one of your dogs...can you remain in a state of denial? Then, sometimes there’s the breeder who stands up, one we hale as a hero, willing to lay claim to having produced this or that, only to have them lay blame elsewhere.

One of the problems we are creating is that we are alienating excellent potential stud dogs from being offered at stud. Let’s say I have a promising stud dog “Bob,” and he is offered to a wide variety of bitches of different types and backgrounds. After a couple of years a problem develops from one of these breedings. One puppy in one litter has (fill in the blank)! Most often it is the stud dog who is blamed...WHY? And with that problem, many of us will only ever remember that stud dog “Bob” was the sire. So now if “Bob” has sired 2 puppies from different litters that have a similar problem, his fate is now sealed. If Bob was bred to 15 females, two of which produced a similar problem, what are the odds that Bob is the only underlying factor? Why is it never considered that it is the combination of the pair? What about the background behind the female? Does the mother of this puppy get spayed or does she get bred again, but to a different dog? How can we convince ourselves that she is completely blameless? Isn’t she half of the equation? What if the pedigrees behind both bitches have some concerning similarities? Does that come into play at all? What if these things are idiopathic? Not hereditary but a fluke? “Bob’s” name will still be dragged through the mud as the common denominator. “Bob” goes to a pet home, and I buy another stud dog. After what I went through with Bob, who will breed to my dog? Me, and me alone. Is this the only way to preserve this dog’s integrity? But, what does this do for our breed? If we all limited our dog’s usage, what would we have? Pretty exclusive breeding programs, and they are doomed for failure.

Whether you like your fellow breeder or you don’t, we all have a common goal. We are all striving for the same thing! We are all facing the same issues and only by coming together with understanding, empathy and working together are we ever going to succeed. Either we succeed together or we fail as individuals. How do we get the necessary information out there when we suspect there may be a problem with one of our dogs? Perhaps not an ambush, but an open honest discussion about the facts, with knowledge of the information being released approved by both the owner of the bitch and the stud. Don’t we owe our fellow breeders and our breed this much?

I guess that placing blame is human nature, and pushing any blame away from ourselves gives us a sense of control over the situation. But when we are talking about breeding dogs, control is an illusion. You have no more control over the outcome of a particular mating than you do over who wins the lottery! Everyone who plans a breeding hopes, prays, and keeps fingers crossed that there is something nice that stays healthy, has good coat, stable temperament, etc. If it doesn’t work, should you be hung out to dry? No one sets out to breed an unhealthy dog. We need to show compassion for each other, not delight in the failures of our peers, because what affects one of us, affects all of us. No one is exempt. There is no room for blame at our table! Our breed really can’t afford it.
Raffles are a great way to raise money to support many noteworthy causes. With a little planning and a great team, they can be successful and lots of fun.

This year, breeders, owners and exhibitors from the Pacific Northwest undertook such a venture at the Rose City Classic, held in Portland OR. SCWTCA had a Supported Entry in conjunction with the Terrier Association of Oregon (TAO) Terrier Group show held on Wednesday January 20 so we selected that as the perfect day for a one day raffle. We were able to raise over $900 for Wheaten health research and we are all stunned by that success.

Three volunteers made up the raffle committee, however the success really came from all the help and donations received from the members of our community.

What we found to work well:

- Pre-planning – we requested donations 2 months ahead, and collected items the weekend before
- Being prepared at the raffle – no scrambling for pens, tape, easels, change, etc.
- Raffle was one day only, with drawing held right after the Terrier group
- Distributed brightly colored flyers throughout the grooming areas
- Having a variety of items available for bidding such as electronics, breed specific items (not just Wheatens), jewelry, coffee basket, crate pads, dog cleaning basket, and many others (17 items total)
- Ticket pricing was simple - $1 each, 6 for $5, 30 for $20
- Utilized ‘keep this coupon’ tickets so purchasers did not have to write their names on each ticket
- 3’ x 6’ Banner from Office Depot for only $9!
- People appreciated not needing to fill out ticket stubs
- Winners were required to collect their items by 6:00 p.m. the next day – no mailing!

What we would change:

- One table was provided by the show, two would have been better
- Table placement – table was perpendicular to the wall, parallel would have been better
- Two banners – one to hang on the wall, one to put on the front of the table(s)
- Even greater variety of breed items
- Find someone to staff the booth while the Wheatens were in the ring

Things that surprised us:

- Several vendors donated on the spot! That was unexpected and very nice!
- Handlers bought tickets
- All items were picked up by mid-afternoon the next day

We would like to recognize our raffle committee:
Mary Ann Curtis, Bonnie O’Connor, and Jeri Voyles.

In addition, a special thank you to all those who donated to the raffle:

- Scott & Sherrie Amon
- Mel & Diane Braunagel
- Jana Carraway
- Mary Ann Curtis
- Debra Flanagan
- Trudie Forbes
- Ken Gengler
- Ed & Kayce Healy
- Bob & Cindy Lilley
- Marshall & Ann Nelson
- Bonnie O’Connor
- Tom & Darcie Olson
- Jeri Voyles
- Ann Warren
- Todd & Christy Weagant
- Mark & Laurie Weeks

This was the first time a raffle had been held by the Pacific Northwest Wheaten community. The results were incredible. Many exhibitors from all of the breeds commented on the wonderful selection of items available and most gathered around for the drawing. $928.00 was raised in 8 hours!

So go ahead, plan your raffle, have some fun, and make a donation to your favorite cause. ☺️
The Board of the SCWT Genetic Research Foundation and Wheaten owners everywhere wish to thank the following for their generous donations to the fund.

The SCWT Genetic Research Fund, in cooperation of AKC-CHF, will sponsor genetic research into the canine genome specifically aimed at identifying the genes responsible for the transference of PLE/PLN. This information will make it possible for the development of testing protocols to identify Wheatens with protein wasting diseases.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Robin Alexander</td>
<td>Linda Hallis</td>
<td>Leon Reimert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kay Bair</td>
<td>Bev Hanna</td>
<td>David &amp; Jennifer Roberts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susan Barton</td>
<td>Kimberly Harwell</td>
<td>Rose A Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronald Bedford</td>
<td>Melissa G Harwell</td>
<td>Meg Ryan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David &amp; Lauralee Bennett</td>
<td>Kayce Healy</td>
<td>Maureen &amp; Daniel Sabin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurel Brunke</td>
<td>Frederick J Heimes</td>
<td>Susan Sakayue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirley Buchholz</td>
<td>Angela Hervey-Tennyson</td>
<td>Roberta Salmon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Buffett</td>
<td>Tamara Herzog</td>
<td>Frank &amp; Carol Schatz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kelly &amp; Patrick Butler</td>
<td>Emily Holden</td>
<td>Jennifer &amp; Richard Schultz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sandra Cabay</td>
<td>HSBC International MO</td>
<td>Deborah Scurr</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol Carlson</td>
<td>Bonnie Ivler</td>
<td>SCWTCA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ellen Chapman</td>
<td>Craig Jacobsen</td>
<td>Carol Shaltz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pamela Clarke</td>
<td>Andrew K Kepler</td>
<td>Alexandra M Sheldon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rose Clime</td>
<td>Lynne Kester</td>
<td>Eric Shillinger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard &amp; Lori Cline</td>
<td>Alma Knoll</td>
<td>Patricia Simrell</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Cobb &amp; Jennifer</td>
<td>Ruth Lebovitz</td>
<td>Gerald Sizemore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bundy-Cobb</td>
<td>Felicity Leonard</td>
<td>Margaret Snow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sharon Cuevas</td>
<td>Dana Loring</td>
<td>Leonard Springer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tanya Delikowski</td>
<td>Magnolia Baskets</td>
<td>Beverly Streicher</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barbara Delozier</td>
<td>Susan L. Mares</td>
<td>Wayne H Tsuji</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paula Dinovo</td>
<td>Lynden McCormack</td>
<td>Jeffrey &amp; Lauren Utigard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Christine Dore-Brown</td>
<td>Rita McComas</td>
<td>Deborah Van De Ven</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pat Dorr</td>
<td>Susan Mcgee</td>
<td>George &amp; Darla Veirs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Judith P Downing</td>
<td>Jessica Medoff</td>
<td>Dr Elizabeth Verner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Karen Drogen</td>
<td>Leslie Melzer</td>
<td>Cindy Vogels</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ronald Duke</td>
<td>Keith &amp; Geraldine Meyers</td>
<td>Jeri Voyles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gay Dunlap</td>
<td>Motor City SCWT Club</td>
<td>Mark &amp; Laurie Weeks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harold &amp; Judith Feldman</td>
<td>Vicki Noah</td>
<td>Bonnie Girard Wirth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patricia Freeman</td>
<td>Karin Norris</td>
<td>Karen A Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carolyn Garrett</td>
<td>Lynn &amp; Sharon Olney</td>
<td>Virginia Lee Wright</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathew George</td>
<td>William M Ott</td>
<td>Susan A Wuerz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harvey &amp; Sue Goldberg</td>
<td>Dianne Powers</td>
<td>Barbara Ziegler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William &amp; Helen Gore</td>
<td>Susan Ratcliffe</td>
<td>Elena Zweifach</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jacqueline Gottlieb</td>
<td>Bryson &amp; Suzanne Read</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To join our effort with a tax deductible donation, make your checks payable to AKC-CHF SCWT Genetic Research Fund and mail to: David Ronsheim, Project Financial Officer, 17827 Fireside Drive, Spring, TX 77379-8017, or visit our web site [www.scwtgrf.com](http://www.scwtgrf.com) to make an online donation through PayPal.
Donors to the Colony Dogs

The SCWTCA Endowment thanks the following people for their 2009 donations to the Colony Dog Fund at North Carolina State University. To make a donation to the fund, make your checks payable to: NC Veterinary Medical Foundation, Inc., 4700 Hillsborough Street, Raleigh, NC 27606-1499; phone: (919) 513-6660; fax: (919) 513-6105. Please write on the memo line: SCWT Health.

Diane G. Adams
Fred W. Beans
Carol Carlson
Karen S. Costin
Rob & Amy Crowel
Camilla H. Davis
Delaware Valley Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club
Madeleine J. Evans
Mary Colby Fox
Shirley Gee
Cindy Geonnotti
Angelina Giacoma
Kenneth M. Girouard
Joan & David Goebel
Greater Denver Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club
Joseph J. Guibord

Janet L. Jacobsen
Kenna Kachel
Barbara Kinnison
Mary Lou Lafler
Joyce Anne Lovett
Elizabeth R. McIntosh
Karen S. Mueller
Lynn L. Rapp
Catherine M. Riley
Carol Shaltz
Jacqueline Stein
Janet M. Verlinde
Dr. J. Rae Walker
David & Kathy Williamson
David L. Wolf
Linda J. Wolter
Franklin F. Yeager

New Open Registry Members
February 1, 2010

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 SCWTCA web site at http://www.scwtca.org/documents/health/or_membershipform_20080309.pdf. For a complete list of Open Registry members, email kccarlson@comcast.net.

Mark & Marina Bogdan
Kathryn Elliot
Margaret Anne Gray
Earl & Lorna Hammond

Angela Hervey-Tennyson
Lorri Ligato
Michele Lomax
Mark & Mary Yourich
DONORS TO SCWTCA HEALTH ENDOWMENT

The Board of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America and the Endowment Board thank the following for their generosity. The SCWTCA Endowment, Inc. is a registered 501(c) 3 nonprofit organization. All donations are tax deductible.

Megan Abbod in honor of AnamCara Wheatens
Robyn Alexander
Robyn Alexander
Robyn Alexander matching funds from Kaiser Permanente
Robyn Alexander matching funds from Kaiser Permanente
Robyn Alexander in memory of Remy
Robyn Alexander in memory of Finley (Bendacht’s Valorous One CGC
Robyn Alexander in memory of CH Derryhumma Calliope "Piper"
James & Nancy Anderson
Carole Aragon in memory of Cleopatra & Manford
Robert & Elaine Azerolo in memory CH Azlough Turn On the Charm, CD, RA, AX, MXJ
Robert & Elaine Azerolo
Robert & Elaine Azerolo in memory of "Mackey" Schrantz
Robert & Elaine Azerolo in memory of CH Mesa Wind’s Lone Star Cowgirl
Robert & Elaine Azerolo in memory of "Tess" Bottoms
Kay Baird in memory of CH. Kaylynn’s August Moon
Kay Baird
Patricia Bajoras
Jane Mahar & Ann Baker in memory of Draco
Wendy Bale in memory of Woody CH Mach2
Patrice Chevalier and Bob Bergman in memory of CH Heirloom’s Genesis CD, NAJ "Geny"
Sarah Berry in honor of Beckett
Germaine Beswyen
Karen & Geoff Bilda in memory of Ch Aranbriar Adonis
Dorrie & John Bitzer
Blackledge Nebenfuhr in honor of Stella’s Sweet 16. Thanks for helping all Wheatens
Leanne Bowker in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Alison Bradley In honor of Biscuit
Ann & Erb, Deborah Braue in memory of "Woody"
Diane & Mel Braunagel in memory of AM/Can Ch Doubloon’s Masked Man "Chase"
Sue Briggs
Laurel Brunke in honor of Maggie & Finnegan and all the amazing WIN volunteers & in memory of Walt & Hollie & their friends at Rainbow Bridge, especially Bailey, Johnson, Maddie & Molly
Laurel Brunke in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Richard Buccigross
Burdick, Julie Burdick
Elke Cardella
Carol Carlson
Toni Vincent & Carol Carlson in honor of Shelly Vaden, Tonya Harris, & Sibyl Meyers, NCSU Development office
Jana Carraway
Ellen Chapman
Elizabeth Chapman in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Kathy Clarke
Cary Collins
Lynn Cone
Lynn Cone in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Marilyn Conry in memory of our beloved Wheatens from August 1966 to May 2009
Lois Conway in honor of Briscoe, Sundials Hour of Power, Sally Tatum
Melinda Cooke in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Bruce Cotter breeders challenge: Jim & Tami Herzog
Lee Courtney
Holly Craig
Tom Croft in memory of Hula Girl
Mary Ann & Tim Curtis in memory of "Remy" Marquee’s Birthday Toast
Mary Ann Curtis in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
William & Susan Curzi breeder challenge: Meg Ryan & Molly O'Connel

continued on page 26
Ingrid Dahlquist in memory of Abigail
Tari David-Hansen in honor of all the lives they have touched and the joy they have given
Teresa May Davis-Hansen in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Tanya Delikowski in memory of my dear sweet Ruby; you are missed
Barbara Delozier in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Lynn Denton in memory of Greer Guinn
Merian Diffenbacher to honor CH Coffeetown’s Cani-A-Peal
Patricia Dorr in loving memory of Grady
Judith Downing in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Karen Drogin
Beverly Duerst in memory of Woody CH Mach2
Vickie Duncanson in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Bette Eckstrom in memory of CH. Winterwheats Illusive Glance ROM
John Eisenger, DDS in honor of Gemstone litter
Kathryn Elliot
Jeanne "Yenna" Ferris in memory of Ch Bryr Rose Monet’s Impression
Firefly Fields in memory of Woody CH Mach2
Richard Fisher
Maure Flanagan in honor of Stella's Sweet Sixteen
James Forrest
Carolyn Garrett in honor of CH Bryr Rose Moonstone
Carolyn Garrett in memory of Sam Leigh
Ellen Garringer
Joan Goebel in honor of Ashley McGyvor Paige & Solo
Sue & Harvey Goldberg
Sue & Harvey Goldberg in honor of Pam & Bob Tinnelly & CH Shandalee’s Hot to Trot
Carol Golden breeders challenge: Jim & Tami Herzog
Juli Gordon in honor of Miss Bailey & Miss Daisy
William Gore
Jackie Gottlieb in memory of Ch WheatenRebel’s Wolfe Tone & Roni Andrews
Melvin Granick
Michael Groff
Jane Groff in honor of Liffey
Earl & Lorna Hammond in memory of Reilly & with thanks to Dr. Page Willis & Dr. M. Littman
Debra Harington in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Barbara & Richard Harris in honor of Gemstone litter
Harris & Bowker LLP in memory of Kinsey
Linda Haskell in memory of all Wheatens who have died from PLE/PLN
Linda Haskell in honor of Stella's Sweet Sixteen Birthday
Tamara Herzog in memory of CH. Derryhumma Calliope
Cynthia Hollis in memory of Hollywood’s Happy Jack
Jake & Diane Horst in memory of Kieffer & Stella
Agnes Huck
Lynne & Fred Hurst breeders challenge: Jim & Tami Herzog
Susan Jacobsen
Cindy Jansen
Kathy Johnson
Catherine Johnson in honor of Acacia's Bailey's Irish Cream
Cheryl Johnston in honor of Raleigh & Roxie
Robert Johnston in honor of our first Wheaten, Bridgette The Amazing Wonder dog
Donna Jordan breeders challenge: Ryan/ O’Connell
Denise Cronin Kerby
Bob & Genie Kline in memory of Ivywild’s Star Billing "Gypsy"
Bob & Genie Kline in memory of Tom Kahn’s Father
Victoria Kniering in honor of Stella’s sweet 16, and my two memorable Wheatens, just waiting at the Rainbow Bridge, Aengus & Clancy from Ms. Bailey Blue & her two offspring Blue Moon’s Badger Buster & Blue Moon’s Persephone
Constance Koehler in memory of Samuel Leigh & Charlotte White
Virginia Kopachevsky
Lori & Marvin Kromash

continued on page 27
Lori Kromash in memory of Mrs. Holden

Nancy Land

Nancy & Walter Land in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday & memory of "Tootsie"

Elena Landa in honor of "Latte"

Felicity Leonard in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Sandra Lightner in honor of Annabelle & Graham

Sandra Lightner in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Marjorie Lorand

Marjorie Lorand in memory of Ch. Andover Treblemaker

Dana Loring in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Pam & John Mandeville in memory of our Brio, Shandalee Banner She-Devil CGC

Pam & John Mandeville in memory of "the Sisters," Addie, Ch Banner Devil in the Details & Morgen, Ch Banner Speak of the Devil

Pam & John Mandeville in honor of all the Banner Wheatens, past & present & their owners

Alice Mann in loving memory of Avery Druidream & honor of Barkleigh & Zach

Nona Mansfield

Nona Mansfield in honor Ch Lovesong’s Minuet

Susan Mares in honor of the Gallaghers

Wendy Mattner in honor of Marna & Kent Tess-Mattner & the many SCWTs they have loved

Gretchen Mazur in honor of Murphy (12 yrs9mos), Swheatie & Lily, Bichon Princess

Linda McCallum

Susan McGee

Jan McIlhenny

Ann McKee in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Jean Mennes

Dolores Miele breeders challenge: Jim & Tami Herzog

Robyn Miller breeder challenge Jim & Tami Herzog

Steven & Beverly Miller in honor of Gemstone litter

Arlinda Miller

Elizabeth Mohtares

Jinx Moore

Dr. Melanie Morford

Edward Thomas Morris breeder challenge: Barbara Zapf

Motor City SCWT Club

Janine & Steve Mroz in memory of Woody CH Mach2 Winterwheat Irish Wildwood

Myers, Linda & Donald Myers in honor of all our Wheatens, past & present

Tom & Wendy Neill in memory of CH. Lonestar High Plains Drifter

Wendy Neill in memory of CH Lonestar High Plains Drifter

Bill & Linda Nelson in memory of CH Mach3 Carrick in the Nick of Time RAOF

Ann Nelson in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Melissa Nelson in honor of Stella’s Sweet Sixteen Birthday

JoAnn Neville in honor of Belinda Neville

Shelia O’Connell

Shelia O’Connell in memory of CH Carlinayer’s Lady Fergie CD

Bonnie O’Connor in memory of PIEW and Lilah

Bonnie O’Connor in honor of Tim, Sonja, Blair, Camille & Olivia Dozois & Lola, the lively Wheaten & in memory of Mick, a very special boy

Maureen O’Leary in honor of Sally & Dave Sotirovich

Joellen Ostrander in loving memory of “Boomer”

Ben Schor & Sienna Pascarella breeder challenge: Barbara Zapf

Mary Peltier

Petnic

Kacee Picot in memory of Charlie

Diane Poole in memory of Woody CH Mach2

Virginia Potter in honor of Kimberly Miller, her granddaughter

Robert & Hirsch; Lee Quimetter

Suzanne Radenkovic

Pollock, Connie Rado

Maureen Reis

continued from page 26

continued on page 28
Carol Rettig in memory of Woody CH Mach2 dear friend of Bismark, Brisco & Carol; we will miss you

Susan Robinson
Fenny & John Rogers
Penelope Rogers

Julianne Rohmiller in memory of Finly "Benachts Vlaorous One"

Susan Rosica in memory of our beloved Wheaten Piper, who died of PLN; our hearts are broken

Sally Ruessel in honor of Stella's Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Patricia Rutherford in memory of CH Derryhumma Calliope "Piper"

Susan Sakauye

Robert Salmon employee giving campaign

Mark & Sue Schor in memory of Ernie

Joyce Schroeder

Deb Schulman in memory of Woody CH Mach2

SCWTC Greater St Louis honoring Cindy Shea, recognizing her years of service as President of SCWTC of Greater St. Louis

SCWTC of Greater St. Louis

SCWTCA in appreciation of Jody Sylvester's artwork

Jayne Seibel in memory of Woody CH Mach2

Carole Server

Carol Shaltz

Dennis & Cindy Shea

Robert & Lois Sherwood breeders challenge: Jim & Tami Herzog

Patricia Simrell

Patricia Simrell in honor of Stella's Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Cecily Skinner in memory of CH Heartstring's Toast to Tara ROM

Emily Skoglund in honor of Ch. Frolic Prescott of Waterford's 1st litter

Marilyn Smith in memory of Bryr Rose I'm A Cowboy

Bonney Snyder in memory of Bonney Fair Lady

Sally & David Sotirovich

Roxanna & Leo Springer

Barbara Stanforth breeder challenge: Barbara Zapf

Marcia Stanger in memory of Ch Oakhollow-Kerryglen Model T, Ch Oakhollow Hit N Run

Shelly & Jason Stewart breeder challenge: Barbara Zapf

Suzanne Stone in honor of Stella's Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Cyndi Stovkus in memory of Joan Simonson, "Winsten II" & "Gandy"

Carolyn Strecker in honor of Stella's Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Susie Congratulations from Susie, Riley and Teddy

Steven Sweeny in memory of Ch. Kaylynn's August Moon ROM

Charles Taft in honor of Stella's Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Tailwagger Dog Training in memory of Sara Schlough's "Woody"

Angela Tannynson

Laila & Mehran Taslimi

John & Shelly Tegen breeder challenge: Barbara Zapf

Bill & Judy Thompson in memory of Ballyshea's Mighty MacDonald

August Thompson in honor of Honeybear Thompson

Jacqueline Thorburn in honor of Gemstone litter

Bob & Pam Tinnelly in memory of Raphael

Bob & Pam Tinnelly in memory of Duncan

Bob & Pam Tinnelly

Bob & Pam Tinnelly in memory of CH Shandalee Banner She-Devil & CH Banner Speak of the Devil "Morgan"

Deborah VanDeVen in memory of Callie

Jan VanNess in memory of Tobi & Gypsy; in honor of Genie & Bonney

Verner, Betty Chapman & Beth Verner

Chapman Betty & Beth Verner in appreciation to Sandra Jeffries

Betty Chapman & Beth Verner Happy Holidays to Shari and RC

Toni Vincent in memory of "Sean"

Toni Vincent in honor of Cindy Shea

Toni Vincent in memory of Sienna Rodriguez

Toni Vincent in honor of Carol Carlson

Toni Vincent in honor of Janet Petros

Jeri Voyles in honor of Stella's Sweet Sixteen Birthday

Candy Way in memory of Ralph Way, Candy's dad and lover of Wheatens
Meet the Breeds 2009

The American Kennel Club celebrated its 125th anniversary with a lovely show and stunning “Meet the Breeds” booths at the Long Beach Convention Center on December 12-13. The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Southern California designed a booth and called it “A Wheaten’s World”. Striking photographs of Wheatens at play, herding and just being their Wheaten selves adorned the area, along with a most attractive lattice surrounding. This booth enticed numerous “traffic” and attendees who were either interested in a Wheaten or could not resist getting a hug or lick from the Wheatens who adeptly manned the booth during all hours of operation. It probably did not hurt that we were near the food booths as well.

As always, the success of this event could not have been made possible without the tireless hours spent on the decor from local club members Carolyn Filling, Joan Johnson, and Mike Smith. They were there from start to finish to set-up and break down the booth as well. Merillee Ford worked with the AKC finalizing details of the booth.

The event was coordinated and shifts were scheduled by Jackie Whitham. Club members MJ Carr, Rose Clime, Michael DeCarlo, Carolyn Filling, Jeanine Flavell, Joan Johnson, Miriam Kahan, Connie Koehler, Mary Lindquist, Kai Norris, and Beverly Streicher brought Wheatens so that people could learn more about their temperament and pizzaz!

SCWTCA board members who attended and supported the event included Lori Kromash, Anna Marzolino, Susan McGee, Jinx Moore and Pam Tinnelly.

As we paused to watch some lovely Wheatens (the entry was 19) exhibit, we all understood why we love the breed. A good representation of our breed was in the ring.

December 2010 will be the last year for a while that this event will be in Long Beach, California, as it moves to the state of Florida in 2011.

continued from page 28
Travels with Darby!  Rosemany McClure writes
for the Los Angeles Times about traveling with her Wheaten Terrier.

My pal Darby and I love to go where the wild things are. In his case, that’s because he qualifies as one of them.

Darby is a happy-go-lucky Wheaten Terrier with a penchant for travel. The mere whisper of the words “Let’s go” unleashes boundless enthusiasm in him. We make great traveling companions because I also get pretty hyped when I hear those words, although I try not to leap around and whine.

Last month the great outdoors called, and we answered with a resounding yes and a hearty woof. Both of us love luxury hotels, but we don’t mind roughing it now and then.

Luckily, conditions are improving for dogs that camp or go RVing with their families. It makes economic sense: Statistics show that 50% to 75% of the nation’s RVers travel with a pet, enticing some private park owners to become more sensitive to the needs of dog owners.

Still, most RV parks and campgrounds have a long way to go.

“While over 90% of the RV parks and campgrounds listed on CampCalifornia.com accept dogs, most have limited amenities,” said Debbie Sipe, who represents the California Assn. of RV Parks & Campgrounds. “However, a handful of parks are investing in unique pet activities.”

That sounded like an invitation to me. Who better to test these new amenities than Darby? As we prepared to take off, I ran into Leslie, a longtime friend. Would she and her West Highland white terrier Bonnie like to join us on our mission? Yes, they would.

Rather than rent an RV or invest in camping gear, we decided to try cabin camping, which is now available at most RV parks, and concentrate on a Northern California route that included parks known for their pet-friendly amenities.

On a sunny September morning, we piled sleeping bags, luggage and a passel of toys into an SUV and headed north out of Los Angeles on U.S. 101. Traveling with pooches requires more stops. It was after 8 p.m. by the time we rolled in and found our home away from home for the night, a shiny new Airstream trailer, at the Santa Cruz / Monterey Bay KOA. The park rents six Airstreams, besides RV and tent sites, primitive camping cabins and cushy lodges.

The flash-from-the-past Airstreams are a trip unto themselves, sleek aluminum-skinned trailers that come with a shower, toilet, galley, TV and a couple of double beds. The “land yachts,” as they were called when they originated in the 1930s, rent for $150 a night. Manager Linda Evans says no one complains about the price: “The people who want to stay in them don’t care; they just want to try one.”

After dog-chow dinners, Darby and Bonnie crashed. Darby sprawled across the middle of my bed; at the other end of the trailer, little Bonnie crawled into Leslie’s sleeping bag to stay warm.

The next morning we were up early to check out the park’s doggie-agility course and fenced play park, where dogs can roam without being leashed.

Bonnie jumped onto an A-frame climbing ladder and motored her short legs up and over the ramp. Darby couldn’t quite figure out how to do it and watched her quizzically. Then he spotted a ground squirrel brazenly staring at him from the top of a hidey-hole, let out a startled bark, sprang at the rodent and began digging; Bonnie joined him, both of them barking and trying to flush it out of the hole.

The squirrel just retreated into its maze of tunnels and popped out 10 feet away, chittering and bouncing its head up and down as if to say, “Nyah, nyah.”

It was the ultimate insult to a couple of terriers, who were bred by Irish and Scottish farmers to rid their islands of varmints just like this one.

After breakfast and a three-mile hike, we tumbled into the SUV and drove a mile to Manresa State Beach, a wide flat stretch of sand with a nice vibe and a bonus: Dogs are OK here, as long as they’re on a leash (www.santacruzstateparks.org/parks/manresa).

The rules weren’t as pleasant at our next stop, Capitola City Beach, which bans dogs. The little village that surrounds it, Capitola, is a Monterey Bay gem reminiscent of an Italian coastal town. Bright pastel cottages line one section of the beach; on another, galleries, small restaurants and shops crowd the shoreline.

With the beach off-limits to them, Darby and Bonnie sat on a low concrete wall watching sea gulls and other birds soaring.

“Those dogs are darling,” said a woman sitting on a bench nearby. “What are their names?”

continued on page 31

Tickled with Belly

It seemed time to move on; we packed up the SUV and headed north toward Clear Lake, the largest freshwater lake entirely in California. But first, a short stop at the Jelly Belly Candy Co. in Fairfield, northeast of San Francisco (www.jellybelly.com, [800] 522-3267).

The jelly bean maker offers free factory tours and has a store where you can buy Beanware clothing and Belly Flops, irregular candies sold at discount rates. It also has a pleasant dog walking area and outdoor picnic tables, where the four of us ate lunch. But we didn’t dally because we didn’t want to arrive after dark again.

Winding country roads took us through Napa County to Edgewater Resort & RV Park on the shore of Clear Lake. The area, sometimes referred to as the back-40 of the more glamorous wine region to the south, draws boaters, anglers and antiques hunters.

Edgewater has been a campground for more than 100 years; we stayed in a rustic cabin with kitchen, bath, two double beds and a fenced rear yard, great for kids and dogs. The campground advertises that pets and people can swim together off its private beach, but green algae had choked the water, so we stayed on shore. Instead, the dogs met a new friend, Ida Bea, an Airedale from Sacramento, and played with her on the green lawns overlooking the lake.

We hit the road again, this time heading north on U.S. 101 for redwood country. Rain dogged us, causing some crankiness in the back seat. It passed, after a few tense moments.

Redwood Country

Luckily, a handsome park lay just ahead: Benbow Hotel & Resort in Garberville, near Humboldt Redwoods State Park. The park has grass sites, mature trees, an arcade, pool and community room; nearby are a golf course and the Benbow Hotel, an imposing Tudor-style inn that sits on the banks of the Eel River.

The inn is lovely, but our digs at the RV park ranked right up there too: a new modular cabin with kitchen, bath and sleeping accommodations for four. Dogs can visit a small off-leash park or be bathed at an elaborate washing station.

We could have spent more time enjoying the park, but spectacular scenery beckoned: the winding 31-mile Avenue of the Giants drive, where we picnicked and hiked among the massive redwoods.

Heading south again, we stopped to taste a few wines in Sonoma County, then settled in for a night at Petaluma KOA Kampground, which recently installed a nicely landscaped, 4,000-square-foot dog park.

Bonnie showed off on the agility course again, zipping up the climbing wall, while Darby watched from the sidelines, still unable to master the course.

The next day, we packed up and took off for home, stopping at the Golden Gate Bridge. Darby and I left the car to cross the bridge on foot. The 3.4-mile round-trip walk was too much for Bonnie’s short legs, but Darby did it in style.

Back at the car, he strutted around in front of his friend, begging for treats and letting out a few noisy barks. It was his turn to howl.

Rosemary and Darby met through Wheaten Rescue after he was placed at the foster home of Kay and Ron Canney.

You can follow Darby on his website, www.travelswithdarby.com
With all the additives that we put in our dogs food, I often wonder if we should give up commercial dog food altogether. We add vitamins, minerals, essential fatty acids, and whole foods such as sardines, parsley, and yogurt and now I am going to advise you add ENZYMES. The reasoning is fairly simple, when you buy a couch, you have to have a rug, coffee table and lamps to make it a place to live. So it is with our dogs, especially those in competition. If you want them to compete at a level that wins, you have to help them compensate for the stress that you put them under.

ENZYMES...The Spark Plugs for Your Dog’s Engine!

by Diane Jansey, Canine Nutritionist

One of the areas of the dog’s biochemistry that needs help when under stress is an added supply of enzymes to make sure that the continuation of biochemical activity within the dog's body has the needed elements to perform at optimum levels. In short, the dog needs his spark plugs cleaned, calibrated or changed out to keep the motor started and running (that is the best comparison that I can give you). These enzymes are needed for digesting food, quick thinking in the brain, repair of all tissues, organs, and cells in the body. Life would not be possible without the catalytic reaction of enzymes. These enzymes accelerate and are the precursor for the thousands to millions of life's processes.

Now to make this even tougher to figure out, every enzyme has a different job to accomplish. The ones you are already most familiar with are the digestive enzymes. There are many others. One of the most important is respiratory enzymes that help eliminate carbon dioxide from the lungs – the extra stress could be when you walk to close to a running car or when you unload the back of the car with your engine running. An important enzyme that puppies use takes dietary phosphorus and causes a conversion that lays down new bone. If that enzyme were not available the bone could grow weak and break easily. Enzymes are needed to remove dangerous toxins out of the bloodstream converting them to waste that is easily removed from the body. A stress would be if the stomach health allowed for “leaky gut” syndrome and there was not enough enzymes to protect the bloodstream.

We can deal with two main groups of enzymes – one being digestive enzymes and the other being metabolic enzymes. All enzymes nonetheless are replenished throughout the body by conversion of the first group evolving in the digestion of food so if the digestive system is happy then the rest of the species body will be happy. The rest of this article will focus on digestive enzymes with the comfort that this will take care of all the rest.

There are basically three subgroups of digestive enzymes that are called pancreatic enzymes that are needed for proper digestion of nutrients that can then be utilized by the dog for all of the life sources of energy. The three subgroups are Amylase, Lipase, and several forms of Proteases. The main objective of Amylase is to aid in the digestion of carbohydrates. Lipase takes care of digestion and aids in the placements of fats (where we get the word liposuction) and, last of all, Proteases works on all the sources of proteins that the dog consumes. If you have ever wondered why we change meat sources with dogs, it is to give one type of Proteases a rest and allow other Proteases to take up the slack. The other reasoning is to find out what protein sources can be eaten with the ready and available pancreatic digestive enzymes that will break down the protein with greater success. Sometimes you will hear people say, 'my line of dogs does better on beef than on chicken' or vice versa. What they are really saying is my line of dogs is not operating on a full set of “spark plugs”, or digestive enzymes.

Where you find the greatest amount of digestive enzymes is in whole foods that are raw and have not been processed. These enzymes can be found in foods that have slight processing as long as the temperature of the processed food stays under 118 degrees F. Freezing also diminishes the available enzymes but has a better chance of staying intact as long as it is done under flash frozen conditions like deep ocean fishing provides. Once thawed, if refrozen in our homes, you lose a lot of the needed enzymes. Another loss of needed enzymes is from a new method of packaging dog foods which uses compression as a source for killing strains of E-Coli and Salmonella. It also will destroy the enzymes needed to best utilize the food that our dogs are going to eat. The same scenario follows in canned products, the dog cookies, and most of the dehydrated food products. A large concern also follows those people who are trying to feed their dogs correctly by buying a more expensive whole food product that is flash frozen. They then microwave the food destroying all of the enzymes that are needed for the dog's health. Microwaves will destroy all of the enzymes needed as the temperature is brought to a high point very quickly, exceeding the 118 degrees F allowed to maintain the integrity of the enzyme. Another issue is that our dogs will not eat most of the vegetables that contain the higher amounts of

continued on page 33
Enzymes as they have little appeal or should not be eaten as they have too much fiber for our dogs to digest easily.

Many foods contain the enzymes so badly needed to help replenish the enzymes to the system from both plant and animal sources. The best of those would be avocados, papayas, pineapple, mangos and bananas. It has been interesting as I have allowed my puppies to freely munch on fruit that they choose (different fruits at different times during their growth) to eat. An example is that 15 week old pups given a chance to explore the banana will eat it very well and a 6 month old will not care for it at all. When confronted with an illness or upset stomach the dog will go for the banana. This tips me off to them repairing their own system for whatever is not working at 100%.

Enzymes that break down fat or the Lipase enzymes can be found in all fatty foods be it beef or fatty fish such as salmon. Pancreatic Lipase works best in an alkaline environment (meaning the intestines vs. the stomach that is more acidic) whereas Lipase from food works better in the stomach, so where the fats are concerned they are utilized almost in a double digestion process whereas other foods are not.

Some clinical responses you can observe from your dog that would tell you of the need to add commercially produced enzymes in greater levels would fall into these categories: allergies, arthritis, inflammatory bowel diseases, or coprophagia (dogs eat his or others stool). This also occurs when they have contracted coccidia, and while your vet will prescribe antibiotics for this it will not help the stool eating, but giving therapeutic doses of digestive enzymes will stop this condition. As always, please consult your health professional if you suspect any of these issues. Other signs of needed supplementation would be dry coat, brittle and breaking coat, flaking skin, rashes and reoccurring hot spots. The more intense diagnostic need for enzymes would be if the dog has cancer, tumors, autoimmune disorders, and viral infections. The last issue for reviewing your enzyme needs would be anything that was considered a sports injury such as torn muscles and/or ligaments, broken bones, sprains, lameness, especially that found in large animal growth from 4-18 months of age.

Some of the commercial sources of enzymes that you might want to have on hand would be Bromelain, a protein-digesting enzyme found in many parts of the pineapple. This product is different than the others in the digestive enzyme group in that it works well in an acid and alkaline environment, so the value of the product would work well in the stomach and the intestines. Seeing that the dog has a short digestive track that moves faster than humans and some other animals, this would give you the greatest coverage for the largest variety of health issues. This product is widely used in the recovery of surgery, injuries, and different types of arthritis. It is also very useful for pets who have difficulty in the digestion of proteins. It is proteins in the food that cause most of the food allergies. Remember that protein byproducts and toxins cause inflammation. Bromelain, once in the blood, appears to be systemic, producing whole body usage of this enzyme.

Second on the shelf for me would be Papain. This digestive enzyme works as an anti-inflammatory, analgesic, and in some tests has shown to be almost as effective as aspirin without the stomach upset that can occur when using aspirin. Papain is listed as a proteolytic enzyme that wholly absorbed and works throughout the whole body of the dog producing many healthful benefits. This enzyme has been used with great success for superior digestion to lessen the effects of allergic reactions of the food proteins, atopic dermatitis, arthritis, inflammation in major organs, and autoimmune disorders. These digestive enzymes can reduce and turn around "leaky gut syndrome" a disease that leaches food proteins from the stomach into the blood stream causing secondary yeast and fungus infections.

The wonderful point around all of this is these digestive plant enzymes are listed in the “safe” category. This provides for optimum use for the greatest benefit in the shortest amount of time. In other words, it allows the system to catch up on its store of enzymes in a safe and efficient manner.

If you have followed any of my past articles (they may be found in The Canine Chronicle Online archives) you will know that I advocate the use of whole foods and natural products whenever you are able to do so.

Diane Jansey, Bestow Bichon Firse, Orange California
djansey@msn.com

PILOT ASSOCIATION STUDY OF PLE/PLN IN SCWTS

Drs. Paula Henthorn And Meryl Littman

Nearly one hundred DNA samples have been chosen for initial analysis in the Section of Medical Genetics at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. These samples included DNA from both “affected” and “normal control” dogs, and will be subjected to a new technology that assays thousands of single-nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) simultaneously. SNP refers to the situation where two different nucleotides (the building blocks of DNA that come in four different flavors, referred to as A, C, G, and T) can be found at exactly the same position along a particular chromosome among individuals within the species of interest. Within a single mammalian species (such as dogs or humans), there are millions of SNPs, and geneticists use them to find the locations of genes that cause various traits, including diseases. If the location can be determined, then it becomes possible (for a species that has had its genome sequence determined) to 1) examine genes in that region as candidates for involvement in the disease process, 2) develop DNA-based genetic tests. While this sounds straightforward in theory, it can be difficult to execute, particularly for a disease that is complex, as is PLE/PLN. PLE/PLN does not appear to be simply inherited, and may be influenced by environmental factors, making it much more difficult to study. We refer to our initial study as a pilot study because, due to the complexity of the disease, we cannot accurately predict how many dogs are actually needed to have a strong chance of success. In studies of complex genetic diseases in humans, tens of thousands of individuals are studied.

Note: This is one of the studies for which the SCWTCA Endowment is raising money. The original pilot study is funded through the generosity of clients of Dr. Littman. Many of them are not Wheaten owners but have heard of her work with our dogs. Thanks to them for the $60,000 to pay for this genetic testing.
Informative Family and Open Registry Report

submitted by Beth Verner on behalf of Meryl Littman and Carol Carlson

This year we will be doing the SNP chip analysis on samples in our DNA Bank, including many Informative Family members. The first run of 90 samples (approximately 30 each – normal, affected, and Informative Family / Wheagle Colony) will take place spring semester, which concludes mid-May. Hopefully something will “pop out” on the first run. Using that knowledge, a summer semester student will do 2-3 more runs, with results available September. The SNP chips may identify a particular gene or two or more, which we will want to intensively study by gene sequencing.

The DNA we have from the Informative Families and the Wheagle Colony are certainly important samples. These families have a high percentage of affecteds, in fact most individuals in those litters are/were affected. It will be very interesting to compare the DNA from those affected with the DNA from their ancestors and other family members that lived longer lives, and with DNA from the geriatric (15-17 yr old) Wheatens that we have from other families. It will also be interesting to compare the DNA from affected Informative Family and Wheagle Colony members to DNA from affecteds that come from families that weren’t as “hard hit” and which appear to have much lower percentages of dogs affected at every generation than were seen in the Informative Families and the Wheagle Colony. Paula and I are very excited to start this next chapter in our Wheaten work!

We would like more Addison's samples if the owner pays for shipping. To save about $10,000, I am probably going to send Addison’s samples and about 20 more geriatric normal samples from the Penn DNA Bank to a collaborator who is working on Addison's disease in a number of breeds. I met her at the 2009 Tufts Genetics Conference.

As far as samples for the other categories (normal, affected, and family/colony), we currently have more samples than money. Each SNP chip costs about $300 to run (equipment plus tech, etc.). It doesn’t take long to realize the cost when you multiply 500 samples times $300. It’s a big number!

We need funding more than we need samples at this point. The shipping alone was $1,300 for SNP chips to conduct 5 projects, including ours. My fund paid for a tech to extract DNA, etc. The first batch of SNP chip analysis will cost my fund about $25,000, with each of the 2-3 summer runs costing approximately the same per run. Gene sequencing will require additional funding.

2010 Goals

1. Get as much information as possible from the samples we already have, including Informative and Cooperative Families, by SNP chip and gene sequencing.

2. Update the Open Registry: hire/train a new summer student (Amy Smagala will be a senior in clinics this summer). Paula and I have identified a good prospect who can help at the bench with the DNA work as well as update the OR.

3. Continue giving consultations/advice, but ask for donations. We may begin charging a fee for these during 2010, but this service will continue to be free for Informative Family members.

4. Replenish the Penn Wheaten fund with reimbursement from the Endowment and SCWTCA Health Funds to cover costs of shipping samples and histopathology.

Inadvertantly left out of the December 2009 issue of Benchmarks, this group picture of our Agility folk!
Holidays are over, the presents old news,
But the children are restless and the grandparents too,
Julia in Florida, Willie in DC,
Christy in Vancouver, Pam and Mary P,
What’s all this flurry, what causes such fuss?
Why we all know October is the major month for us!

Dolce is the greatest, rooms are big and clean.
Our banquet room is spacious, the centerpieces sheen.
Genie has the art show, Bonnie’s got boutique,
Jeri hosts the dinner, Jinx is going to speak.
Still there are lots of extras that you’ll just have to see
And the only way to do that is to come along with me.

Look forward to seeing each and everyone of you at this year's SCWTCA, Inc 36th annual specialty and 38th appearance at the Montgomery County Kennel Club Show.

Emily Holden
amadensouth@yahoo.com
10/10/2010 – a date that will never come again
and remember that
WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS!

DOLCE VALLEY FORGE
301 West Dekalb Pike, King of Prussia, PA 19406, USA
Directions | Contact Us | News | Phone: 1.610.337.1200
Group Code 1005SOFTCO
subscription rates
scwtca members USA $25/year, canada and overseas $35/year
non-scwtca members USA $35/year, non-scwtca members canada and overseas $45/year
US funds only
The link to Benchmarks online is sent to all AKC approved and provisional SCWT judges
Benchmarks is also sent to all judges requesting a subscription, free of charge.

articles and letters for june issue are due may 1

advertising rates
full page only, 1 picture $40.00, additional pictures $5.00 ea
page size is 8.5 x 11 inches
ads may be sent as email attachment, photos 300 dpi (300 kb), jpeg format
original photos will be returned
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 june issue: may 15
send advertising to gay dunlap, 1134 south oak ct, gilbert az 85233-8109 (if sent by
overnight service, sign “signature waiver” so driver will leave package). if you have
copy submitted by may 1, a draft layout will be sent to you for edits. include email
address for quick turnaround. payment sent to the editor, payable to scwtca.

publications
Owner’s Manual (‘95) $11.00
Grooming Chart $ 3.00
Illustrated Standard $18.00

Benchmarks (Back Issues) $6.00
Pet Grooming Pamphlet $3.50

multiple copies available to club members only. see directory for prices
SINGLE COPIES ONLY to non-members. price includes postage if mailed within the US

YEARBOOKS
(1988-1993) specify the year $37.00 us
(1994-2000) specify the year $25.00 us
(2001-2003) specify the year $40.00 us
2004 $45.00 us

for all publications except benchmarks subscriptions and pricing for shipments
outside of the USA contact:
cindy shea, 1524 meinershagen rd, foristell, mo 63348-1707
eringlo@yahoo.com
for benchmarks subscriptions contact:
cindy jansen, 1203 pierpont meadows rd, columbia, mo 65201-9309
cjansen@socket.net
make all checks payable to SCWTCA, inc.

ONLY US FUNDS WILL BE ACCEPTED. all others will be returned.

MEMBERSHIP PACKET
Linda Ruedy, wheatenmom@hotmail.com
Nancy Butler, nbtrigo@cybermesa.com
Cecily Skinner, tarasctw@aol.com
Toni Vincent, FecalAPIKit@aol.com
Emily Holden, amadensouth@yahoo.com

RESCUE

HEALTH ISSUES
Carissa Hutchins, carissa@bravowheatens.com

Fecal API Kits
Robyn Alexander, webmaster, web@scwtca.org

2010 MCKC
board@scwtca.org

BENCHMARKS RENEWALS Cindy Jansen, 1203 Pierpont Meadows Rd, Columbia, Mo 65201

ALL OTHER ADDRESS CHANGES
Carissa Hutchins, carissa@bravowheatens.com

http://www.ofta.org/search.html

SCWTCA, Inc Board of Directors
http://www.vmdb.org/cef.html

OFA database is on the web at:

CEWTCA Endowment Fund may be sent directly to:
rosemary berg
37953 center ridge road
north ridgeville, oh 44039
checks should be made payable
to SCWTCA Endowment, Inc (fully deductible for IRS purposes)

CELEBRATING LONG LIFE &
HAPPY BIRTHDAY SENIORS
submit to Toni Vincent by closing
date may 1: tonivincent@aol.com

BENCHMARKS EDITOR
gay dunlap
gaydunlap@cox.net
480 926-1622

Benchmarks is the official quarterly publication of the SCWTCA, Inc. The opinions expressed in articles contained herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the Editor or the Officers and Directors of the Club. The Editor reserves the right to reasonably edit all material submitted for publication. Comments, suggestions and expressions of opinion from the readers are always welcomed. Original articles may be reprinted with permission of the editor.