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Stratford Announces Two New Champions!
60+ AKC champions and going strong...

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GCH Gleanngay Legend of the Grail x CH Stratford Top O' the Mornin’

CH Stratford Charge It Please
“Lacey”
BW at the National Roving 2014
Bred by: Molly O'Connell

GCH Andover Mayhem Magic x CH Stratford Plaza Suite
Molly O'Connell
moconn1030@comcast.net
wheatenterriersatstratford.com
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About The Cover

This adorable photograph, taken by Linda Hallas; Her Wheaten, Spicey and her pal, Teddy, are all ready for St. Paddy’s Day.
From the President

I like to think of my Spring letter to the membership as one of new beginnings and the promise of the year to come. Last year I spoke of the hope that as we moved into the Spring of the show year and beyond, we could put aside our discourse as individuals and come together in our common love of our breed.

With that being said what I’d like to put to all of you as members is the main tenet of our breed… the Standard. My disclaimer at this point is that I always try in my letters to the membership to be “all-inclusive”. That is, I try to recognize all of the elements of our Club and it’s members from agility, obedience, rally, conformation, et al. in my musings. I can certainly argue that in discussing the “Standard” applications to all of those disciplines are apparent, but most may feel that it is primarily skewed towards conformation. It is certainly open to your individual interpretation!

I have experienced too often over the years those who come into the breed and become experts in very short order as to what is “correct”. This is not unique to our breed, but at the risk of sounding self-centered, I don’t care about the others, I care about ours!

Many years ago I was judging at a show in the Midwest. When it came to the winners dog class I announced that there would be no winners dog awarded today. Quite frankly, I felt there wasn’t a charge in the ring that deserved points toward their championship title. I offered to those exhibiting, that I would be happy to explain my decision after my assignment concluded. In that unfortunate line-up I had two experienced breeders, one professional handler (intimate with the breed), and one exhibitor who for all intents and purposes was a “newbie” to the breed. The experienced breeders, and the handler “got it” they understood where I was coming from. The newbie stayed for the challenge!

Not knowing my “newbie” exhibitor, my first question to her was, “How does your dog exemplify the breed standard?” It was important for me at this point to establish her knowledge of the breed and its standard in particular, so that I could have a positive conversation with her. “Oh no!” was her reply, “You tell me!” I gently explained to her that I indeed had already told her, but what I wanted to address with her in our conversation were the specifics of the standard. Long story short, from stem to stern and most points in-between, she was unable to articulate the Wheaten standard to me. I suggested she go home and read it, then get back to me!

Now this makes for humorous reading, but in reality it is too common. If it is not a case of simply not knowing the standard as it is written, it is too often the simple dismissal of the standard because “they know better” and what the standard describes is wrong. Really? The more I judge, the more I realize how much I have yet to learn. The more I bred, the more I referred to the Standard, and the more I appreciated other breeders insight to that tome.

How often have I heard over the years, “I like a bigger Wheaten!” Now is that bigger than 19” and 40 lb? Likewise, I have the reputation of liking them “small”! So with all things being equal, if I prefer an 18” Wheaten over a 19 1/2” one, I like them small? Hmmm, let me re-read that standard!

There has been quite a bit of conversation over the merits of “square” as it is defined by our American Standard versus the IFC Standard. I could fill pages with insights as to the how’s and why’s the IFC Standard (essentially the Irish Standard) came to define their “square” differently from ours. I will say that if you go back to the verbiage used in the Irish Standard and echoed in the original Pierce/Witty Standard, they all call for a dog short coupled, not too leggy, nor too low to the ground. The picture that is being painted for you is really more of a square in outline than that of a rectangle!

Other than disqualifying faults, the only other major difference between the American Standard and the IFC is poundage! American dogs 35 - 40 lb, bitches 30 - 35 lb (somewhat less). IFC dogs 40 - 45 lb, bitches somewhat less. Maybe that extra poundage in the IFC Wheatens is in what occurs before the withers and
after the base of the tail! No, I'm just joking! I do think it defines an essential difference in the feel/type of the dogs. The IFC dog is denser. The muscle is different. The bone is heavier. Interesting to note, the original Pierce/Witty Standard calls for a dog approximately 35 lb, bitches somewhat less. So much for my small!

I am aware of the arguments put forth that, “Our square does not allow for proper movement.” Not true! There have been many dogs over the years that have come close to the ideals set forth in our standard that move with the requisite reach and drive. Now it is verifiable that if you have an over angulated dog in the rear (never have seen too much layback in a Wheaten), you will see the results of that imbalance more readily in a square, short-coupled dog, than in a longer bodied specimen. That doesn't make the off-square dog a better moving Wheaten though. He is still out of balance in his front and rear angulation, it is just not as apparent. What is evident though is his silhouette is out of balance, for what our standard describes.

It is here that things get interesting. The argument has been put forth on many occasions that what we ask for in the standard is contrary to nature. For me it first began with the European movement years ago to ban the docking of tails. “It is not right to remove a dog's tail” they cried. “Dogs in the wild all have tails!” To which I replied then and now. “There are no dogs in the wild. There are wolves, coyotes, dingos, foxes, but as for dogs... nope!” Dogs are man-made. Period! Their make and shape is determined by the needs and the wishes of the humans breeding them.

This argument has continued to this day by some who make the case that our square is wrong because you don’t see it in nature. “It is natural for a dog to be longer than tall. Why do we insist on being contrary to nature? The proportions not only in the body, but also in the relationship of head to neck to back are contrary to nature.”

With these arguments, shorn up with percentages, and comparisons made beyond our canine cousins in the wild, some are challenging our standard. Unfortunately they are all too often using those rationalizations to justify not breeding to the standard! Perhaps we should embrace prick ears since folded/closed ears don’t occur in nature. And as for a single non-shedding coat in the wild... not practical! And why not a yellow eye? Does that not occur in nature? Is a brown eye functionally superior to a yellow one?

Our standard is not something that was casually arrived at. There is a long history to our standard that stretches beyond the first Wheaten arriving in America. The similarities between all of the Wheaten standards and especially the Pierce/Witty standard attests to that fact. It is those common threads that bind us all, but it is the American Standard that we breed to. Or might I say, should breed to.

As much as the American Standard is ingrained in me, when I have judged abroad I am very aware of those subtle differences in type asked for, and also am obligated to disqualify as asked for. I don’t justify my judging by stating “I think the American Standard is more correct therefore I base my choices on it!”

While much more could be said, the history and validity of our Standard is evident in the few words espoused here. We must all as Wheaten breeders have an intimate knowledge of it. The Standard is our guide, and our challenge! As breeders of Wheatens, and more importantly members of SCWTCA, it is our obligation to aspire to it.

Happy Spring!

Gary Vlachos

From the Editors

2014 seems to have just flown by, and here we are nearly one quarter of 2015 already gone. I know it’s a function of age; the older we get, the faster it goes.... Mine... warp speed!

I hope you enjoyed the December issue of Benchmarks with all the colorful ads, beautiful dogs, and
Montgomery KC recap. We’re especially interested in your thoughts regarding the Wheaten IQ and Breeder-Judge Perspective, as this is planned as a quarterly piece. For those of you who have been around for a while, it was probably a bit of a “yawn,” but for our newbies, we hope you learned something new and will be able to use the information as you continue to grow and excel in this breed.

This month we focus on structure and movement, some important terminology with illustrations, and a pretty challenging crossword puzzle. Good luck, it’s not as easy as you think, and yet, most of this is “fundamental” knowledge to understanding the SCWT and being an informed and responsible breeder.

Mentoring new Wheaten people to be the best they can be is a very personal issue of mine, having had huge successes as well as equally huge failures. We have an aging population of long-time breeders with real “depth” of knowledge... who will be there to replace them? I believe ours is an obligation to our breed to ensure that knowledge is shared and passed on to the next generation of breeder/exhibitors. Mentoring those who have the real “desire to learn” is the key. Successful mentoring is a “two-way” endeavor, so also included are some good articles and tips for mentors and mentees to make these relationships rewarding for both, and secure the future for our breed.

The SCWTCA Code of Ethics tells breeders to provide the following information to puppy owners:
1. AKC or Canadian Kennel Club registration transfer or application form
2. An accurate 4-generation pedigree,
3. Complete medical records,
4. **Complete written instructions on feeding, health care, training and grooming, and**
5. A written contract or bill of sale.

Most of these are pretty clear cut, but number 4 gives you a bit more latitude. How do you think your puppy instructions measure up? The COE goes on to say ... **Support new owners with advice, resources and information.** Do you ever have new owners surprise you with questions you thought they’d know the answers to? Or worse you discover they made choices you wish they wouldn’t have? Maybe more information along with the puppy would help them avoid pitfalls?

A few years back I was visiting friends who had puppies getting ready to go to new homes. They had prepared puppy books which were chock full of information. The books included not only a pedigree, registration papers, sales contract, and health records, but also lots of other information, including feeding instructions, training & house breaking ideas, as well as info on the sire and dam. Great idea, I went home and made books for my next litter. Another friend gave a really good puppy training book with her puppies. This gives the new owner a go-to resource to get their puppy off to a good start. I like the Puppy Primer by McConnell & Scidmore. Club publications also offer a wealth of information: an Owner’s Manual, Grooming Chart, and Illustrated Standard are great resources too.

Do your puppy owners ask what equipment to buy? I used to supply owners with grooming tools, bowls, blankets, etc. Then realized what they really needed was a list of all the equipment we recommend. So now I send them an extensive list of equipment, shampoo, food, treats, crate and table sizes, etc. weeks before they get their puppy. I still provide a collar & matching lead and a favorite toy, but realized they’d prefer to buy many of these other items long before their puppy comes home. So now when I get the call from a new owner with a question, I still offer advice, but almost always tell them where that item can be found in their puppy book too. Let’s face it the better prepared people are, the better off our puppies are. For me, that’s worth my time and effort.

“None of us live forever. If we truly love our breed and the show fancy, we will help the next generation perpetuate both.”

Susi Szeremy

Deb Van De Ven
To make your tax deductible gift, please visit our web site:  www.wheatenhealthendowment.org

SCWTCA Endowment, Inc.

a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, donations are deductible for Federal Tax purposes

The Board of the SCWTCA Endowment thanks the following for their generosity in 2014. These donations fund grants selected by the SCWTCA Endowment Board or provide matching funds for grants approved by the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation.

Dog Clubs
- Coyote Hills Kennel Club, In Honor of Sheila O’Connell
- Minnesota SCWT Kidney Clinic, annual SCWT health screen all-volunteer clinic spearheaded by coordinator, Cyndi Stokvis
- Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America, Roving Specialty - Judge's fee donated by Gay Dunlap
- Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater St. Louis, 'Brag Money' & Funds from Specialty Show Raffle
- Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Northern California, In Honor of GCH Locharline Gleenngay Cha Ching 'Chip' and GCH Lismore I Like Ike

Litter Tributes
- Roxanna Springer, Springsong - In Honor of the 'Gus' & 'Violet' litter and in Honor of the 'Dexter' & 'Sid' litter

Individuals & Corporations
- Robert Horgan, In Loving Memory of Siobhan and Rory
- Andrew Karpowicz, In Honor of Checkers’ Mitzner
- Bob & Genie Kline, In Memory of Sandy Hurd's Brewer
- Karen Kukucha, In Loving Memory of Canadian CH Fullmoon's Blonde ambition, Lexi
- Roberta Salmon / AbbVie Foundation Employee Engagement Fund
- Roberta Salmon / AbbVie Foundation Matching Grant Plan – Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- Carol Shaltz, In Honor of Lill Town Wheats of Archacassa
- Dennis & Cindy Shea, In Memory of CH Azlough Turn to Gold VCD2 RE AX MXJ, 'Riley'
- Patricia Simrell, In Memory of Rob Horgan's beloved Siobhan
- Patricia Simrell, In Memory of Skibbereen's Two Paws Up, Bella Mia
- Patricia Simrell, In Memory of Suzanne Stone's Gabby
- Sally Setrovich, In Memory of Winnie McLaren's Flight of Fancy
- Cathleen Spall, Dr. Arnie Spanjers & Rose Rose, In Memory of Bob Nerrie
- Roxanna Springer, In Memory of CH Lakkas Ustilago 'Gus', and of CH Marland's Love Me Love Me Not Daisy, and of Vermilion Springer's Dindi
- Jerry & Kirstin Stack, In Memory of 'Alex' and 'Sky'
- Dorice & Mark Stancher, In Memory of Duffly, Holweit's Stancher CGC, RA, CD, Therapy Dog/Evaluator Dog and Wheaten Ambassador Award winner
- Bob & Pam Tinnelly, In Memory of 'Chew Chew Charley'
- Lori Toivola & Tom Stevens, In Memory of CH Shananigan Jump N Jehosophat CD, RE, OAJ, NA 'Wrigley'
- Toni Vincent-Fisher, In Memory of David & All White's 'Hannnah'
- Diane Watson

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- Mary Ann Curtis / The Boeing Company Political Action Gift Match Program
- Gay Dunlap
- Roger & Kathryn Elliot
- Scott Ewing
- Willard Fallon / The Boeing Company Political Action Gift Match Program
- Elaine Filose, In Memory of Ruth Tinnelly
- Dick & Toni Fisher, In Memory of our beloved 'Chew Chew Charley'
- Helen Fraguela, For Garbo...the love of my life
- Cynthia Gady, In Honor of 'Checkers' Mitzner as his Papa turns 50! Love, Cindy & Marianna
- Shirley Gee, In Memory of my heart dog, Bella Mia
- Shirley Gee, In Memory of Rob Horgan’s beloved Siobhan
- Harvey & Sue Goldberg, In Memory of CH Shandakie Fire Dancer, Perri
- Harvey & Sue Goldberg, to Bob & Pam Tinnelly in Memory of your beloved Mother, with sincere sympathy and love, Sue & Harvey
- Gene & Jackie Gottlieb, In Honor of Carol Carlson
- Mel & Marcie Granick, In Memory of Dave & Sally Sotirovich's McLaren's Flight of Fancy, Winnie
- Marcia Granick, In Memory of Our Beloved 'Squash', McLaren's Comedy Central
- Randy & Sandi Gross, In Honor of 'Summer' and 'Meadow', our beloved Wheaten
- Julie Grudzinskas, In Honor of Honeyglo's Kenmare's Colleen, 'KC' and Southaven's Christmas Revel, 'Rori'
- Roberta Salmon / AbbVie Foundation Employee Engagement Fund
- Roberta Salmon / AbbVie Foundation Matching Grant Plan - Silicon Valley Community Foundation
- Carol Shaltz, In Honor of Lill Town Wheats of Archacassa
- Dennis & Cindy Shea, In Memory of CH Azlough Turn to Gold VCD2 RE AX MXJ, 'Riley'
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- Toni Vincent-Fisher, In Memory of David & All White's 'Hannnah'
- Diane Watson

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Official publication of the SCWTCA, Inc. volume 43, number 1, March 2015 pg 7
Welcome New SCWTCA Members

Linda Thompson
Marietta, GA

Amy Martin-Piesz
New Hudson, MI

Michael and Kristen Brown
Newtown, PA

Kim Wright
Naperville, IL

Beth Abate
Florence, KY

AND MEET THREE

Name: Michael and Kristen Brown, Newtown, PA
Occupation: Michael is a high school teacher, Kristen teaches dance and is a choreographer

Kristen's family opened three presents one Christmas; one present for each child. Inside each package was a clue that the family was finally going to be getting a dog! Her parents had narrowed the list of breeds down, and as a family they learned about the different breeds. Several months later, they were told to clean up the house because a very young “family friend” might be coming to visit, so all small items would have to be carefully put away. Later that evening, they drove to meet their eventual family dog. Chelsea. Chelsea’s mother was a show dog, Rainbow’s Ruby Slippers, and while Chelsea was a pet, Kristen’s family affectionately called her Chelsea of Emerald City. Michael’s family had larger dogs. When Michael and Kristen were dating, Michael got to meet Chelsea before she passed away at the age of twelve. Flash forward to 2012 and the married couple began to search for a Wheaten of their own. Eventually the search led to Susan Ratliffe of Whindancer Wheatens, and the moment they met “purple girl” they were beyond in love! Sadie is simply pure joy! They have loved showing her to her Grand Championship. Michael has really gotten into the grooming aspect (with the help of some wonderful and patient teachers, and a few mis-cuts along the way). They were welcomed early on by many lovely people including Marcy Kraus, Abby Kochan, John and Pam Mandeville, Carl McGill, and the members of Del Val Wheatens. Susie Ratliffe has been an encouraging and patient mentor, always willing to answer a question, lend a hand, and give advice. Michael and Kristen feel “beyond blessed” to have her as part of their family! We joined SWTCA as a way to connect with others dedicated to the health and well being of the breed. We have already made some amazing lifelong friends, and hope to contribute to the club in any way we can. We also hope to be ambassadors for the breed, and be able to welcome others into the breed with open arms, a generosity of spirit, and a willingness to pass on whatever knowledge we have gleaned. “We participate in Conformation, and are looking to participate in agility in the future.” Kristen offers her skills in writing and crafts, and Michael is interested in stewarding. Michael and Kristen were sponsored by Susan Ratliffe and Marcie Kraus.

Name: Kim Wright, Naperville, IL
Occupation: Home CEO & Mom

We had the pleasure of owning our first Wheaten, Lilly, in 2005 after realizing our 2 boys needed more than guinea pigs to fill their 4 legged void. I knew that a Wheatie would be a perfect fit with our active boys. Unfortunately, I didn’t have the knowledge of researching area breeders and fell into the “Pet Store” trap, caved and bought our Lilly. On our first puppy wellness visit to our Vet, Lilly was diagnosed with PLN & given 5 years to live. With tons of love & under the care of our awesome Vet, Lilly actually lived a very full, loving life to the young age of 7.

I knew our hearts needed to be filled by another Wheaten but this time I was going about it the right way. In 2012, we were blessed to obtain Doree (Raelyn J’Adore Eiffel) at 9 months old from Breeder of Merit, Lynn Cone, who at the time lived in South Carolina. After Lynn coaching and mentoring me for 4 months while having Doree in our home, Lynn asked if I wouldn’t mind taking Doree to area professional dog handlers, Kent & Gwen Meyer, to evaluate her for potential showing. I had no idea the path this visit would lead to. Along with Lynn’s guidance, Kent & Gwen saw Doree’s potential and off she went on obtaining her CH & GCH within months. In 2013 at Doree’s first MCKC, she won an AOM. In 2014, Kent & Gwen took Doree to show at Westminster and there she won a Select. This past 2014 MCKC, Doree won another Select & AOM at Montgomery. It’s been a great, whirlwind ride so far! I decided to join SCWTCA due to the encouragement of wonderful friends and mentors I have met from MCKC. I felt it was my responsibility to give back to the breed by getting involved while promoting the breed to others. I’d like to educate other potential Wheaten owners from making the mistake I made from my first Wheaten. I’d eventually like to breed Doree and possibly train her for Agility in the future. It’s been such fun… Looking forward to seeing what’s next. Kim offers marketing, photography and speaking skills to SCWTCA and loves to decorate and plan parties. Kim was sponsored by Kay Baird and Gwen Meyer.
Name: Beth Abate, Florence, KY  
Occupation: Homemaker and Dog Slave  
I live in Florence, Kentucky, and am married with two sons, ages 15 and 11. I have trained and shown dogs since 1981, when I was eleven years old. I began with my first dog, a Cocker Spaniel, in Obedience and Junior Handling. I trained and showed them until I was an adult, then had Australian Shepherds for twelve years. I belong to two local dog training clubs, and I have taught conformation handling and junior showmanship, as well as currently teaching agility classes. Since getting my first Wheaten, CH PACH Lissadell Sings For His Supper RATO (Tucker) in 2006, I have been very active in training and competing in agility trials, as well as in conformation. I have also begun competing in Barn Hunt trials with Tucker. It’s like dog Disneyland, and his favorite sport! After three months, he’s only one qualifying run from his Senior Barn Hunt title. He is retired from agility and, when not spending his weekends sniffing out rats, he lounges on our boat with my husband, Jeff. Tucker is also an avid jet skier. You literally can’t go for a ride without him! My younger Wheaten, CH MACH Aran Twisted Logic MXB MJB NF (Pretzel) was #5 AKC Agility Wheaten for 2014. She is technically my son’s dog, but I steal her to do agility. Pretzel and I competed at the 2014 Eukanuba Agility Invitational where we were Top Wheaten and narrowly missed the finals in our height class by only one dog. It was a lot of fun, and I was so proud to be there with Pretzel. She just turned four this February, and she is definitely the princess of our family.
I still love to show in conformation and finished both my Wheatens’ championships. I show my Wheatens in CPE agility as well, and both have CPE Agility Championships. I finally got the chance to go to Montgomery last October for the first time and had a great time showing in agility and meeting so many great Wheaten people! I hope to go again in the coming years to compete in agility and maybe even show a Pretzel puppy in conformation. I have owned and shown several other breeds for myself and for others, but these crazy Wheatens have captured my heart! Beth was sponsored by Shari Boyd and Carol Shaltz. She enjoys being an instructor for agility, conformation and junior showmanship. Beth offers skills in computer, education, grooming, stewarding and training to SCWTCA.

Welcome New Open Registry Members

January 23, 2015

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://scwtca.org/documents/health/or_membershipform_20100630.pdf. For a complete list of Open Registry members, email kccarlson@comcast.net.

****
Mary Brown ~ Alexandra Kisish ~ Dolores May ~ Deborah Tumulty ~ Louise Beakes Dubreuil

Please remember to support Wheaten Health with your tax free donations. Checks payable to SCWTCA Endowment.
Keep in mind the Open Registry is an important tool in our tool box as breeders. We need your continued support and participation.
Celebrating Long Life

SHANDALEE “JAKE”
AM/CAN CH Doubloon’s Espresso x CH Shandalee One Smart Cookie
September 27, 1999 — August 12, 2014

Our "Jakie", our beautiful ball of fur!! Our perpetual puppy! Our 'sweetie Wheatie'!
Our forever two-year old zipped up in a dog suit!

Jake brightened every day. He was our "miracle puppy". At 5 months of age he had a
mandibulectomy because of a cancerous tumor in his mouth. Jake went through so much.
He was a miracle! Jake was our gift for almost 15 years and we made sure that he knew
that.

Jake trained us well. He was the most verbal dog we have ever known, telling us when he wanted to eat and, of
course, WHAT he wanted to eat. He disciplined us by determining our bedtime. Literally, he would speak and tell us,
"The evening news is over, get to bed!"

Jake had so much soul; you could see it when you looked into his beautiful eyes - those same eyes that captured us
when we picked him as a tiny puppy. Jake crawled into my lap the first time we saw him, so we really have to say
that Jake picked us. The hole he has left is huge, but we know how fortunate we were to have had such a wonderful
Wheatie and we treasured every moment we had with "our Jake".

Rena and Mike Goldberg
Bred by: Sue and Harvey Goldberg. Wheatens of Shandalee

Happy Birthday Seniors!

“CARLY”
CH Harmony Sweet Temptation
CH Harmony Robber Barron x CH Harmony Sweet Spirit
DOB: January 10, 2001

Carly turned 14 in January. She still sees, hears, and gets around amazingly well. She
chases her son, “Joey,” CH Harmony Movin’ On, around the house like a spring
chicken—for short bursts. Then she takes her deserved, extended nap on her heated
throw. She still has her spunk and sense of humor. As a three-month-old pup, she
would crouch on the top, back edge of our couch and wait for one of the older dogs to
walk behind. Then she’d pounce onto their back like she was a circus performer! Thank
Heavens no one got hurt and we got that stopped. Carly finished her championship
easily and produced two litters with beautiful pups. She was a great dam to her puppies and is very sweet and loving
to her housemate(s) and us. We are so fortunate to have her! Loved, bred and owned by Sue & Jim Little

“ATLAS”
CH Greentree Peanut Butter On It
DOB: January 23, 1999

We celebrated Atlas’s 16th birthday yesterday and we are happy to report he is doing very
Well, he’s active and still enjoys his two daily walks. When we picked him up he was the last of
his litter, adorable, and smaller than his siblings. He’s had a few cysts over the years, but otherwise
has been a happy, healthy boy. Atlas has been a real joy in our lives, and we hope he will remain
healthy for years to come.
Owned by: Andrea and Christian Mayes, Bred by: Bev and Kevin McDonald
“LACEY”  
English Champion Abiqua Wild Kiss At Midnight  
CH Starlight Wild Basil X Eridanus Have You Seen Her  
DOB: January 17, 2000

Lacey was 15 years old in January. She is a constant joy to live with. She continues in good health and enjoys her life with her granddaughter and two great grandchildren. 
Owned by Steven & Barbara Bradford  
Loved by Everyone

“ALVEE”  
CH Greentree Bayberry Aviance  
CH Dundalk The Stroke Of Midnight X Greentree Princess Aly  
DOB: September 12, 2000

Our precious girl turned 14 this past October. The photo shows her celebrating her 14th birthday at her favorite vacation destination, Cape May, NJ. Alvee had two litters and brought 11 wheatens into this world!! She spends her days trying to keep up with (or avoid) our other wacky Wheatens - Taevi, Fenway, and Aberly. Happy Birthday Alvee!  
Owned by: Rod and Sandy Ives  
Bred by: Bev and Kevin McDonald

“ROSEBUD”  
CH Greentree Fairy Tale Autumn Bud  
CH Never Lasting’s Forever More X CH Greentree Fairy Tale Princess  
DOB: September 22, 2001

As RoseBud turns 13, she has slowed down a little, but still enjoys her walks -happily greeting every person and dog she meets along the way. RoseBud is a faithful, loving companion who gives the sweetest "wheaten kisses". She will run and hide if she thinks I am going to groom her, but then will do her "happy dance" when she is done. Since RoseBud has been a puppy, she thinks it is her job to push all the pillows off the davenport and then sit there with a look of accomplishment on her face. RoseBud was a wonderful mother to her litter of 8 puppies and also helped her mother Maggie with her second litter - she loves puppies! Happy 13th Birthday to my wonderful Wheaten, RoseBud!  
Owned by: Nancy Pederson  
Bred by: Bev and Kevin McDonald

“JASON”  
CH Greentree Darcove Fairy Tale CD RN ROM  
CH Never Lasting’s Forever More x CH Greentree Fairy Tale Princess  
DOB: September 22, 2001

Jason has been a delight to live with, a true gentleman in all ways.  He loves babies and kids of all ages.  He’s the best buddy of dogs that can’t stand other dogs.  Spoiled since we raised him, all the things we always told puppy people never ever to do... we have done.  At age 13 he’s still up for long walks and never fails to let us know when he’s ready.  
Bred by Bev & Kevin McDonald & Nancy & Jos Pedersen.  Owned by: Doris Petracco & Dot Schider with Bev and Kevin McDonald.
**Test Your Wheaten IQ**

**Presented by: Deb Van De Ven**

**Movement as it relates to Structure**

“The Wheaten must be able to cover ground in an efficient and graceful fashion, indicating strength and endurance. A properly structured, well conditioned dog will have reach and drive, and maintain a strong, level topline when moving”  

(SCWTCA Illustrated Standard)

**Neck, Topline, Body**

*Neck* medium in length, clean and strong, not throaty. Carried proudly, it gradually widens, blending smoothly into the body. *Back* strong and level. *Body* compact; relatively short coupled. *Chest* is deep. *Ribs* are well sprung but without roundness. *Tail* is set on high. Docked tail preferred. Whether docked or natural, the tail is to be carried upright 90 degrees from the back, either straight or with a slight curve forward. Any deviation from this ideal is to be penalized accordingly.

**Forequarters**

*Shoulders* well laid back, clean and smooth; well knit. *Forelegs* straight and well boned. All *dewclaws* should be removed. *Feet* are round and compact with good depth of pad. *Pads* black. *Nails* dark.

**Hindquarters**

*Hind legs* well developed with well bent *stifles* turning neither in nor out; *hocks* well let down and parallel to each other. All *dewclaws* should be removed. The presence of dewclaws on the hind legs should be penalized. *Feet* are round and compact with good depth of pad. *Pads* black. *Nails* dark.

**Take the quiz...can you match the term with the correct drawing on the right?**

1. Elbows tied, toeing out ____
2. Moving close, crossing over (front) ____
3. Open hocks ____
4. Elbows out, weaving ____
5. Correct straight front ____
6. Cow hocked ____
7. Moving close, crossing over (rear) ____
8. Correct straight rear ____

**Answers on page 43**
When was the last time you read the “Breed Standard”
Do you understand all of the terms and how they apply to our Wheatens?

How well do you understand movement terms? Try the crossword!

ACROSS
4. The choppy gait of the straight hocked dog
6. Heavy, ungainly movement
9. Viewed from the front or rear, the legs converge; all footprints falling in a single line
11. High lifting of front feet, a waste of effort
12. Dog moves with his body at angle to line of travel
14. Length of forward stride taken by forelegs
16. Solid thrusting of the hindquarters
17. Hocks are insufficiently separated from each other during movement

DOWN
1. Pattern of footsteps at various rates of speed
2. Gaiting fault named for its similarity to the swing & dip of a canoeist’s paddle
3. Forefeet strike ground hard before the rear stride is expended
5. Gaiting action in which the feet cross over in front of one another
7. More angulation and drive in rear forces rear feet to step to side of front feet to avoid clipping
8. Moving both legs on the same side of the body in unison; creates a rolling motion of the body
10. Fastest gait, has period of suspension with all four feet off the ground
13. Gait in which the feet at diagonal opposite sides of the body strike the ground together
15. Gaiting pattern in which three legs are in support of the body at all times

WORD BANK:
WALK, TROT, STILTED, SINGLETRACKING, SIDEWINDING, REACH, POUNDING, PADDLING, PACING, OVERREACHING, MOVINGCLOSE, LUMBERING, HACKNEY, GALLOP, GAIT, DRIVE, CROSSINGOVER

Answers on page 43
As judges, our first determination when looking at a dog is how close he or she comes to exemplifying breed type. Is the dog well-balanced, head, neck and back? Does he have enough daylight under him to balance his length? Do the ears sit properly on the skull, is the tail set high up on the back and does the dog have sufficient butt behind it or is he “flat-assed?” Does he appear to stand properly under himself, or is he “saw-horsed” or appear high in the hindquarter? Since ours is a coated breed, looks are often deceiving and clever grooming techniques can hide a multitude of faults. If the judge is equally clever, he should be able to see beyond some of these “tricks-of-the-trade.” For example, an excessively thick neck should be a dead giveaway that the dog is longer in back than he appears. The great AKC judge, Anne Rodgers Clark, always advised neophyte judges to find those dogs displaying the most correct make and shape first. And from them, choose the soundest. And this is exactly what a prudent judge does. In other words, correct breed type has to come first and it does not matter how sound a dog may be if he does not first scream:

“I am a well made Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier!”

It is only after determining which dogs display the greatest degree of pleasing make and shape that we consider how they use themselves on the move. Obviously, front and rear views (going away and coming back) show us more action faults than does the side view. It’s easy to note cow hocks and paddling. Indeed the foundation of gait is evident in the front and rear views. But it’s the side view that shows us the correct blending of front and rear action needed for smooth and graceful passage.

“Indeed the foundation of gait is evident in the front and rear views. But it’s the side view that shows us the correct blending of front and rear action needed for smooth and graceful passage.”

The angles of the shoulder and hip joints counterbalance each other as they lift, open and shut with the swing of the legs. Sufficient angulation is what facilitates the correct length of stride while the balance between these two angles facilitates proper foot timing.

The dog will display strong thrust from the rear and spring and resilience in the front. With good angulation, he will have joints that flex easily and smoothly. The dog with poor angulation, where shoulder and hip joints are more steeply set, will take shorter steps and more of them, displaying a bouncy, often jarring gait rather than a smooth one.
It is important to remember, however, that the “correct length of stride” is not the ground covering, exaggerated “TRAD” (Tremendous Reach and Drive) that many breeders and exhibitors seem to now be striving for, with judges anxious to reward it because they erroneously feel it is correct. How often do we hear ringside, “Look at the way that dog covers ground!” Our dogs are terriers... however much one may wish to remake the breed into a working breed or a herding breed (and you may believe all the Irish lore you want about their forbears being out with the master herding his sheep) it is important to remember that this was the poor Irish farmer’s dog. And if the farmer had a couple of sheep he was lucky! Our standard calls for the Wheaten Terrier to be SQUARE. Terriers go to ground. That’s what they were bred for and it was not necessary for this breed to cover ground in long strides in order to rid the farm of vermin. Because of this penchant for producing dogs with excessive length of stride at the trot, the correct make and shape of our breed is being altered and its proportions changed. What we see in the ring today, are too many dogs that are longer than tall.

Breeders who, if not actually breeding for them, seem to be accepting longer backs or shorter legs, and sometimes both, thus destroying the very essence of the breed. I would like to see our breeders take a step back and reevaluate the importance placed on a gait that is not typical of the terrier and rededicate themselves to a correctly balanced square terrier with the reach and drive commensurate with its make and shape as dictated by the standard.

Finally, many of today’s Wheats appear to be what we judges refer to as “pieces,” rather than “of a piece.” By this we mean that they meet the standard in some areas but fall short in many others. And it is the degree to which they either meet or fall short that a judge bases his or her final decision. Since the degree of importance a judge may place on these pieces can vary, final decisions become quite subjective, often confounding the average exhibitor. It is the exhibitor that can identify a dog’s shortcomings and can internally acknowledge them that is most able to leave the ring relatively unscathed.

Credits to: DOGSTEPS - A NEW LOOK, 3RD EDITION by Rachel Page Elliott

Some Excellent Books on Structure/Movement

K9 STRUCTURE AND TERMINOLOGY
by Edward Gilbert, Jr. & Thelma Brown

CANINE TERMINOLOGY
by Harold Spira

DOG LOCOMOTION AND GAIT ANALYSIS
by Curtis Brown

DOGSTEPS - A NEW LOOK, 3RD EDITION
by Rachel Page Elliott

THE NICHOLAS GUIDE TO DOG JUDGING
by Nicholas, Anna Katherine
My association with Wheatens goes back almost 35 years, when I first met Gay Dunlap at a local handling class. Gay and I hit it off almost immediately, and through her I became friends with Marjorie Shoemaker and Penny Belviso. These three ladies and Gary Vlachos had a very big impact on my early ideas as to what constituted correct Wheaten type. I started judging Wheatens about 25 years ago, and have had the honor of judging quite a few specialties including the 50th anniversary specialty at Montgomery. For the most part I have truly enjoyed judging the breed. However, lately I have noticed two trends that, in my humble opinion, are having a negative impact on the look of the breed.

The first is outline. Your standard states under General Appearance and Size, Proportion, Substance, that the Wheaten is SQUARE in outline. That means that the distance from withers to ground and forechest to buttocks are the same. Too many of the exhibits that I have seen recently are rectangular in outline. A square, is a square, is a square no matter the size. However a rectangle can come in a variety of sizes. If this distance from withers to ground and forechest to buttocks are not the same, then the outline is rectangular and therefore not correct. Fig. A is a square. The distance from top to bottom and side to side is the same. Figs. B and C are rectangles. The distance from top to bottom and side to side are not the same.

Below is an illustration of what square is per the AKC standard and the FCI standard.

The second trend has to do with tails. With most European countries banning the docking of tails, and many more breeders importing dogs, we are seeing more and more Wheatens in the ring with natural tails. There are also more and more breeders, in this country, opting to not dock their puppies. This is a personal choice that I have no problem with. What I do have a problem with, is the disregard of what is in the standard pertaining to tails. Your standard states – Whether docked or natural, the tail is to be carried upright 90 degrees from the back, either straight or with a slight curve forward. Unfortunately, what I have seen are too many exhibits with tails that go over the back with the end of the tail touching or almost touching the back. Tails that curl and lay to one side or the other, and in a few cases lay flat on the back. To my eye these problems are totally incorrect and ruin the outline. Accepting bad tail carriage is doing no one any favors. Tough decisions are going to need to be made if the breed is to move forward.
Wheatens at the Wheel

2015 National Specialty
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America

SHOW DATES
Wed. Sept. 30 - Hatboro
Wrightstown, PA
Thurs. Oct. 1 - Morris and Essex
Somerset, NJ
Fri. Oct. 2 - Hatboro
Wrightstown, PA
Sat. Oct. 3 - Devon
Ludwigs Corner, PA
SCWT Sweeps
Blue Bell, PA
Sun. Oct. 4 - Montgomery
Blue Bell, PA

SPECIALTY FUNDRAISER
ITEMS COMING SOON!
Chrome Zinc Alloy
License Plate Frame
Collapsible Trunk Organizer
The Run for the Roses

It’s that time of year again...
Please join us for the Delaware Valley Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club Specialty weekend
May 1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 2015

* Friday: Garden State All Terrier Club
  Judge: Mr. Frank Washabaugh
  Group: Dr. H. Scott Kellogg

Saturday: Bucks County Kennel Club
Judge: Miss Jennifer A. Moore
Group: Mrs. Rosalind Kramer
Sweeps: Ms. Helen Moreland,
Kuhullen Wheatens

* Sunday: Trenton Kennel Club
  Judge: Mr. R.C. Williams
  Group: Mr. Thomas D. Parrotti

Monday: Trenton Kennel Club
Judge: Mr. Thomas D. Parrotti
Group: TBA

* Supported entry

For additional information visit
www.delvalwheatens.org
"Celebrate Good Times, Come On!"

Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater St. Louis Specialty
Celebrating 35 Years!

Friday, May 29, 2015
Purina Farms Events Center, Gray Summit, Missouri
Sweepstakes Judge: Ms Karen Mueller
Breed Judge: Mr. Geir Flyckt-Peterson

Superintendent: Foy Trent Dog Shows foytrentdogshows.com
“Start June in St. Louis” Cluster
Closing Date: Wednesday, May 13, 2015

For details, see St. Louis Club Website www.scwtcgsl.com

Weekend Shows Thursday, May 28 - Monday, June 1
Thursday Gateway Terrier Association... Judge: Mrs. Rhonda M. Davis
Saturday Mississippi Valley Kennel Club... Judge: Mr. Darren Bowey
Sunday Missouri Rhineland Kennel Club... Judge: Ms Anne M. Barlow
Monday Missouri Rhineland Kennel Club... Judge: Ms Christine Erickson
Specialty Show Date: Friday, August 14, 2015

***

Specialty Judges:
Regular Classes: Mrs. Sue Goldberg
Sweepstakes: Puppy and Veterans - Ms Carolyn Snavely

***

Luncheon and Silent Auction Friday, Aug. 14

***

Greeley Kennel Club shows Sat and Sun, Aug. 15 and 16

SCWTCA Supported Entry- Sat, Aug. 15

We’re Back!
Come Play!
Harbour Hill Revisits Rodeo Drive

CH Harbour Hill French Pastry "Biscuit" x CH Pitterpat's Blue Bayou "Luke"

Gucci, Winnie, Marcus, Giorgi & Raffe

- Harbour Hill Emerald in Ralph Lauren "Raffe"
  co-owned by Greg & Sandy Rebun
- Harbour Hill at Neiman Marcus "Marcus"
- Harbour Hill Wears Giorgio Armani "Giorgi"
- Harbour Hill Sparkles in Harry Winston "Winnie"
- Harbour Hill Gucci Gucci Goo "Gucci"
  co-owned by Joan Wright/Becky Smith

Harbour Hill

Susan K. Sakauye ssakauye@aol.com 805-967-0953
1993 “Libby”  
CH Briarlyn StarBurst  
CH Legacy Moonlit Knight x Lin Dae A STAR is Born

1995 “Hunter”  
CH Briarlyn Star Hunter’s Quest  
CH Legacy Wildwest Wild Flower x CH Briarlyn StarBurst

2011 “Sunnie”  
CH Star*Hunters Dream Girl  
CH Briarlyn Star Hunter’s Quest x CH Kaler In Your Dreams.

2011 “Olive”  
CH Star Living the Dream  
CH Bon Aquarel Icon O’Kaler x CH Star Burst in the Skye

2012 “Poppie”  
CH Kalër Star ICE ICE Baby  
CH Briarlyn Star Hunter’s Quest x CH Star Burst in the Skye

2014 “Zoe”  
CH Star Give it all you Got  
CH Briarlyn Star Hunger’s Quest x CH Star Living the Dream

Denise Daniel  
ddddddstar@comcast.net  
734-558-8442
Thank you to all who have mentored me and helped make this happen!

2014 “Marnie”
CH Star’s Just Sayin
CH Star My Dear Watson x
CH Star Hunters Dream Girl

2014
BOW
Montgomery

2014
GROUP 1
Richland County

“Be Honest - Be Kind - Help others succeed, and you will secure the future of our SCWT.”
Silver GCH, Cdn CH, Ainle Villanova Mouth of the South

GABBY

*Eukanuba winner, this photo from Greater Monroe KC

- AKC Eukanuba BOB
- First week showing after having puppies in August
- Top 10 both Breed and All Breed - Showing only half the year
- Watch for her 3 puppies in the show ring in March

Owner: Kathi Elliot
kelliott@tampabay.rr.com

Breeder: Cindy Phelps
Handler: Brian Tuel, PHA
Silver GCH, Cdn CH, Sho-well’s Bree’s Boy Toy

- AKC Eukanuba Best Veteran / First Award of Excellence
- Shown 3 times in 2014
- West Palm Beach - Veterans Group 2 and Group 1
- Atlanta Terrier Speciality - Best Veteran in Show
- Sire of Gabby

Breeder: Marilyn Stowell
Handler: Brian Tuel, PHA
I’Natl IACBA, CA CH and Gold Grand Champion
Cuilinn Expresso Con Panna

CH Rolfelan Danny Boy O’Lil’ Town x CH Chrischele Gold Digger of Padrone

- Top 10 All Breed 2012, 2013, #12 in 2014
- Top 5 Grand Champion 2012, 2013, 2014
- Number 3 All Time Grand Champion

Bred and Owned by: Holly Million - Cuilinn Wheatens, Jones, OK - cuilinnwheatens@aol.com
BRADBERRY WHEATENS

INTRODUCES MARLEY X REESE LITTERMATES
STARTING 2015 IN STYLE WITH WINS ON BOTH COASTS!

Bradberry’s Best Of My Love
‘Bo’
Wins Best in Sweeps and back to back Majors in Indio CA,
under Judges John Ramirez,
Charlotte Clem McGowan and
Breeder Judge Gary Vlachos.

Bo followed these impressive wins by finishing his Championship in spectacular fashion going Best of Breed
under Breeder Judge Gay Dunlap
at Golden Gate Kennel Club, Daly City, CA

Bradberry’s Vision Of Love
‘Mariah’
goes Best of Winners under Breeder Judge
Cindy Vogels
in Wilmington, MA

Bred By:
Deb Van De Ven
deb@bradberrywheatens.com

Bo is owned by:
David Healey & Hendry Cahaya-Healey
& Deb Van De Ven
SILVER GCH SUNDANCE SECOND CHANCE

Benny

# 14 in 2012 Breed
***
#15 in 2013 Breed
***
#9 in 2014 Breed
***
# 1 Owner-handled
SCWT 2014

Sageheathers
Sandy & Frank Russo 954-651-4504 natures@bellsouth.net
2014 NATIONAL SPECIALTY WINNER
MULTIPLE GROUP WINNER
2014 NUMBER 1 MALE WHEATEN

Bred by Carolyn Garrett  Owned by Carolyn Garrett & Jeanne Ferris  Presented by Gwen & Kent Meyer
GCH Wheaten Lane’s Sunrise Heartbreaker

CH Greentree Trinity Heart Break Kid x CH Moonstruck Rhumba Rhythm AX, OAJ, CGC

Many thanks to Beverly Wright Osment and Sandy Russo for their handling skills!

Bred by: Nancy Griffin and Helen Fraguela
Owned by: Gail and Geoff Johnston and Nancy Griffin

Sunrise Wheatens
sunrisewheatens@yahoo.com  954-818-3715
Morgan finished at 14 Months Old – Winning his second major at the Combined Specialty of Greater Milwaukee! This lad is not only handsome but sweet as sweet can be!

Special thanks to my handler Allison Sunderman and to his family (Joe and Paula) for allowing me to show this special lad!

Carol Shaltz
cshaltz@sbcglobal.net

Lil’Town Wheatens of Arndacassa
http://www.lil-townwheatens.com/
A New Children’s i-Book About a Special Wheaten

Riley is an adorable Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier convinced she will be a champion show dog. Little does she know her tummy has other plans in store! Only juicy hot dogs, Gouda cheese, and mischief can satisfy this dog’s love for adventure.

The Hungry Adventures of Riley, Hot Dog in the City, is available to download on Apple iBooks, Amazon Kindle, and Google Play ...

Visit hungryadventuresofriley.com for details.

Paradise, PA (PRWEB) January 21, 2015-- Bob Dog, a certified therapy dog, listens to Marie Johnston’s students at Paradise Elementary read every week. Last week, Bob Dog received a special treat. The lovable seven year old Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier was read a new Read Aloud illustrated eBook series starring his real life sister, Riley, in The Hungry Adventures of Riley: Hot Dog in the City.

Arielle Davies is a children’s author utilizing her experience in media, publishing, linguistics, education, and child development to create vivid digital experiences for young readers. This is Arielle’s first publication inspired by a love of travel with her favorite road trip furry partner, Riley. Riley, Banner Twist and Shout is a seven-year-old Wheatie who is lucky to have accompanied Arielle and her family on many real adventures across New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Canada. And there’s plenty more adventures to be had!
Ms. Manners: Something’s going on I don’t get.

Maybe it’s that the world in general has gone too black and white. But it seems to me in the dog world, there’s a surfeit of people who don’t see shades of grey.

When someone recently posted a hand-wringing plea in a Facebook forum that cyber-bullying is destroying the sport, I was baffled. I can’t say I see it in the online forums…discussion lists or Facebook…in which I participate. Maybe it’s our breed; we seem so uncomfortable with legitimate criticism that bashing someone isn’t on anyone’s radar screen.

So I turned to…well…Google for a definition of cyber-bulling. Duh…bullying done online. And what characterizes bullying versus an argument? Readily available information appropriately focuses mostly on kids. Certain key elements distinguish bullying from other forms of bad behavior: aggressiveness, repetition and an imbalance of power. Even a simple thesaurus check should make it clear.

Thankfully when it comes to dogs an awful lot of what I’ve heard labelled “bullying” is snark, pushy behavior, rude comments. Some is just plain pushing the envelope of competitiveness. Some is basic bad manners…but no threats, no power plays, no making someone’s life a living hell.

Here’s how I know the difference: my friend was bullied by a dog person. Relatively new to the sport, they’d gotten a dog from someone prominent in an uncommon breed…a big fish in a small pond. A casual arrangement, the dog was put into co-ownership with no contract – and while this story is about a bully, it should serve AGAIN as a reminder for the need for a contract.

As for my friend, they put the work in and it paid off; the dog turned out well and they finished him in spectacular fashion.

And here’s the big surprise: the relationship went sour. I heard a LOT about it…and my friend, to their everlasting credit, didn’t always paint themself as 100% innocent. But two things were clear: the breeder had seller’s remorse over placing a quality dog and was not happy my friend was no longer their acolyte. As things deteriorated, the breeder went on a public offensive, including claiming the dog was suspended by AKC, the breeder had no idea where the dog was and my friend was probably putting him in danger and exploiting him. This included a suggestion someone should go to my friend’s house and take the dog to “save” him. The breeder threatened lawsuits against anyone using the dog at stud. It continued for a couple of years. While obviously no one seized my friend’s dog, the episode was devastating. Because of the breeder’s position, my friend felt they were doomed in the sport, which fortunately did not turn out to be the case.


It doesn’t require much experience to know comparable episodes have occurred in the dog world. And, of course, the internet makes it all too easy for any incident to develop a life of its own, independent of fact, to say nothing of right and wrong. Stories spread quickly by those who gain courage behind a computer screen; in the words of a favorite New Yorker cartoon, “On the internet, no one knows you’re a dog.”

But here’s an example that’s often cited as bullying: a clique standing ringside loudly badmouthing the entry. Me…I don’t see that as bullying. Of course, I’m the person who gags when someone says if there’s ringside applause for one dog, then people should applaud everyone. So maybe the ringside loudmouths have bad manners. But no one is threatening the judge for putting up the dogs or someone for breeding to them or to bring them up on club or AKC charges.

To some, this may be semantics…it’s all people behaving badly so why allow it?

To me, distinguishing the line between bullying and criticism is important. No one should have any problem saying my friend’s breeder was on one side of the line and a frank dog evaluation is on the other. But suggesting rudeness and bad manners are the equivalent of bullying diminishes the dangers of the latter. If all bad behavior is the same, then none of it is bad…and the real bullies continue on their merry way.

Too often any criticism is deemed mean and bullying…ask anyone observing a Little League game how widespread this attitude is.
I've heard judges deemed terrible for withholding a ribbon. I've heard people characterize statements based on how they are stated rather than what is said. I've heard advice on the need for improved grooming or handling cited as awful, arrogant behavior. I've seen these characterizations change, depending on whether the speaker likes the "offender" or not.

It should hardly be news I think we should be having all the difficult conversations about temperament, health and breed type, and so on. These are conversations some people don’t like. Just because the topic makes you squirm doesn’t mean it shouldn’t be brought up. Some would rather say “oh, how pretty” about a dog on Facebook who really isn’t. But that, too, takes us down the same path as labeling rude dog show behavior as bullying: we ignore what needs to be fixed by hesitating to speak the truth.

That demonstrates the chilling effects on both sides of the line between real abuse and sharp criticism. It can be a difficult line to walk but this Devil’s Advocate believes it’s worth the effort. Nasty, vicious attacks and harassment will silence people. But so will an insistence on the tired cliché about disagreeing without being disagreeable. I could make the argument that insisting we all act with a specific type of decorum is itself a form of bullying. I could argue that all those Facebook “likes” are dangerous to breeding quality dogs.

Showing and breeding dogs doesn’t require Downton Abbey manners. It calls for being honest about the dogs. It calls for managing our egos: it’s not “personal” when someone criticizes your dogs or disagrees with your opinions or takes their breeding program in a different direction or beats you in the ring.

In the end, I don’t think it’s that hard a line to navigate… provided we all remember to focus on the dogs, not the people.

---

**SCWTCA 2015 Calendar**

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All proceeds from sales go to support Wheaten Health
Advice for Dog Students and Mentors

There are things that should be addressed at the onset of a mentoring "marriage" from the perspective of the student and the mentor.

Perhaps you've found a mentor who has agreed to take you under his or her wing, and if so, congratulations! You would be mistaken, however, if you think the hard part is over. While relationships tend to become more authentic with time, a mentoring partnership is unlike any other and requires a bit more effort to grow organically. Each party must understand the expectations of the other for a productive outcome to be realized, and to that end, a frank conversation is in order to avoid misunderstandings. A student should express his or her goals, and an honest discussion has to occur not only about how to recognize when those goals have been met, but how to know when it's time for the relationship to evolve beyond a schooling level. There are instances, however, when what seemed like a good idea at the time just doesn't work out. Sometimes the person thought to be great mentor material is very knowledgeable but simply can't teach. Other times, two people just aren't compatible. On those occasions, it's best to concede early on that ending the affiliation is best for all concerned. If, however, the future looks promising, there are things that should be addressed at the onset of a mentoring "marriage" from the perspective of the student:

- **Trust is crucial**, and it's earned with discretion. In as much as a student reveals his or her lack of knowledge and experience to a mentor, a mentor exposes him or herself just as much by sharing secrets such as breeding plans, faults in his or her own dogs, and grooming, nutrition and conditioning tips. As I see it, as long as activities aren't illegal or inhumane, a mentor's business should remain confidential for the duration of the relationship with a student, if not longer. To act otherwise is not only ethically borderline but also foolish. Revealing confidences never ends well.

- **Realize your role** as a student. Admit what you don't know, be receptive to a different way of doing something, and remain open to suggestions on how to improve yourself and your dogs. No one likes to appear ignorant, but remember that it was you who sought a mentor because you wanted to learn, not to show off how much you already know. This is tough enough between two adults, but when one adult has years of experience and the other is still wet behind the ears, it's easier said than done. Remind yourself that it's OK to say, "I don't know."

- **There are no "mentor police,"** and your relationship is largely what you make it. That said, it's wise to remember that your mentor isn't your mother, your shrink, your personal cheerleader or even your new best friend. A good mentor doesn't need to be liked, and as such, the mentor's job is to focus on increasing your knowledge and giving you the benefit of his or her experience.

- **Don't burden your mentor** with personal problems unless you've been invited to share them, and even then it's probably best to keep them to yourself until (if ever) the relationship grows into something more personal. The burden of a good learning experience is on you, the student, because you have the most to gain. Being positive and receptive to learn can only encourage a mentor to give more of his or her time, but if you whine about grievances or perceived slights by people in your breed, guess what will happen.

- **Speaking of time, don't waste it.** If you promised your mentor that you're going to be somewhere, be there. If you've agreed to have a dog ready for the ring, have it ready. Turn off your phone, tune out your problems, turn a deaf ear to the competition and pay attention to the person giving you his or her time. As the old country and western tune goes, "Dance with the one that brung ya."

- **Never put your mentor** in a difficult position ethically or legally by asking him or her to keep a
Before you are a leader, success is about growing yourself. When you become a leader, success is all about growing others.

- Jack Welch

secret he or she would be obligated to divulge at an AKC committee hearing or even in a court of law.

- Remember that while mentors are often older, wiser and more experienced, none are perfect. Don’t fall into the trap of not recognizing bad advice for what it is just because it came from a mentor, or having unrealistic expectations that a mentor’s connections will fast track you to rosettes. Right about now, it might not hurt to offer mentors a few reminders, as well:

  • Inexperience isn’t the same as stupidity, and a little respect can go a long way with a student, especially in the early days.

  • A good mentor doesn’t force opinions on a student but helps the student form his or her own. A true dog person never stops learning and doesn’t discriminate based on the source of knowledge.

  • Your pupil isn’t in your life to make you feel better about yourself, provide point fodder for your dogs or deflect criticisms from your detractors.

  • At some point, the pupil will “grow up” and spread his or her wings. The student will have developed his or her own eye and be on more equal footing with the teacher. To some mentors, this can feel like rejection. Remember that from the beginning, this independence was always the desired outcome. Be proud of yourself and regard your student’s growth as “mission accomplished.”

  • Chances are that your pupil has the same breed as you and will likely become a competitor, maybe even one who beats you in the show ring. If this becomes the case, step up to the maturity plate by having the dignity to admit a loss, congratulate the winner and relinquish control over someone who once sought your wisdom.

None of us live forever. If we truly love our breed and the show fancy, we will help the next generation perpetuate both.

### Specific tips for mentees who truly want to become independent and achieve their own success:

These practical strategies can help mentees build a strong cohesive relationship with their mentors:

Remember that you own your development, your mentor doesn’t. You’re in charge of identifying objectives in order to achieve your own success.

• A positive attitude, active listening skills, and a willingness to be mentored will keep the relationship moving forward.

• Be prepared to ask for specific advice, based on your skill set and goals.

• Accept guidance and criticism graciously.

• Have the courage to try new things, and learn from mistakes.

• Be open, honest, and grateful. Watch, learn, and grow. Make it easy for your mentor to give you specific feedback. Ask for it early in your relationship.

* Qualities of a good mentee from: Worldbank.org

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From Susan McGee on Winning Breed at Westminster

“A once in a lifetime experience.... I want to thank my mentors who have patiently guided me over the years to develop and expand my grooming and handling skills. Bonnie Kanter of Butler MO has generously shared her time and grooming talents since 1996 allowing me to watch and video numerous hours of grooming sessions. Elaine Azerolo of Warrenton MO shared uncountable hours of her grooming expertise and guided me on improving my handling skills. Elena Landa trusted me with a Doubloon bitch that produced this typey boy...making the long trip to evaluate the litter of two pups, declaring at 9 weeks that Race had the quality to "special". Elena let me assist her at shows allowing me to observe her beautiful grooming and to ask lots of questions! And thanks to Jinx for her positive cheerufl support! And to numerous others that have provided excellent tips and encouragement along the way. I continue to learn!!”
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<td>Saddlebrooke’s Cubs On Base CD</td>
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<td>Saddlebrooke’s Winning Colors CD RN</td>
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<td>Serenity Valley’s Golden Miss GCC</td>
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<td>Shamus Orelly Passmore CD BN RN CGC</td>
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<td>MACH PACH Trebol Labour Of Love CD RAE MXB2 MG2 MGX6 MXPS MXPS</td>
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<td>O’Mannion Start Me Up</td>
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<td>Ch Acacia’s Some Like It Hot VCD2 RAE MXP MJF NFP</td>
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<td>By-Jobe’s Cinnamon And Spice</td>
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<td>Ch Star Hunters Dream Girl</td>
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<td>Star Is Shining On Lucy</td>
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<td>Ch Star Hunters Dream Girl</td>
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<td>Ch Stratford Top ‘O The Mornin’</td>
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Official publication of the SCWTCA, Inc, volume 43, number 1, March 2015
In the book “Positive Training for Show Dogs” author Vicki Ronchette (Dogwise) an AKC licensed Dachshund and Basset Hound Field Trial Judge, who has bred and finished many Dachshund championships and field championships, provides an easy-to-fallow program for preparing show dogs for competition. Ronchette wrote the book after noting that dog shows didn’t appear to be fun for many of the dogs or their handlers. “I see frightened and shy dogs forced to deal with it,” she states, “the tension can be overwhelming. Show dogs must enjoy showing in order to be successful. That is why we must teach them, not force them-to enjoy what we want them to do.”

The concept of starting off positively for show and beyond is popular with many Wheaten Terrier breeders too. Breeder, Professional Trainer, Agility and Obedience competitor Betsy Geertson teaches her puppies to “free” stack in preparation for their day in the show ring with her handler and partner, Willie Rueda. “The technique transfers over easily,” says Geertson, “and in a week it can be taught using a clicker, positive reinforcement and encouragement, and a handful of treats. They are way trainable,” said Geertson. She also remarked that they have the intelligence to distinguish purpose, settings and equipment. Kathy Clarke, another positive advocate begins stacking as early as 4 to 6 weeks when the brains start functioning. “It helps at the vets office too,” she says. Clark has been involved in Wheaten for more than 35 years and besides the show ring is active in agility. “There is a fine line between being overbearing and manhandling” she says and notes that Wheatens can be a bit more cautious than other terrier breeds, varying in drive but willing to work if there is an element of fun, the task is non-repetitive, and has a reward (preferably food) at the end.

Combining the use of the clicker with a “leadership approach” of training where all rewards including praise, food/treats and play are earned, creates a strong foundation for communication and attention.

Wheaten Terriers according to Kathy Clarke, learn best when they are convinced that an activity is going to be fun, and they are fooled into thinking the task was their idea. “If you believe it is possible, the dog believes back,” she states. But believing in the intelligence of Wheatens is something that often veterinarians, trainers and groomers will not buy into. “I don’t find them to be stubborn,” says Geertson, “some are independent but others are not. And it’s not like it takes hours to teach a Wheaten to stack properly.”

Canadian breeder, Sylvia Hamilton notes that when she evaluates puppies for show, she prefers those that stand correctly on their own. “If they don’t do this naturally, I wouldn’t attempt to train it.” In baby puppy classes starting at 8 weeks, where there are people and other puppies, you reinforce the behaviors that you want. When they do something spectacular, like standing four-square, you say “Yes” and they are praised and get a little treat. When they walk properly and on their own and stand correctly we reward them, capturing what they are doing right.”

And yes, it is possible to jump from the show ring to the performance ring with a foundation built positively, based on understanding, patience and mutual respect. Wheaten Terriers are indeed smart, trainable and highly versatile and the key is to assess and bring out the best that lies within.

Dorice Stancher, MBA, CPDT-KA is a professional writer and the recipient of the 2013 DWAA AKC CGC Award for Journalism; Krista, Can. Ch. Holweit’s Red Grenadine, CGCA, RN (CKC, AKC), HI, THD enjoy skijoring, dogsledding, surfing, kayaking and paddle boarding together.

Photo: “Krista” earned a BOS at the SCWTAC Canada Specialty and a first in Rally Novice 15 minutes afterward. Positive training creates opportunity for versatility.
## 2015 SCWT Specialty Schedule

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<th>Club</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Breed</th>
<th>Judges</th>
<th>Show Date</th>
<th>Close Date</th>
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<td>SCWTC of Greater St. Louis</td>
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<td>SCWTC of Southern California</td>
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<tr>
<td>SCWTC of Southern California</td>
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<td>SCWTC of Greater Milwaukee</td>
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<td>SCWTCA</td>
<td>Blue Bell, PA</td>
<td>Candy Way</td>
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### 5 days all breed shows
### 5 days of majors
### June 24-28, 2015

SCWTCA Supported Entry: Saturday, June 27

**Judging Assignments**

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If you even think you may go, please make reservations. This is a big show and rooms fill up fast, especially these hotels as pet fees are waived.
Four New AKC Approved Breeds

When was the last time you went to a dog show and saw a breed you did not recognize? It happens to me all the time. Since it peaks my curiosity, I thought it might peak yours as well...so, here is some information from the AKC on new breeds that gained AKC acceptance this year. Including them, there are 184 AKC-recognized breeds.

The Cirneco dell’Etna
(cheer-NAY-koh-dehl-eht-nah)
Hound Group

The Italian hunter has keen senses of smell, sight and hearing. The AKC says these smart, curious, affectionate dogs need moderate exercise and, thanks to their short coats, don't need much in the way of grooming. It is a small dog that has been in Sicily for over 2,500 years. It hunts small animals and fowl, and excels in tough conditions like high heat, rugged terrain, and with little food or water.

The Curly-Coated Spanish Water Dog
Herding Group

The Spanish Water Dog is an ancient breed of dog with its earliest ancestor dating back to the Iberian Peninsula in 1110 AD and some of these dogs can still be found working in the mountains of southern Andalusia herding cattle, pigs, goats, and sheep. They are extremely athletic and lively, plus very loyal to their family. Originally bred as a well-rounded farm dog that could herd, hunt and even help fishermen. These high-intelligence, high-energy dogs are protective of their owners, and, despite their curls, don’t need extensive grooming beyond an annual clipping.

The Bergamasco
Herding group

Also joining the Herding group is the Bergamasco, which is distinctive for its coat of long mats. The athletic, social and smart dog from Italy has a work history as a livestock guardian. It has ancestry from Iran, and primarily worked as a livestock guardian for shepherds. They’re highly intelligent and sociable, but primarily known for their thickly matted fur that contains “dog hair,” “goat hair,” and “wool.” Though it may look high maintenance, the coat only needs 1-3 baths per year and no brushing after it “sets” at age 1.

The Boerboel
(BUHR'-buhl)
Working group

The Boerboel was a farm dog for pioneers in South Africa since the seventieth century. They’re a confident breed of dog that is calm and loyal with its owner, but extremely protective (they used to guard against predators and would hold down wounded game). The large, mastiff-type breed is probably not the best dog for first-time dog owners, the AKC says. But that doesn’t mean it isn’t a great and loyal companion and guard dog. Prospective owners will need to give them daily exercise, with not much grooming needed.
**Eukanuba National Dog Show**

Dec 14, 2014 Orlando, FL
Judge: Mrs. Lorraine Boutwell

Best of Breed: GCH CH Ainle Villanova Mouth Of The South CGC
Best of Winners: Sundance Seamrog "Wearin' O' The Green"
Best of Opposite Sex: GCH CH Lochlinear Gleanngay Cha Ching
Winners Dog: Haldane Return Of The King
Winners Bitch: Sundance Seamrog "Wearin' O' The Green"
Select Dog: CH O’Lorcan’s Mystery Writer
Select Bitch: GCH CH Shandalee Fireworks
1st Award of Excellence: GCH CH Sho-Well’s Bree’s Boy Toy CGC
2nd Award of Excellence: GCH CH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising
3rd Award of Excellence: GCH CH Sundance’s Hot Surfer Dude
4th Award of Excellence: CH Avalyn’s Bearenstain Bear

Best in Show went to Charlie, the Skye Terrier.

**2014 AKC Agility Invitational Results**

By: Bill Space

The 2014 AKC Agility Invitational, part of the massive AKC/Eukanuba weekend at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL, is in the books. Five SCWT teams accepted the coveted AKC Invitation to compete against the top five dogs from all AKC recognized breeds at their given jump heights. The five SCWT teams representing the breed included Doogan/Bill Space, Dillon/Bill Nelson, Pretzel/Beth Abate, Riley/Susie Blackledge, and Daisy/Doug Spreen.

All of the SCWT teams competing represented the breed well. Pretzel, a 16” jump height dog, handled by Beth Abate, was awarded the SCWTCA sponsored Medallion as the top performing SCWT at the Invitational. Pretzel scored a perfect 400 and cumulative time of 139.932, good for 16th place out of 130 dogs, just missing a spot in the 16” Finals. The other 16” SCWT, Daisy, handled by Doug Spreen, was absent due to a back problem that Doug was dealing with recently.

Doogan, handled by Becky O’Sell for Bill Space (hip issue), scored a 395 and time of 138.164, good for 30th place in a field of 100 in the 20” class. Riley, handled by Susie Blackledge, scored a 390 and time of 159.895, for 47th place in the 20” class. Dillon, handled by Bill Nelson, scored 385 and a time of 125.915, for 51st place in the 20” class.

The SCWT agility athletes represented the breed well, with talent, speed, grace, and class. All SCWT teams wish to thank the SCWTCA for continuing to sponsor the breed Medallion and for your commitment to the performance SCWTs.
Posey (Orion Trebol Hot House Flower CDX BN NA OAJ) qualified to participate at the Open level of competition obedience at the 2nd annual AKC Obedience Classic in Orlando, Florida this past December. So, in mid-December, my husband, Jim, Posey and I drove down to Orlando. 4,177 dogs attended this event, participating in the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship, the AKC Agility Invitational, the AKC Obedience Classic, the AKC Juniors Classic, NADD/AKC Diving Dogs Competition, the AKC Meet the Breeds and much more. It was an honor and a thrill to be there! Because there has not been a SCWT in the Obedience Classic for some time, it was a perfect opportunity for Posey to be an ambassador for our breed. She did her job well! When not trialing, we walked around the huge convention center where many people wanted to meet Posey and ask us questions about Wheatens. Posey was a perfectly behaved girl, always happy to interact. And Jim and I were happy to tout the versatility and wonderful traits of our breed. An added bonus for us was meeting Wheaten friends with dogs showing in Conformation and Agility.

A little background on Posey – she is a fun and spunky girl at almost five years old and is the third of four Wheatens who have joined our family. We are active in competition obedience and agility and have participated in K9 Nosework and pet therapy. Two years ago, Posey contracted pseudomonas (an antibiotic resistant super bug) in her bloodstream. After being hospitalized for over two weeks, she recovered and after several months of recuperation we were able to make our way back to our various activities.

I am so lucky to have this enthusiastic girl as my teammate. Whatever we are doing, she loves the game. She is sweet with all living creatures and is a joy to have in our lives.

We came home from the Classic with a huge medallion for Highest Scoring Wheaten (actually, she was the only Wheaten in Obedience). My hope is that our experience will inspire other Wheaten owners to try some performance sports with their dogs because Wheatens can definitely do it all.

Test Your Wheaten IQ ...

1. Elbows tied, toeing out  B
2. Moving close, crossing over (front)  A
3. Open hocks  G
4. Elbows out, weaving  C
5. Correct straight front  D
6. Cow hocked  H
7. Moving close, crossing over (rear)  F
8. Correct straight rear  E

Word Match

Crossword

Author: Unknown
The Westminster Dog Show is one of the largest and most prestigious canine conformation events in the United States, and one of the only benched shows remaining. The first Westminster was held on May 8, 1877, making it the second-longest continuously held sporting event in the U.S. behind only the Kentucky Derby. Westminster remains an amazing and grandiose spectacle in the dog world. This was the 139th Annual Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, the 2nd Annual Masters Agility Championships, and the now the annual Meet the Breeds event. This year Best in Show went to “Miss P” a 15 inch Beagle.

**MASTERS AGILITY CHAMPIONSHIP**

This event was held on Saturday February 14, at Pier 94 in New York City. Agility is a sport that appeals to all dog lovers and is designed to demonstrate a dog's willingness to work with its handler in a variety of situations. It is an athletic event that requires conditioning, concentration, training, and teamwork - as dogs and handlers negotiate an obstacle course racing against the clock. This year’s event featured some of the most highly skilled dogs in the agility world today, open to dogs eligible to compete at the Master level only. Dogs must have MX, MJX, MXP, or MJP titles. A five year old border collie named Tex, jumped, wove and ran to a win Saturday at the Westminster agility contest. Tex beat a field of 330 in a fast-growing element of the nation’s premiere canine show.

**MEET THE BREEDS**

The AKC’s popular hands-on event was also held on Saturday at Pier 92. It offered attendees the chance to meet and play with hundreds of different dog breeds, all while learning about responsible pet ownership and determining what breed is right for their lifestyle. Each breed was highlighted in elaborate booths depicting an aspect of the breed’s history.
SCWTCA MTB BOOTH

Neither biting cold nor the threat of an impending snowstorm could deter our hardy Wheaten participants nor the many thousands of spectators who came to learn about our wonderful breed. SCWTCA members Florence Asher, Denise Cronin-Kerby, myself, Dorice Stancher and their beautiful girls, plus returning Wheaten ambassadors "Katie", and "Seamus" and our newest participants, "Wheatley" and "Bojangles" and their families did our breed proud. Greeting young and old with Wheaten kisses and wagging tails, the dogs were a huge hit with the crowd as we all patiently answered the many questions from a very interested audience.

Our booth looked amazing, thanks to Dorice's many artistic talents. Our Wheaten sign drew a lot of attention, adorned with glittering letters reading "Heart of Gold", a theme Dorice developed based on the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Book “Coat of Honey, Heart of Gold,” by Roberta A. Vesley.

The backdrop had a lovely Claddagh, the table had green pots with gold coins and bracelets plus Valentine's hearts for the children. We all dressed in black and sported purple "Wheaten Ambassador" sashes Dorice made, and the result was that our booth won 3rd in the Terrier Group!! The breed information brochures and handouts were very well received. Many people asked for a list of breeders -- something to consider for future MTB booths. The dogs loved the attention, and though exhausted, all agreed it was well worth the effort!

Sue Goldberg

MY EXPERIENCE AS A FIRST TIME MTB BOOTH WORKER  (Elena Zweifach)

Approximately 20,000 people assembled in Pier 92, alongside the frozen Hudson River to "Meet The Breeds". I had the distinct honor and pleasure of having my thirteen month old Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, Mr. Bojangles, along with several other beautiful dogs, there to represent the breed. Our booth, beautifully decorated by Dorice Stancher and Sue Goldberg won Third Place.

The purpose of the event is primarily educational, designed to encourage and stress the importance of getting a purebred dog from a reputable breeder. And, offering the opportunity to thoroughly research which breed is right for you. That is the beauty of this event...being able to get up close and personal with each dog, and talk in depth with breeders and owners. I discovered that the people who stopped at our booth not only asked intelligent questions, but were captivated by the breed, some coming back two or three times! Exhausting, exhilarating, fun and a fabulous prelude to Westminster is what "Meet The Breeds" is all about.

Sue Goldberg
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The link to Benchmarks online is sent to all AKC approved/provisional SCWT judges. Benchmarks is sent to all judges requesting a subscription, free of charge.

Articles and letters closing date for June, 2015 issue: May 1

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Center fold 2 page spread/color: $200
Page size is 8.5 x 11 inches
Ads may be sent via email attachments, photos 300 dpi (300 kb), jpeg format. Original photos sent to Editor, 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, 2015 issue: May 1**

Send advertising to Helen Fraguela, at fraguela@aol.com or via mail to 7221 W. Cypresshead Dr. Parkland, FL 33067. If sent by overnight service, sign “signature waiver” (so driver will leave package). If you have copy submitted by due date, draft layouts will be sent to you for edits. Include email address for quick turnaround. Payment sent to the editor, payable to SCWTCA.

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