Snowflakes That Fall on my Nose and Eyelashes!

Happy Holidays to all!
Merry Christmas from our own gift-giving Santas!

Top row, right to left:
1. CH Cuilinn Leaving on a Jet Plane
2. Int’l CAN US Gold GCH Cuilinn Expresso Con Panna
3. Cuilinn Tyrconnell
4. CH Haldane Minsmeer Sunseeker

Bottom row, right to left:
5. CH Cuilinn X Marks the Spot
6. CH Haldan Blues Traveler
7. Haldane Keeper of the Winds
8. CH Haldane Double Down

Haldane Wheatens
Tim Smith
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About The Cover

This adorable photo, taken by Christine Dore-Brown and Doug Brown, captures Fiona and Gus enjoying some chilly holiday snow flurries.

“The Devil is still recovering from MKC and is taking a break this issue... will return in 2016”
From our new President

Was it going to be another “MUD-gomery?” That was the big question as our specialty week of activities began! Terrier people are a hardy group, and not even the rain and cold weather deterred exhibitors and spectators from attending the shows and performance events leading up to the National Specialty. This year, with Morris & Essex on Thursday, the week began with Hatboro on Wednesday. Unfortunately, all the rain leading up to the weekend forced the cancellation of the Devon show on Saturday. Though with no show conflicts on Saturday, we had a terrific group of spectators to watch Pam Mandeville judge Puppy Sweepstakes. By the time Sweeps began, the rain stopped, so we had perfect, chilly “Wheaten Weather!” This great weather held for Sunday when breeder/judge Candy Way judged a wonderful entry for the National Specialty.

Specialty coordinators Mary Ann Curtis and Julie Burdick planned a fabulous weekend of festivities beginning with the Education Seminar on Thursday evening. Our annual dinner meeting was well attended, and each guest received a special gift designed by our coordinators. A highlight each year is the Awards presentation following our dinner. Many thanks to Josh Burdick for putting together our visual presentations and for being our photographer extraordinaire!

The 2015 AKC Sportsmanship Award was presented to Susan Ratliffe for exemplifying all that good sportsmanship entails. Betsy Geertson was presented with the Jan Linscheid Award this year. Betsy successfully puts her heart along with a lot of hard work into our performance events each year. Lise Morgan and her dog Beau received the Wheaten Ambassador Award for their work with troubled students. This year brought the establishment of a new award, the SCWTCA Lifetime Achievement Award, only to be given when extraordinary contributions to the breed and the club merit it. Our first honoree is Mrs. Jackie Gottlieb, Andover Wheatens. Jackie’s contributions to the breed are well-known, especially her dedication to health research for issues affecting our Wheatens. Please read more about these outstanding ladies in this issue of Benchmarks along with all the highlights of the Specialty week!

In April 2016, the Roving National Specialty heads to California. Our host will be the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Northern California. The Roving will lead off the weekend on Thursday April 14th, followed by the SCWTCNC Specialty on Friday and the Sacramento Kennel Club shows on Saturday and Sunday. The show venue and the hospitality of the SCWTCNC are not to be missed! I have attended this show since its inaugural Specialty and encourage everyone to attend!

We expressed our gratitude to President Gary Vlachos as his term on the Board came to an end October 2nd. The Board of Directors thanked Gary for his many years of dedication to the breed and the club! The 2015-2016 term brings new responsibilities for some current board members. In addition to my move to President, Mary Ann Curtis will assume the Treasurer’s position as our current treasurer, Pat Mullin moves to Director. We are also very happy to welcome longtime breeder and SCWTCA member, Sue Goldberg, to the Board as a director. Thank you for your support, and I know I speak for all the entire Board when I promise we will do our best to be guardians of the breed and the club, worthy of your trust.

Cecily Skinner

“Once you have had a wonderful dog, a life without one, is a life diminished.”
Dean Koontz, author
From the Editors

Sincere thanks to Gary Vlachos for his years of dedicated service and guidance to our club and its members.

And huge congratulations to our new board and new president, Cecily Skinner. We look forward to working with the new team.

Molly, Deb and I want to thank you all for your kind and supportive comments about September Benchmarks. I believe we are on the right track and appreciate the feedback—positive as well as (constructive) criticism.

I expected to be writing this based on my first-hand experience at Montgomery. Unfortunately, Hurricane Joaquin had other plans for me. So my following of events was through real time texts, calls from friends and the SCWTCA website. What a terrible disappointment, but thank goodness for technology!

So, we leave it to others to describe the events…While the weather presented a typical crazy Montgomery week, I understand all of our club activities were top-notch and well-attended.

This issue is primarily devoted to our specialties. We have kept the Wheaten IQ, WHN, and several other items brief in order to cover all the important wins and events during the Specialty weekend, plus catching up on Greater Milwaukee, Greater Denver, and Del Val (Weekend at a Glance). And, guess what...no quiz!

Please enjoy!

Helen Fraguela

When Helen and I decided to add a feature article aimed at Breeder Education and launched the Wheaten IQ series a year ago, we had no idea how well it would be received. It seems that both new and experienced breeders alike enjoy a lesson or refresher course on all things Wheaten. When we began last year, we first reviewed those critical elements of breed type, with topics including Head, Structure as it relates to Movement, Coat, and Attitude. Last month we wrapped up that series with a focus on Essence of Type, reviewing and challenging you to discern correct type using outline, head, and movement as the subject matter. This month we offer a discussion and a few suggestions on grooming to make the most of your dog’s best attributes, and how to downplay those features where his structure might be slightly less than ideal.

Next month we plan to take an entirely new direction with an emphasis in the Wheaten Health News section, as well as Wheaten IQ, with articles focused on breeding. In Wheaten IQ, we plan to challenge your thought process on stud dog selection. I know some of you are already thinking of the many sides of this debate... let's see there are so many considerations, pedigrees, phenotype, matador sires, DNA markers, outcross vs. line breeding, American vs. European, and on and on. Let’s face it, opinions run the gamut, but why not at least try to find some common ground? The one thing we all share is the desire to create the breeding combination that will produce the perfect dog... so we may not all agree on the journey, but we do all share the same goal in our destination.

Deb Van De Ven
Welcome New Board Member, Sue Goldberg

Sue has been involved with Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers since 1968 when she saw one at her vet’s office on Long Island, the hub of Wheatendom at the time. Although she, husband, Harvey, and their two young sons already had a Miniature Poodle, Sue was eager to add a second dog to the household. Before acquiring their first Wheaten, Sue studied the breed in Miscellaneous classes at shows; joined the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America and the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Metropolitan New York; attended that club’s very first match show in Rockville Centre, Long Island; and visited breeders and their litters.

Audrey Weintraub of Legenderry Wheatens, whose first litter Sue had visited, bred her Tamara of Balitara “Deirdre” to Jackie Gottlieb’s young dog, Stephen Dedalus of Andover, “Sweeney”. Thus, in early 1971, two and a half years after beginning her quest, Sue brought home pick of the litter, Legenderry’s Iollann the Fair “Kerri.” In 1976, “Sweeney” was bred to Deirdre’s daughter, Legenderry’s Ainlee, and so Legendary Shandalee Show-Off “Windy” was added to the Goldberg household, followed due to fortuitous circumstances, by Hogan of Hopping Brook. It is from this triumvirate that all the Wheatens of Shandalee descend.

Shandalee has produced 70 Champions to date - most of whom Sue finished breeder - owner - handled from Bred By, plus numerous specialty and group winners; the # 1 Wheaten male 2012, Group winning GCH. Shandalee Rocket Science “Max”; and the # 2 Wheaten in 2013 and 2014, GCH. Shandalee Fireworks “Moxxy”, also a multiple Group and a Best in Show winner. Their spunky 11 1/2 year old mother, Ch.Shandalee Rocket Fire “Roxie” still rules the roost at the Goldberg house.

“Kerri” and “Hogan” plus Ch.Shandalee Star-Studded “Mikey”, who Sue co-owned with longtime SCWTCA member, Naomi Waxman, became three of the top producers in the breed. Shandalee Wheaten, through their talented and dedicated co-owners, have earned titles in obedience, canine good citizenship, agility, and herding. Several are certified therapy dogs.

Ch.Shandalee Daredevil “Jeter,” the most titled Shandalee Wheaten ever, is co-owned with SCWTCA member, Suzanne Stone, and won the Canine Ambassador of the Year award several years back. Sue is a breeder, exhibitor, steward, and judge, active in SCWTCA since before Wheaten were recognized; past President, Vice President, and Secretary of the now defunct SCWTC of Metropolitan New York; charter member and past President of the Garden State All Terrier Club; and with Harvey, is a member of the Somerset Hills, Morris and Essex, and Palm Beach Kennel Clubs. Sue is also a member of the Lewiston-Auburn Kennel Club in Maine, since 1988 serving as their Delegate to the American Kennel Club and has served on the Delegate Dog Show Rules Committee almost since its inception.

For the SCWTCA, Sue has served on various committees including the Standard Revision Committee that wrote the breed standard that, with slight modification, is still in effect today. She introduced and chaired the Public Information committee, and currently serves on the Code of Ethics committee. She also co-authored the original Owner’s Manual of the SCWTCA, plus numerous articles in various dog publications and has co-chaired the Wheaten booth at the last three Meet the Breeds in New York City. She has taught Wheaten grooming at grooming seminars as well as at Intergroom, and has been a keynote speaker at numerous seminars around the country.

She has judged all breeds internationally in China and Japan; judged Wheatens at Regional and National Specialties in the US, Canada and Sweden, plus numerous other Terrier, Sporting and Non-Sporting breed Regional and National Specialties.

Sue is currently approved to judge all Terriers, all Sporting and Non-Sporting breeds and groups, Petit Basset Griffon Vendeens, as well as Junior Showmanship and Best In Show. She championed and ran the hugely popular PeeWee class which debuted at Somerset Hills Kennel Club in September. She enjoys mentoring people new to the sport and sharing her Wheaten stories from the early days.

In her other life, Sue is an Executive Recruiter, placing senior level executives with corporate clients ranging from not-for-profits to Fortune 500 companies. In her spare time, Sue is devoted to her junior high school sweetheart, traveling companion and husband of 51 years, Harvey, their two fabulous sons and daughters-in-law, and seven beautiful and amazing grandchildren.
Welcome New Members

I didn’t grow up with dogs in our family, so as soon as my husband Michael and I were married in 1982, I embarked on a campaign for us to bring a dog home! It took almost two years to convince him we should get a dog, and after lots of research we decided we wanted a “medium-sized dog that doesn’t shed.” The Wheaten Terrier seemed to fit the bill. A friend at work referred us to Beverly McDonald, and in 1984 we brought home our first Wheaten, Greentree Champagne Charlie. Charlie had us at the first wag!

We brought home our second Wheaten, Greentree Wild Irish Rose (Corky), as a companion for our son Greg when he was seven years old. She was a beautiful girl with a soft, wavy coat. Around this time, Bev had started to introduce European imports into her breeding program to open up and enhance the breeding lines. She explained to us that this puppy was important to her breeding program, and that she would want Corky to be bred. Of course we agreed, though at the time, we had no idea what we were getting into or where this would lead us. Corky was a loving member of our family and her important contribution to the Greentree breeding line was CH Greentree Clover Ginger Rose (Ginger) and Greentree Preakness Clover (Princess), who produced so many wonderful dogs. And with Ginger, I took my first steps in the show ring!

So here we are, several dogs and a few litters later. We love all our Wheatens, and we appreciate how much our lives have been enriched through our involvement with the breed. I love the competition of dog shows, but just as important to me is spending time with the wonderful friends and fellow breeders I have met along the way. When I first stepped into the show ring in 2004, completely naive, I had no idea how much I would learn or the lifelong bonds of friendship and support that would come from this hobby. These ‘medium-sized, non-shedding dogs have brought immeasurable gifts to our lives and we can’t imagine life without them.

I am also an active member of, and Recording Secretary for the Delaware Valley Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club. By becoming a member of the National club I hope to expand my network of breeders and friends and learn more about breeding, obedience, and Wheatens as therapy dogs. By: Liz Jamiolkowski

Welcome New Open Registry Members

Nov 1, 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.

Rory & Helen Johnstone
Salena McCloud
Sandy Sattoon
Dina Melendez
Michelle (Shelly) Serafin
Cynthia Smith
Philip & Janet Snoddy
Jackie & George Strashnoy

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.
Remembering Sheila O’Connell

Sheila O’Connell was an active member of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America since 1994. She was very dedicated to the breed, and she and her friend and co-bredrer Penelope (Penny) Smith bred and showed many Wheatens through the years. When Sheila showed her Wheats in the ring, she always had a smile on her face as she looked on lovingly at her show dogs. Sheila and Penny’s most recent winning specials bitch is GCH CH. Galen’s Winter’s Tale “Glynnis.” Sheila dedicated her time and service and contributed to the success of the SCWTCA yearbook project for years, as well as reported the performance titles for Benchmarks. Her dedication and hard work for the club will always be remembered.

By Rose Rose
Happy Birthday Seniors!

“Bailey”
Lonestar Funny Girl
CH Carlinayer’s Brendon Murdock X CH. Lonestar Crazy For You
DOB 9/29/98

It's an occasion for celebration in the Farrell household. Today our dear Bailey is celebrating her 17th birthday. For the last nine years she’s shared every waking moment by our sides, and we are grateful to Ava for trusting her to our care, and to Wendy & Tom who connected us with such a loving dog as she was entering her "senior" years. Who would have thought the journey would bring us together again in 2015!

As is Bailey's nature, she has never been too keen on having her photo taken. A couple of years ago, when she turned 15, I snapped a few shots that are much better than the ones I took today (it's pouring down rain, so I had to chase her all over the family room).

Here's to all of us enjoying the same longevity! Best wishes to her friends and family everywhere!

Jane and Mark Farrell

“Toney”
CH Tara Some Like it Hot
CH Aranbriar Adonis ROM x CH Stratford Playing By Heart
DOB 9/10/2002

Toney was born during a very HOT "heat wave,” thus her name, Some Like It Hot. Even as a puppy she loved the show ring and at 9 months old, she was WB/BOW and Bred-By Group 2 at the Southern Cal Specialty and the Great Western Group Show. She went on to become my first Bred-By Champion before she was a year old. While she never had a litter, she loves puppies and they love her! She and our other girl, Roxy, are best friends, sharing bully sticks, toys and sometimes the sofa! She likes to think she runs the household, always letting us know when it’s time for a walk, time for dinner and time for bed.

At thirteen, she still loves her walks, so much so that if you try to go back home before the turn around point, she’ll plant her feet and refuse to move until we finish our regular route! We affectionately call her "our little mule!” Yes, she's stubborn and determined but also very sweet and loving. We can't imagine life without her and hope we won't have to for some time to come!

Cecily Skinner

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

-Gilda Radner
A very special birthday and celebration of life...

"Caramel"
CH Marquee's Trick Or Treat

Oct 21, 2000
CH Gleanngay Daring Display ROM X CH Marquee’s Spellcaster CD ROM

Caramel then...

And Caramel now...

SCWT Independent Specialty June 2015
Great Western, Long Beach CA

Entered in Veterans, she won her class. As I lifted her onto the ramp, the judge asked how old she was. I told Judge Wood Wornal she would turn 15 in October.
In a loud, surprised voice he said, "Get out!" (surprised at how good she looked)
He then kept the crowd laughing by making some comments keeping Caramel in the spotlight...
"Do you think she can make it around the ring?
I mean her (pointing at me) not the bitch!"

Then he said in the breed ring:
"Don't run over the old lady!"

Caramel Celebrating 15...

Still play bows and barks occasionally. Sleeps a lot and goes for short walks and travels well.
Loves bully sticks and BBQ chicken.

Rose Rose
rose.rose@comcast.net

Official publication of the SCWTCA, Inc, volume 43, number 4, December 2015
This issue of the Health Newsletter features updates in various areas of canine health. Of most recent news is the change in the submission of swabs to Penn to test for the PLN-associated variant alleles. The change became effective on October 15 and simplifies both the paperwork and payment requirements. Another current addition to laboratory screening is a blood serum test offered by IDEXX, called the SDMA test. While it has value for both cats and dogs, it is not a replacement test for other measures that indicate early signs of PLN. Finally, I attended the AKC-CHF National Parent Club Canine Health Conference as SCWTCA’s representative. Fascinating research studies are being conducted that will benefit both dogs and humans.

GENETIC TESTING FOR PLN-ASSOCIATED VARIANT GENES
NOW AVAILABLE EXCLUSIVELY THROUGH PENNGEN

The PennGen website now accepts only computer-entered information and payment for the DNA swabs. Fortunately, this method is streamlined from the previous one and is easy to use. You can continue to request swabs from the same address as always; the difference now is that you create an account on the PennGen website, print the paperwork, and mail to the same address at Penn. When your results are ready, you will receive an email asking for payment by credit card. Once the payment is submitted, you will immediately receive your results. This method provides Penn a simpler way to gather data and gives you a more secure way to pay. Following is the step-by-step instructions to follow for your swab submission.

**GENETIC TESTING FOR PLN-ASSOCIATED VARIANT GENES**

**Testing now available exclusively through**

PennGen

Effective 10/1/2015, breeders and owners can now arrange for testing through the PennGen website and pay online for the results.

PennGen is a genetic testing facility operated through the Section of Medical Genetics at the University of Pennsylvania's School of Veterinary Medicine. It is a collection of laboratories that coordinate as a not-for-profit unit, offering routine testing for a variety of genetic diseases, metabolic screening for inborn errors of metabolism, and a number of other diagnostic genetic services. PennGen also engages in research to uncover the genetic basis of a wide range of diseases in domestic animals.

**Getting Started on the PennGen site**

1. Obtain swabs (“cytology brushes”) or arrange for a blood draw
   - Contact Penn for brushes…see [http://www.scwtca.org/health/dnatest.htm](http://www.scwtca.org/health/dnatest.htm) for information.
   - You can ask your vet for 2 “sterile cytology swab packs”. These should come in a sealed sleeve.
   - Swabs can be obtained from [http://www.ezswabs.com/](http://www.ezswabs.com/) at a cost of $7.79 per dog (eg, 2 swabs).
2. Visit the PennGenn website at http://research.vet.upenn.edu/penngen
3. Create an account in your name.
4. Add the dog(s) you’re testing and select the PLN-Associated Variant Genes test.
5. Provide the requested information for the testing.
6. Print the submission form with your information filled in and swab or collect blood on your dog.
7. Send in the samples.
8. When your results are ready, you’ll get an email from PennGen.
9. Click the link and pay for the results.
10. The results will be immediately available online.

Continue to watch the SCWTCA website for more information
http://www.scwtca.org/health/dnatest.htm

Because you will receive your results in the way the scientific community reports on normal and variant alleles, you will see a change in the numbering. Please look carefully at the chart below as it explains that change.

Understanding Breeding Combinations

Select your dog’s status below to start.
- My dog is a homozygous negative
- My dog is a heterozygote
- My dog is a homozygous positive

A note about terminology – since introduction of the test, breeders have adopted different ways of describing results. While we will use the language above in this tool, below is a chart mapping out some of the different terms you may hear.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Definition</th>
<th>Test Results from Penn</th>
<th>Other Common Terms</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homozygous Negative</td>
<td>1/1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
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<td>Heterozygote</td>
<td>1/2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.1</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>Homozygous Positive</td>
<td>2/2</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>1.1</td>
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<td>2 or both copies</td>
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Another note of interest is testing of frozen semen. Dr. Paula Henthorn said that the sample does not need to be chilled because the lab is extracting DNA, not sperm. Mailing in a regular envelope as you would the other samples works well. Please call Dr. Henthorn before you send frozen semen samples so she expects them.
Among the many values on the blood chemistry panel you will now see the SDMA test result if your vet is using an IDEXX lab for evaluation. SDMA stands for Symmetric Dimethylarginine, which is a kidney function biomarker. At first blush it appears that this test will serve as an earlier indicator of loss of kidney function than the combined BUN/creatinine test. And it does – but it does not serve as an early indicator of PLN in Wheaten Terriers. I consulted Dr. Littman about the value of this test as a replacement for the MA (microalbuminuria) test offered by ANTECH. Here is her reply:

No, the SDMA is not to be used instead of an MA test. They tell us completely different things about the kidneys. One is telling us about GFR (SDMA, a blood test) which is telling us how well the kidneys can GET RID OF TOXIC WASTE PRODUCTS from the bloodstream normally. The other (MA) is a urine test that tells us if the kidneys are LEAKING PROTEIN INTO THE URINE, which is a different problem entirely.

Dogs with kidney problems may have both eventually when the kidneys are failing, but in the beginning of kidney disease, the type of kidney disease causes different things to change first. For instance, when dogs have PLN (glomerular disease) the earliest warning (besides knowing their DNA test result which tells us their risk for developing PLN) is the urine test for protein, for instance, the MA or USG/dipstick for protein, or the best one is the UPC. Later the serum albumin may become abnormal. Later still the GFR is eventually affected, and the SDMA will change (earlier than the creatinine and BUN, but still GFR change is a relatively late change compared with the MA or UPC or albumin).

Now in renal dysplasia (or juvenile renal disease) which is a whole nephron/tubular problem, the situation is different, and the GFR is affected before anything else, so the SDMA would be the earliest warning, when only about 60% of the kidney is working properly. Later in JRD the dogs become thirsty (when we're down to 33% of the kidney working properly), so the USG (urine specific gravity) would be helpful, and later still (at about 25% renal reserve) the creatinine and BUN will become abnormal. There may or may not be increased protein in the urine with JRD. To make matters more complicated, the SDMA, by other things such as pre-renal problems like dehydration, and post-renal issues such as obstruction or rupture, so there needs to be someone interpreting all these changes in a knowledgeable way and looking at the whole dog as well as the history, physical examination findings, etc.

The take away for Wheaten owners is that 1) a high SDMA result may be an indicator of Juvenile Renal Disease in a young dog; 2) the MA test is an early indicator of protein loss in the urine, a red flag for PLN; 3) The UPC is still an excellent test indicating PLN.

If your veterinarian uses IDEXX for routine laboratory work, you will receive a SDMA result (a proprietary test) as part of the regular reporting. You will still have to request a UPC. If you want an MA test, you will have to request it from ANTECH as it is a proprietary test of theirs. If your vet uses ANTECH as its laboratory of choice, be sure to ask if the MA is included in your regular reporting. You may have to request it. The UPC test is an add-on test as well.
H onoring the Human-Animal Bond (HAB) was at the heart of the AKC CHF 10th biennial National Parent Club Canine Health Conference last August in St. Louis. The people/pet connection is unique. It thrives on personal playfulness, it thrives on joyful moments we share with our dogs. We know there is such a positive psycho-social benefit from our lives with dogs – from physical contact to the actual healing power of the HAB. Comfort and compassion promoted by our relationship with our canine friends keep us grounded in life.

What could be more natural than to see how medically man and dog can help one another? The overarching theme of the conference, driven by the Human-Animal Bond, is the idea of One Health; that is, research in veterinary medicine is making strides in helping research in human medicine. Medical research is complementing both humans and animals, as was illustrated in many of the 21 presentations at the 2015 Parent Club Conference. Medical research is complementing both humans and animals as was illustrated in many of the 21 presentations at the conference.

**Cancer**

Because more than 50% of all dogs over the age of 10 die from some form of cancer, several of the presentations focused on this disease. Researchers are looking at the molecular alteration of genes so that they can precisely target for more effective treatment, much as in current therapies for human cancers. While Duke University is targeting human brain cancer with polio virus, veterinary medicine is beginning to attack osteosarcoma in dogs with viruses, called viral therapy. These are examples of both veterinary and human medicine combining to create modern therapies as One Health.

Piggybacking on the idea of custom therapies, Doug Thamm from Colorado State University looks at the molecular alteration of the cancer gene instead of what kind of gene it is, e.g., lymphoma cancer may genetically really be a different kind of cancer. He hopes that his work – called precision medicine – will demonstrate whether or not it has the potential to improve outcome in human patients with cancer as well. If it does, individualized approaches to cancer treatment will become more common in canine oncology.

**Dermatitis**

Two other presenters discussed canine atopic dermatitis, something a number of Wheatens suffer from. Both veterinarians emphasized that treating dermatitis with antibiotics should NOT be the first line of treatment. Instead, they recommended the imperative of skin cultures to know what precisely is causing the dermatitis. Then topicals such as chlorhexidine shampoo, fish or coconut oil and/or antihistamines should be considered first.

**Aging**

In the September 2015 issue of *Benchmarks*, (http://www.scwtca.org/documents/benchmarks/bm201509.pdf) I introduced you to Alice Villalobos DVM and her discussion of quality of life in senior dogs along with her Quality of Life scale. As the keynote speaker, Dr. Villalobos spoke warmly of the Human Animal Bond and the joyful moments we share with our dogs and the duty we have to them in the fourth stage of life, the end of life.
Yuanlong Pan, DVM Ph.D. presented his research (found in his article, *You can Teach an Old Dog New Trick with Good Nutrition*) through shared videos of cognitive improvement in old dogs who received the right nutrition.

MCTs (medium chain triglycerides), found in some dog foods such as Bright Minds from Purina, increase the brain metabolism. Gary Landsberg discussed the treatment of cognitive dysfunction syndrome. Diagnosis is based on clinical signs described by the acronym DISHA: Disorientation, altered social interactions; altered sleep-wake cycles; house soiling and altered activity levels. The signs of CDS are similar to those of human Alzheimer patients so research in the canine disease may benefit that in human disease. With dogs, there are some treatments. Feed an appropriate enriched diet such as Hills b/d diet. Natural supplements such as Senilife (an antioxidant), Sam-E, Novifit and Neutricks seem to be beneficial. Melatonin can improve the sleep-wake cycle. There is only one prescription drug available in the U.S., Seligiline and it is contraindicated with other drugs. Landsburg pointed out that supplementing the diet must be accompanied by enriching activities. The more a dog performs a task, the later in life the dog loses that task.

**Sources for Pet Owners**

**VetVine.com.** This is a veterinary community that is also the trusted “go to” destination where pet owners could be directed for expert-driven information. As many have said, “It sounds like the WebMD for pets.”

**www.akcchf.com.** Go to the Educational Resources tab. There you will find podcasts, webinars, articles, and newsletters on many pertinent topics.

**WRAP UP**

Regenerative medicine combined with stem cell research was another key topic of the weekend. On the horizon there may be ways to actually regenerate cartilage, use stem cells for tendonopathy or forestall cruciate ligament disease. Discussions of bloat, brucellosis, epilepsy research, and current findings on inherited heart disease rounded out the weekend’s agenda. CHF has funded $44 million in research and educational programs since 1995. It is committed to help dogs live happier, healthier lives as we all are.

**IBD and Degenerative Myelopathy**

Presenters tackled two other topics of strong interest to Wheaten owners: Inflammatory Bowel Disease and Canine Degenerative Myelopathy. The take-away message from Dr. Kenneth Simpson’s talk on IBD was the necessity of determining whether the cause is genetic or bacterial. He felt that many dogs have a genetic susceptibility to the disease and that coupled with an environmental trigger can make the disease manifest. Work in boxers may well show where the gene is for humans, an important revelation.
Test Your Wheaten IQ

Presented by Deb Van De Ven

Grooming...A work of art, or an exercise in frustration?

If after you’ve finished grooming your dog, he looks like the model pictured below, you don’t need to read any further... if not, read on!

What if he looks a little dumpy? Could he use a bit more daylight under him? Too much hair on the undercarriage could add to this very unappealing look... wheatens are long-legged Terriers!

Tip: Take tuck up and belly shorter... shoot for depth of body from withers to elbow equal to length of leg from elbow to ground. This is especially important when showing in grass.

What if he lacks neck?

Tip: Be sure to optimize the neck he has by taking the throat and under his chin tight with thinning shears (no clippers please!), blend into slightly longer hair on sides of neck, just under the ear, and down to elbow. Leave hair longer on back of neck and down to the withers without exaggeration.

Maybe your dog’s croup falls off or his tail is on the very end of him.

Tip: Try leaving just a bit more hair on his topline just before his tail, blend this hair into the tail set to downplay the dip before the tail. Also trim backside of tail close to minimize the look of his tail extending behind his rump.

What if his ears are bigger or lower set than you’d prefer?

Tip: Create a slightly curved line at top of skull blending into hair on the top portion of ears. Blend longer hair on top of ears gradually down to lower portion of ears. Do not clipper ears any lower than the bottom one third of flap.

What if your dog could use a more refined top skull? Or is cheeky?

Tip: Optimize the rectangular proportions by taking sides of head below ears to corner of eye tight (no clippers here either!) with no excess fluff. Blend into forehead, and beard to accentuate straight planes. (No coneheads!)

What if your dog could use more rear angles?

Tip: Trim close on rear legs from below point of butt down to hocks. Blend into longer hair on sides and leg furnishings.

What if your dog looks good standing still, but your static haircut obscures his movement? Or after he shakes he looks messy?

Tip: The judge isn’t going to look at your dog in the grooming set-up... so make sure your perfect trimming looks good when he moves. Get someone to move him while you watch, then adjust those areas that need it.
A Breeder-Judge Perspective

I was struck this year by how far we seem to have come from honoring the template laid out for presenting the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. This observation was not mine alone. Several other “senior” members of the Wheaten community took note of it as well. I wonder how many of our exhibitors, breeders and most definitely our professional handlers have considered readdressing presentation. Our club offers several aids…the SCWT Owner’s Manual, the SCWT Grooming Chart, and a Grooming Pamphlet. The former offers an entire chapter devoted to grooming and presentation. The Illustrated Standard also illustrates how the Wheaten should look in terms of outline and silhouette.

Reoccurring criticism from the judging population about the disparity in breed type is doubtless exacerbated by the failure of many exhibitors to honor the prescribed trim and grooming practices. I do not mean to imply that such failure is deliberate but instead is either a lack of knowledge on the part of the exhibitor or a condition wherein the exhibitor’s professional handler is left to his/her own devices, deciding how to present his charge without benefit of having studied these easily obtained grooming directives.

Although a source of petty annoyance, the practice of leaving huge amounts of coat on top of the lower neck and withers, along with creating a tuck-up forward of the loin and disguising body coat as leg furnishings are the least of our problems. Besides, a judge of quality will, or should, see through the ruse, acknowledging both as an attempt to readdress presentation.

Our club offers several aids…the SCWT Owner’s Manual, the SCWT Grooming Chart, and a Grooming Pamphlet. The former offers an entire chapter devoted to grooming and presentation. The Illustrated Standard also illustrates how the Wheaten should look in terms of outline and silhouette.

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Here are a few of the things noted over Montgomery weekend that were particularly bothersome. The “cone-head,” still seems to prevail, notably on dogs shown by professional handlers. Ears are often totally devoid of hair, such that they resemble pieces of triangular leather hanging from a hairy head. Quoting from the Owner’s Manual, trimming directions for the head and ears include the following: “Top of Head The hair above the ear fold should be blended into hair at the top of the skull…to a length of no more than one inch. Now trim hair at the top of the ears to be even with the top of the skull, and gradually shorten hair above the ear folds to blend with closely trimmed hair at folds.” (Figure #6 shows the resulting gradation of hair length on ear flap, from the ½ inch at its top to just short of down-to-the-leather at the tip.) “Skull…From the occiput to the eyebrow scissor hair to about ½.” Leave the immediate hair over the eyes to create a fall and “with thinning shears flat against the cheek, trim hair to indicate but not fully expose the corner of the eye” (Figure #10 shows this). We do not want Schnauzer eyebrows! And another suggestion regarding the fall: do not start it too far up on the skull as doing so ruins the levelness of our head planes. There is a point, just above the eye, where the hair changes direction; below it, hair falls forward and above it, hair stands up. Trim the hair that stands up. Trust me, there will be ample hair falling forward over the eyes and the dog’s head will look longer and cleaner. We observed cheeks, under-jaw and throat that were either clippered or very closely scissored such that they were devoid of hair. Thus, instead of gradually blending into the fullness of beard and neck coat, the transition was abrupt and jarring. One more point dealing with heads…a longer beard is not a better beard! Overly long beards tend to make our Wheatens look like goats. A head that looks rectangular in profile, occiput to nose and throat to end of beard gives the allusion of length!

Then there were the rear ends. We noticed what we used to call “baboon butts!” Some rears were totally devoid of hair, clippered to the skin, exposing anuses, with nude balls hanging between legs and clean-shaven vulvas, all laid bare with huge mounds of hair to either side, meant no doubt to give the impression, in profile, of a lot of dog behind the tail. Understand, I have no problem with a dog’s rear body parts. But viewing them on otherwise hairy dog looks wrong. Here again, no attempt is made to blend short hair into long. Finally, there were the tails…resembling skinny sticks, looking as though they belonged on some other breed. Regardless of whether your Wheaten has a thick or thin tail, it MUST have sufficient hair on it to blend with the body coat. Please make this adjustment to your presentation, leaving most of the hair on the front, not the back of the tail and if need be, use a little “product” to keep the hair where you want it.

I hope all of our breeders and exhibitors have copies of the heretofore mentioned publications, available on our website. In perusing the Owner’s Manual, I realize that it takes the easy road in terms of grooming for show by saying that, “Those interested in show grooming should consult their breeder.” That’s, of course, because this little booklet targets our pet owners, which is, of course, where we all started! Still, the chapter entitled, “Trimming A Pet,” is based upon Marjorie Shoemaker’s Grooming Chart, originally designed to teach Wheaten people how to trim for show. Consequently, it’s a good place to start.
The SCWTCGM’s 27th annual Summer Specialty was held on Friday, July 24th at the Waukesha County Expo Center. Finally, after two years of rain on our show date, we were blessed with beautiful weather, sunshine and no rain. It was great! This year’s shows were dedicated to Sue Rigoni, long-time chief steward and to Bette Eckstrom, founding member of the club and its vice-president. Both contributed so much to the club over the years and are greatly missed.

The day began with Carmen and Fiona hosting Meet the Breed. Fiona was her usually charming self and was decked out so beautifully. They made a great team introducing people to our wonderful Wheatens.

Along with the embroidered towels, toys, or mugs which were awarded for each placement, the Winterwheat Memorial Trophy was awarded to the Best of Breed in honor of Bette Eckstrom and Winterwheat.

The celebration continued with a complimentary luncheon provided by club members. What a great day to be able to eat outside and enjoy sandwiches, salads, and brownies.

Participants enjoyed each other’s company while anxiously awaiting the results of the raffle. This year, baskets full of Wheaten products, dog-related products, and items made in Wisconsin graced our Raffle table.

Denise Daniel of Star Wheatens judged an entry of seven (3-4) in Sweepstakes, and Mrs. Carolyn Taylor presided over an entry of 16 (6-8-1-1) in the specialty.

Thank you to all of our contributors and exhibitors. Because of your participation, our show was a 4-point major in dogs and bitches. A special thank you to Geoff Bilda (show chair and ring steward), Nancy Andersen (ring steward, trophies) Carmen Glazier and Fiona (Meet the Breed) Larry and Suzanne Larson and Liz Roesler (hospitality and raffle). And finally, congratulations to all of our winners!

By Karen Bilda

7/24 Judge’s Critique, Sweepstakes: Denise Daniel

To start with, I’d like to thank the SCWTCGM for dedicating this show to Bette Eckstrom. She truly is missed. I would also like to thank them for inviting me to judge Sweepstakes - it was great fun preparing for this show. I was surprised that I was a bit nervous at the end, but excited when I made my final choices. Every puppy that was shown to me had something very special. My Best In Sweeps was Jendu Unbridled Spirit. This 6 to 9 month old showed like a big boy, free stacking with a great outline. He also showed great expression in the way he used those high set ears. He had great movement which matched his outline. To top it off, he had a high tail set and butt behind that tail - he was definitely my favorite puppy of the day. My BOS to Best in Sweeps was Jendu Wild N Free. She moved well, and covered ground like a much older puppy. She also had a rich, wavy coat that any breeder would love to have. I had a great day, and would like to thank all who attended.

Denise Daniel
Star Wheatens

Best in Sweeps: Jendu Unbridled Spirit
GCH Sundance Second Chance x Ch Jendu Free Spirit
Owned/bred by Dana Barton and Catherine Perron

BOS Sweeps: Jendu Wild N Free
Ch Jendu Wild Blue Yonder x Ch Jendu Freestyle
Owned/bred by Dana Barton and Catherine Perron
7/24 Judge’s Critique, Specialty: Mrs. Carolyn Taylor

**6-9 mo puppy dogs** - both were nice, however the 2nd place puppy lacked “showmanship” (1st place was Jendu Unbridled Spirit)

**12-18 mo puppy dog** - Birchbark Bonney Super Yooper was my RWD – solid movement and an honest dog

**Bred By Exhibitor dog** - 1st place and my Winners Dog (Jendu Red White and Blue) had better movement

**Open dog** - Jendu Footloose N Free – better movement

**6-9 mo puppy bitches** - 1st place and my Winners Bitch (Reyem’s Diamonds And Gold at Exeter) had cleaner movement, although both were nice

**9-12 mo puppy bitch** - Lovesong’s You Are My Sunshine – could be cleaner on both ends

**12-18 mo puppy bitch** – Cuilinn Rockets Red Glare – needs more practice to get tail up

**Bred By Exhibitor bitch** – 1st placement (Haldane the Huntress) had better front assembly

**Open bitch** – 1st place (Harbour Hill Finding Nemo?) square with good reach and drive

**BOB** – (GCH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising) superb condition, sound dog, and apparently also last year’s winner.

**BOS** - was Ch Jendu Joyful Spirit

In general, a very nice entry

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**Weekend At A Glance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>7/24 Fri. SCWTC Greater Milwaukee</th>
<th>7/25 Sat. Waukesha KC</th>
<th>7/26 Sun. Waukesha KC</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Judges: Mrs. Carolyn Taylor, Breed Ms. Denise Daniel, Sweeps</td>
<td>Judge: Mrs. Louis Leone - SCWTCA supported entry</td>
<td>Judge: Mrs. Karen C. Wilson - SCWTCGM supported entry</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>WD</strong></td>
<td><strong>RWD</strong></td>
<td><strong>WB</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Jendu Red White and Blue</td>
<td>Birchbark Bonney Super Yooper</td>
<td>Reyem’s Suits and Tie</td>
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<td><strong>RWB</strong></td>
<td><strong>BOB</strong></td>
<td><strong>BOW</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Haldane the Huntress</td>
<td>GCH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising (d)</td>
<td>Jendu Red White and Blue</td>
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<td><strong>BOB</strong></td>
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<td><strong>BOS</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ch Jendu Joyful Spirit (b)</td>
<td>Jendu Red White and Blue</td>
<td>Jendu Footloose N Free</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sweeps</strong></td>
<td><strong>Best in Sweeps</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ch Jendu Joyful Spirit (b)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Best In Sweeps - Jendu Unbridled Spirit (d)</td>
<td>BOS Sweeps - Jendu Wild N Free (b)</td>
<td>Jendu Footloose N Free (b)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Thank you Breeder Judge Candy Way for this beautiful win
And, thank you Amy Rutherford for presenting Hattie to perfection with limited showings
"Celebrate Good Times, Come On!"

Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater St. Louis Specialty

Friday, June 3, 2016
Purina Event Center, Gray Summit, Missouri

Five Shows - One Location
Indoors - Air Conditioned
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CH RAELYN JEWEL OF THE NILE
GCH Bryr Rose Symbol Of Paris X CH Raelyn Sheza Sensation

"NILES"

Finished in limited showing with 3 majors
Handled by Tracy Szaras
Thank you judges; Desmond Murphy,
Houston Clark, Thomas Parotti and Fred Ferris

Bred by: Lynn Cone
Co-owned by: Lynn Cone & Chuck Farrington

Raelyn Wheatens
lynn.cone@aol.com
www.raelynwheatens.com
INTRODUCING...“A CHRISTMAS STORY” (whelped Dec. 26, 2014)
Harbour Hill Toy Story “Buzz, from Pixar” x Ch Harbour Hill Atas EVOO “Olive”

NEW CH HARBOUR HILL ATAS EVOO
“Olive”
Bred and co-owned with Jeanine Flavell
Shown by Susie Olivera and Gwen/Kent Meyer

HARBOUR HILL CHRISTMAS COOKIE
“Cookie”
Co-owned with Lauren Smith

HARBOUR HILL A CHRISTMAS CAROL
"Little Dickens"
Co owned with Gregg & Dominique Sakauye

Watch for littermates Harbour Hill Deck the Halls "Holly" and Harbour Hill The First Noelle "Noelle."
CHRISTMAS STOCKING STUFFERS - HARBOUR HILL

HARBOUR HILL
A CHRISTMAS STORY

“Guinness”

BOB winner (co-owned with Alla Bezkrovny) is shown in the West by breeder Susan Sakuyue.

HARBOUR HILL
DOUBLE DOG DARE

“Mister Utley”

Will be expertly presented by Deb Van De Ven in the East. Thank you, Deb, for all of your invaluable help and support! You are the best! Owned by David & Sharon Wight

Harbour Hill

Susan K. Sakuyue 424 Covington Pl., Goleta, CA 93117 ssakuyue@aol.com
Blue Skies Smiling On Us . . .

GCH Clover's Mr. Blue Sky

Award of Merit, Montgomery Kennel Club 2015, under Esteemed Terrier Judge Candy Way

US & IRISH CH, GER CH (KFT & VDH), LUX CH, SWISS CH Wheaten Rebel's Nelson for Navy x CH Greentree Clover Ooh La La

Clove Wheatens
ljamiolekowski@yahoo.com

Bred by: Liz & Mike Jamiolekowski and Bev & Kevin McDonald
Bentley
Like a fine wine;
Just gets better with age!

Owned and loved by:
Jacob & Diane Horst

Proudly bred and co-owned by:
Bev & Kevin McDonald
www.greentreewheatens.com

AM GCH/CAN CH Greentree Real Quiet

- 2008 WD Devon
- 2008 WD MCKC
- 2009 AOM MCKC
- 2011 BOB Del Val Trenton Specialty
- 2015 Best Veteran and BOB Del Val
- 2015 Best Veteran and AOM Hatboro 2
A GREAT WAY TO END A WILD MCKC WEEKEND!

BENNY

GOLD GCH SUNDANCE SECOND CHANCE

#1 National Owner-Handled Series, SCWT, 2014 and 2015

#4 in 2015 all-Breed (9/15)
#6 in 2015 Breed (9/15)
#9 in 2014 Breed
#15 in 2013 Breed
# 14 in 2012 Breed

Sage Cheetens

Sandy & Frank Russo  954-651-4504  natures@bellsouth.net
CLOVER LITTERMATES TAKE A GRAND CHAMPION...

Knick
GCH Clover’s In The Knick Of Time

Treasure
GCH Clover’s Moonstruck Reflection of Greentree

Blue
GCH Clover’s Mr. Blue Sky

US & IRISH CH, GER CH (KFT & VDH), LUX CH, SWISS CH Wheaten Rebel’s Nelson for Navy x CH Greentree Clover Ooh La La

Bred by: Liz & Mike Jamiolekowksi & Bev and Kevin McDonald

Clover Wheatens
ljamiolkowski@yahoo.com
TWO EXCITING YOUNGSTERS

Bryr Rose Written In The Stars
“Maya”
2015 Winners Bitch at National Specialty for a 5 pt major at 7 months of age

Bryr Rose Starry Starry Night
“Nigel”
Winners Dog at Hatboro Specialty for a 5 pt major at 7 months of age

FOLLOWING IN BIG BROTHER’S FOOTSTEPS

CH Bryr Rose Nouvelle Vague x CH Bryr Rose Flower Power
GCH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising

CH Bryr Rose Nouvelle Vague x CH Bryr Rose Flower Power

Owned and Bred by Carolyn Garrett

Presented by Gwen & Kent Meyer
Am GCH Can GCH Pinehome Merrimoor Came To Dance
waltzed her way into the ribbons Montgomery weekend for the second year in a row!

“Spicy”

Sincere thanks to judges; Candace Way and Margret Moeller-Sieber for recognizing the quality of this lovely bitch

Owner handled by Linda Hallas
Bred by Peggy Gale
SUN DANCE MY BEAU'S A ROXSTAR

CH Mackanme Foreign Affair V. Bodasca X CH Sundance Order of the Irish Rose

INTRODUCING... "BEAU"

RWD Hatboro DC
WD/BOW Morris & Essex KC

With limited showing Beau's wins have all been MAJORS.
Sincere thanks to these judges for recognizing Beau's qualities.

Barbara Dempsey Alderman, Michael J. Dougherty, Ken Kaufman, Mrs. Sue Goldberg

Owned & loved by:
Cheryl & Robert Johnstone
& Susan Wuerz

Special thanks to Tracy Szaras

Cheryl Johnstone
772-597-5365
RoxStarWtns@comcast.net
L.O.L.A

GCH Haldane Does Your Mother Know?

SCWTCA 2015 National Specialty • Select Bitch
Our appreciation to Judge Sharol Candace Way for this extraordinary honor!

2015 Hatboro • Award of Merit
A special thank you to Judge Kenneth Kauffman for recognizing Lola!

Canine Chronicle Breed Stats as of 9/30/2015.
HANDLED BY: CONOR McFADDEN AND OLIVIA HODGKINSON

OWNED BY: JANA & SCOTT BROWN AND TIM SMITH

BRED BY: GINA SCHLISNER AND TIM SMITH

SIRE: ITIN JABCA CH CA CH GOLD SCH SULLIVAN EXPRESSO CON PANNA • DAM: CH HADLANE COLORS OF THE SUN
Whindancer Wheatens

NEW CH Whindancer’s Under
The Wide And Starry Sky

"Casey"

WD, BOW Montgomery 2015
Thank You Judge, Candy Way

WD Hatboro 2015
Thank You Judge, Ken Kaufman

GCH CH Diamonds Ain’t MisBehavin
X CH Whindancer’s Electric Feel

Susan Ratliffe, Art Miller & Abby Kochan
585-377-1994 | wndancer@rochester.rr.com

PHOTO BY: JOSH BURDICK

PHOTO BY: JOSH BURDICK
Montgomery 2015

it was rainy...

it was cold...

it was sunny...

...it was fabulous
Correct size, type, and movement with exceptional temperament and super showmanship that **DEMANDS YOUR ATTENTION!**

PRESENTED BY TRACY SZARAS AND LUIZ ABREU
ASSISTED BY MIGUEL DE ARMAS & BRITTANY PHELPS
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Our sincere appreciation to judges Mr. Terry Stacy, Mr. James White & Mr. Fred Bassett for these wins!

OWNERS SALLY LEONARD & DENNIS WIRTH & BONNIE WIRTH
BRED by BOBBY & TERRIE BROOKS and DENNIS & BONNIE WIRTH
Devin
Greentree Luellen Unbridled Song
CH Wheaten Rebel’s Take A Ticket To Greentree x GCH Greentree Rachael Alexandra

BOS Sweepstakes
SCWTCA National Specialty
Thank you Judge
Pam Mandeville

Luellen Wheatens
Owned by Pat & Bob Robeski
Co-owned/bred by Bev & Kevin McDonald

Pat & Bob Robeski
Washington, NJ
robeski@verizon.net
8/14 Sweepstakes Judge: Ms Carolyn Snavely

Best In Sweeps: Eringlo Wild N Fast (b)
CH Bradberry Schnitzel Maguire x GCH Eringlo Alwaz Luk’n To Race
Owned/Bred by: Dennis and Cindy Shea

BOS Sweeps: Hion The Patriot (d)
CH Stratford Top Brass x CH Hion Alegria
Owned/Bred by: Judyth Hodgkins, Layle and Gary Krogel

8/14 Specialty Judge’s Critique: Mrs. Sue Goldberg

My sincere appreciation to the members of the GDSCWT for the honor of being invited to judge their specialty and for their warm hospitality. Thank you also to the exhibitors who honored me with such a nice entry. Special kudos to my efficient steward, Diane Lunde, who kept things moving right along.

Before discussing individual placements, some general impressions:

Happily, quality is returning to the Wheaten ring, as evidenced by most of the exhibits. Overall, we are getting back to the square outline that is such a critical component of correct Wheaten type. Heads are starting to improve in length, but square heads, particularly on the bitches, and blocky topskulls paired with weak muzzles still plague the breed. Remember, these are all-around farm dogs who had to dispatch rats and vermin. They need a strong muzzle and underjaw to perform their function. Tailsets are slowly inching their way back up to correct placement well up on the back, but lack of a shelf behind the tail is still a big problem. Please note: the tail should not be the end of the dog! Low on leg, poor conditioning and slight bone cost a few exhibits higher placements. Coat color overall has improved, but there were still many cottony coats; soft, but not silky as the Standard demands. Shoulders are not as loaded as in the past, but many are upright which restricts proper reach in front. There was some improvement in rear drive, but far too many sickle hocks that still lack flexion. Eye color overall was correct, and with only two exceptions the bites were all scissors.

We are definitely improving but still have a long way to go. As breeders, achieving and maintaining consistency in proper breed type has to remain our top priority and that was a critical consideration in my placements.
**Puppy Dogs 6 – 9 mos.**


2nd: Rosheen Happy Heart Finn McCool. Lovely coat and color. Nice topline. A bit longer cast than his litter brother; headpiece not as strong. With a little training, should finish in short order.

**Puppy Dogs 9-12 mos.**

1st: Hion the Patriot. My ultimate Winners Dog and Best of Winners. Square and balanced with a proper length of neck, nice layback of shoulder balanced by correct rear angulation, level topline, bang-up tail and butt behind. Lovely coat. Could be a bit better coming and going but his beautiful breed type carried him this day.

2nd: Rosheen Magic Thunder. Square in outline, but lacks moderation. Cottony coat; gray on his head detracts from his otherwise lovely color.

**Open Dogs:**

1st: Eringlo Ultra Fast Carl. Nice coat and color, but lacked sufficient length for it to flow. Nice blend and length of neck into a firm back. Could use a better tailset.

2nd: Rosheen Magic Thunder. Square in outline, but lacks moderation. Cottony coat; gray on his head detracts from his otherwise lovely color.

**Puppy Bitches 6-9 mos.**


2nd: Rosheen Happy-Go-Lucky. Lovely headpiece, like her 1st place litter brother. She pressed the 1st place bitch but could use a better layback and higher tailset.

3rd: Canopy Roads Vixen at Haldane: Pretty coat but slight of bone and lacks spring of rib. Her earset and narrow muzzle detract from correct expression.

**Puppy Bitches 9-12 mos.**

1st: Orla The Wild Swans at Coole. Lovely warm wheaten color, but her overgrown coat needs thinning and conditioning.

**12 – 15 mos. Bitches**


**Bred By Bitches**

1st: Hion Monkey Business. My Ultimate Winners Bitch. Feminine, balanced bitch with lovely coat and color. Could use a better headpiece. Moved easily around the ring. Correct topline and butt behind the tail. Has correctly proportioned neck that was somewhat obscured by too much coat.
2nd: Eringlo Wannabe Fast. Another feminine package. Similar in type to the 1st place bitch with lovely coat and color, she needs better length of head and could be sounder on the down and back.

3rd: Haldane the Huntress. Gorgeous flowing coat. Her undocked tail has better carriage than most. Needs more bone and substance.

4th: Touchstone Hyacinth. Big boned coarser bitch with nice color and wave to her coat. Low hocks and short loin.

Open Bitches

2nd: Blessing All in the Family. Gorgeous, flowing coat of proper wheaten color. Needs length of leg and better angles front and rear for better reach and drive.

Best of Breed:
GCH. Bryr Rose Matisse. His outline and short back caught my eye as soon as he walked in the ring. Young stallion of a dog, balanced, moderate, with proper bone for his size. Dark eye, nice length of head and neck. Layback could be better but he moves out and uses himself to great advantage. Level topline and bang-up tail with shelf behind. Beautiful flowing coat and color complete this very handsome picture.

Best of Winners: (see WD)
Hion the Patriot. This promising youngster won out on his sidegait and his attitude, showing himself gaily as the Standard prescribes.

Best of Opposite:
GCH. Touchstone Spook-Tacular. Lovely, almost square bitch with proper coat and color. Nice bone, not overdone. Level topline with strong back and correct tailset. A smaller ear would add to her femininity, but a very deserving bitch this day.

Select Dog:
Ch. Blessing All the Way to the Moon. Similar type to my BOB dog, square in outline, correct topline and tail set, bone in proportion to his size. Good pigment, dark eye. Lovely coat and color. A very handsome fellow.
Select Bitch:
Ch. Ceili's Shiny and Bright OA NAJ. A feminine package who uses everything she's got. Could use a better topline but has nice layback and bang-up tail.

Once again, my thanks to the Greater Denver club and all its members for a lovely afternoon and a delicious dinner! The yellow blanket I received kept me warm on the flight back home. Wishing all of you continued success in the show ring and the whelping box!

Weekend At A Glance

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<tr>
<th>8/14 Fri Grtr Denver SCWTC Specialty</th>
<th>8/15 Sat Greeley KC</th>
<th>8/16 Sun Greeley KC</th>
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<tr>
<td>8/14 Fri Grtr Denver SCWTC Specialty</td>
<td>Judges: Sue Goldberg, Breed Carolyn Snively, Sweeps</td>
<td>Judge: Jocelyne Gagne</td>
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<tr>
<td>WD Hion The Patriot</td>
<td>Rosheen Magic Thunder</td>
<td>Rosheen Happy Heart Finn McCool</td>
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<tr>
<td>RWD Rosheen Oh Happy Day</td>
<td>Rosheen Oh Happy Day</td>
<td>Rosheen Oh Happy Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>WB Hion Monkey Business</td>
<td>Reyem's T&amp;T's Hotcakes Junie B</td>
<td>Rosheen Happy Go Lucky</td>
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<tr>
<td>RWB Reyem's T&amp;T's Hotcakes Junie B</td>
<td>Hion Monkey Business</td>
<td>Blessing All in the Family</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOB GCH Bryr Rose Matisse (d)</td>
<td>CH Blessing All the Way to the Moon (d)</td>
<td>GCH Bryr Rose Matisse (d)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOW Hion The Patriot</td>
<td>Rosheen Magic Thunder</td>
<td>Rosheen Happy Go Lucky</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOS GCH Touchstone Spooktacular (b)</td>
<td>CH Stratford You've Got Mail (b)</td>
<td>CH Stratford You've Got Mail (b)</td>
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<tr>
<td>SD CH Blessing All The Way To The Moon</td>
<td>GCH Bryr Rose Matisse</td>
<td>CH Rosheen All That and a Smile</td>
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<tr>
<td>SB CH Ceili's Shiny and Bright</td>
<td>GCH Touchstone Spooktacular</td>
<td>CH Reyem's T&amp;T's Hotcakes Junie B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweeps Best In Sweeps - Eringlo Wild N Fast (b)</td>
<td>BOS Sweeps - Hion the Patriot (d)</td>
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</table>
WISHING EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A BIG THANK YOU TO THE WHEATEN
COMMUNITY FOR THEIR SUPPORT

Holly is still loving the fall and the leaves. She turned 13 this month and is slowing
down, but still loves her walks and the beach. We love her dearly and count our blessings
every day. We thank you for bringing her into our lives. Hope you are well. Thank you

From Nancy Butler, Karli Mueller and the Rescue Team
As the saying goes on Broadway, “the show must go on,” and the MCKC National Specialty weekend did just that. With the threat of a hurricane, torrential rains, strong winds, and raw damp temperatures, the SCWTCA members braved the elements with high spirits and the most of what the week had to offer. Show Co-Chairs Mary Ann Curtis and Julie Burdick, along with their committees, planned a fun-filled weekend that everyone enjoyed. Kudos to the chairs on achieving their goal of having each member who attended feel special. The personal touches throughout the weekend were much appreciated.

This year at the Montgomery Terrier only Agility Cluster at Palmyra, PA, there were four days of agility trials, two obedience trials, and two rally trials. SCWTCA sponsored the obedience and rally trials as well as a day of agility. The turnout was very good. Several of our members earned new titles in Rally and tried hard at Obedience. Many thanks to Betsy Geertson who always takes care of the Wheaten needs during the agility competition.

Three respected breeders presented Thursday’s evening education seminar. Molly O’Connell spoke on the “Essence of Breed Type;” Shari Robinson spoke on “Movement,” and Gwen Meyer addressed “Puppy Behavior Development.” The attendees came away with valuable knowledge and handouts.

Along with the usual awards, there were three special awards bestowed on longtime, well-deserving members. The Jan Linscheid Award was presented to Betsy Geertson. The AKC Sportsmanship Award was given to Susan Ratcliffe. The Board instituted a new SCWTCA award this year: Jackie Gottlieb was honored with the first SCWTCA Lifetime Achievement Award. It was a moving tribute to one of the founders of our Club who has made tremendous contributions to our breed over the past 40+ years.

Although the Devon show was cancelled, our Sweepstakes “show” went on without a hitch. Pam Mandeville, longtime breeder, judged 59 puppies in Sweepstakes.

This year five days of shows were scheduled with the inclusion of Morris and Essex. Ken Kauffman judged Hatboro I, a Del Val Specialty on Wednesday.

Sue Goldberg, longtime wheaten Breeder, judged the historical Morris & Essex on Thursday.

Kathy Ferris judged Hatboro II, another Del Val Specialty, on Friday.

Longtime breeder Candace Way judged this year’s National Specialty on Sunday.

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL!

The weekend ended with our Sunday evening cocktails and buffet. Once again there were door prizes and raffles. Many thanks and appreciation to the Motor City SCWTC for graciously hosting a fun-filled, relaxing evening. A special thanks to our ringside reporters who kept all our members who could not attend in the loop by Tweeting real time results: Molly O’Connell, Carole Clarke, Cindy Shea, Meg Ryan, and Cherie Turner.

Mark your calendar for next year’s MCKC National Specialty, “That’s Amore,” Oct. 3-9, 2016.

Remember, the show must go on! So please contact Pam Tinnelly or Anna Marzolino to volunteer!

By Pam Tinnelly and Anna Marzolino
2015 SCWTCA Award Recognition

Susan Ratliffe

The AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award
Awarded to an active and valued member of SCWTCA, Inc. who has made a difference in the sport of purebred dogs and embodies the AKC Code of Sportsmanship.

After I got over the surprise of winning this award, I had to read again the AKC Code of Sportsmanship listed in every catalog. So many people came up to me to congratulate me on the award; I had to check what the award might mean. It truly was heart-warming to receive the vote of confidence from my fellow breeders. I do feel I welcome new members into the sport and try to mentor them so they will love the sport as much as I do. I try to deal with other breeders and people looking to buy my puppies, as honestly as I can. If this has earned me some measure of respect from my fellow breeders, I cherish this. In this day and age, honesty and fairness seem to be a lost art. It is a joy to deal with showing dogs, selling dogs and breeding dogs with the knowledge that this quality of honesty and fairness are expected from our fellow breeders. Without others’ respect, all the wins in the ring or the whelping box, ring hollow. This award will make me a better breeder of Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers. It isn’t just about our individual breeding programs or dogs…it is about the wonderful breed we are all a part of.

Thanks everyone! You made my day!

Susan Ratliffe
Whindancer Wheatens

Betsy Geertson

The Jan Linscheid Fellowship Award
Presented for extraordinary contribution to the SCWTCA, Inc. and the breed to a person who epitomizes the outstanding human qualities of Jan Linscheid.

Betsy received the Jan Linscheid award for her amazing contributions to the club’s performance activities. Betsy has been the driving force behind the SCWTCA’s participation in the Montgomery Terrier-Only Agility Cluster for many years. She works with other terrier clubs each year to secure the location, hire a trial secretary and judges, rent equipment, arrange for prizes and ribbons, publicize the event, and perform the myriad tasks that are necessary to successfully hold a trial. She has negotiated for SCWTCA to host the agility trial for several years and this past year worked with the SCWTCA Performance Committee to hold obedience and rally trials in conjunction with agility. By hosting these events, the club has been able to cover its expenses for participating and provide funding for other activities. The committee under Betsy’s leadership also established the club’s versatility awards recognizing Wheatens who demonstrate advanced proficiency in multiple canine sports.

Through Betsy’s initiatives the club has broadened its appeal to Wheaten owners participating in a wide variety of performance activities including agility, obedience, rally, barn hunt, herding, and tracking. Betsy encourages Wheaten owners who are new to performance sports and competes with her own dogs in conformation, agility, tracking, rally, and obedience.

By Lee Martin
Jackie Gottlieb

The Lifetime Achievement Award

Presented to a club member who has made significant contributions to the breed or the club over many years. The recipient should be widely recognized by club members as having contributed in meaningful ways in breeding, training, conformation, performance, health, education, rescue, mentoring, or other aspects of the breed that are critical to its future.

Jackie Gottlieb has dedicated over half her life to the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier and those involved in the breed. She is a trailblazer and inspiration for us all, leading the way to superior quality, health, and temperament of our wonderful Wheatens. She, along with a handful of others, initiated the GRF, a project focused on health research to address some of the problems facing our breed and to protect its welfare. Jackie’s first Wheaten was Andover Antic of Sunset Hill (Maggie) in 1968. Since that time she has bred and exhibited some of our finest and “top-ranked” dogs. Most of us carry her Andover dogs in our pedigrees.

Whether in the ring herself or sitting ringside, she’s always been there, greeting friends and rooting for us all with only encouraging and positive thoughts. Jackie has mentored so many, it is difficult to enumerate or assess her impact on this breed and this community.

I was entering middle age, a dentist’s wife in suburbia, when Andover Antic of Sunset Hill, CD, entered the family picture along with the admonition from her breeder, Charlie Arnold, to take her to a dog show and help get the breed recognized.

What ensued was a long life consumed by a passion for these dogs and the people who love them. It was a life of accomplishment that would have been impossible without the wonderful, talented people I was privileged to work with.

To do what you love and receive the recognition of your peers is the ultimate reward. It has been such a happy journey, made possible by the efforts of so many of you. How can I adequately say “thank you?”

Wheaten people are the very best! Jackie Gottlieb
Lise Morgan and “Beau” are woven into the fabric of daily life at Connections Learning Center, a school for children with behavior problems resulting from unstable home lives and challenging situations. Beau is the school mascot and so much more as the resident therapy dog, bringing smiles and comfort to both students and staff.

According to Instructional Coach, Lynn Legg, “Many of the students act indifferent to Beau when they first meet him, and then like magic, Beau changes them from defensive, standoffish adolescents to happy (even if just for a moment) kids. Sometimes, we serve students who just don’t seem to fit in or have any friends. Beau instantly becomes a best friend to these students and gives these students a positive self-image because Beau accepts them just as they are.” And principal Lisa Mumma notes that this outstanding grand champion is able to discern and adapt to each student’s individual needs, “Beau knows the students and responds to them in unique ways. Students will read to Beau, walk with Beau and petting him seems to soothe their angst.”

Lise Morgan bred Beau and knew from the start he was something special. This Grand Champion is not only handsome but a tireless greeter and outstanding therapy dog that has the uncanny ability to know what the children and staff need to make them happy.

The Wheaten Ambassador Award is sponsored by Dorice and Mark Stancher in memory of therapy evaluator dog “Duffy” Holweit’s Stancher (CGC, CD, RE, CDX, NJVMA/Silver).

Photo: Lise and Beau bring joy to students and staff at their school and are shown with the award they received at the SCWTCA National Specialty Dinner.

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GCH CH Blessing High Regard CGC
The Wheaten Ambassador Award

By Dorice Stancher
<table>
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<th>Award</th>
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<tr>
<td>Andover Challenge Trophy III</td>
<td>GCH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising “Ash” Breeder: Carolyn Garrett Owner(s): Carolyn Garrett &amp; Jeanne Ferris</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amaden Best Of Opposite Sex Trophy</td>
<td>GCH Doubloon’s Extreme Play “Derby” Breeder/Owner/Handler: Elena Landa</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bryan E McNamara Memorial Trophy</td>
<td>Dana Barton &amp; Catherine Perron, Owners/Breeders of Jendu Joyful Spirit</td>
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<td>David R Linskycome Trophy</td>
<td>Lana Campbell &amp; Jack Slack, Owners of Tyrone’s Revolutionary Road</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best in Specialty Show Breeder Award</td>
<td>Carolyn Garrett, Bryr Rose Wheatens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Everett Keller Memorial Trophy</td>
<td>Denise Daniel, Breeder of Star’s Just Sayin</td>
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<td>Janet Turner Dalton Memorial Trophy</td>
<td>Denise Daniel &amp; Diane Brus, Owners of Star’s Just Sayin’</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maureen Holmes Memorial Trophy</td>
<td>Mary Brown, Sandra &amp; Glenn Amorosia, Breeders of Legacy Kalohe Summer Wind</td>
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<tr>
<td>CH Abby’s Postage Dhu O’Waterford “Casey” Award</td>
<td>GCH Doubloon’s Extreme Play “Derby” Breeder/Owner/Handler: Elena Landa, Defeated 554 Wheatens</td>
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<td>CH Gleanngay Holliday “Doc” Award</td>
<td>GCH Stratford Top Brass “Ike” Breeder(s): Molly O’Connell &amp; Monica Lamontagne. Owner(s): Meg Ryan &amp; Molly O’Connell</td>
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<td>Brenmoor Bred-By-Exhibitor Challenge</td>
<td>Lana Campbell &amp; Beth Verner, Tyrone Wheatens &amp; Carraway Wheatens</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Sportsmanship Award</td>
<td>Brittany Phelps, Handlers Defeated: 248</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ida Sawtelle Mallory Versatility Dog</td>
<td>CH Heirloom Odds On Favorite OA AXJ “Dorrie” Owner(s): John Unruh, Patrice Chevalier &amp; Robert Bergman</td>
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<td>Orion Trebol Hot House Flower CDX BN PCDX NA OAJ “Posey” Owner(s): Amy Feldman</td>
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<td>CH Caraway Southern Night Music NAJ CGC “Cricket” Owner(s): Beth Verner &amp; Kathryn Fries</td>
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<td>GCH Ceili’s Time To Shine OA OAJ “Percy” Owner(s): Sara Sorenson &amp; Beth Sorenson</td>
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<td>CH Geragold Paper Gangster at Vineyard “Sorcha” Owner(s): F. Roushar, Neil O’Sullivan, Gerard Thompson &amp; Ron Bedford</td>
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<td>CH Heirloom Kaitlen Fly Me To The Moon OA NAJ “Frankie” Owner(s): Kathleen Wishart &amp; Patrice Chevalier</td>
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<tr>
<td>Versatility Dog Excellent</td>
<td>GCH Ceili’s Time To Shine OA OAJ “Percy” Owner(s): Sara Sorenson &amp; Beth Sorenson Orion Trebol Hot House Flower CDX BN PCDX NA OAJ “Posey” Owner(s): Amy Feldman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Obedience Dog of the Year</td>
<td>GCH Jendu Outlaw VCD2 UD RA OA OAJ AXP AJP “Finn” Owner(s): JoAnne Vogt &amp; Dana Frady</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agility Dog of the Year - Masters</td>
<td>MACH5 Vermillion Doogan’s Irish Cream MXC2 MJB3 T2B “Doogan” Owner(s): Bill &amp; Michelle Space</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Agility Dog of the Year - Preferred</td>
<td>CH MACH5 PACH Heirloom Truly Irresistible RN MXB3 MJB3 MXP5 MXPS MJPS PAX2 OF “Kylie” Owner(s): John Unruh, Patrice Chevalier &amp; Robert Bergman</td>
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<tr>
<td>Register of Merit</td>
<td>CH Whindancer’s Heart Like A Wheel “Jackson” Breeder: Susan Ratcliffe</td>
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<tr>
<td>Best In Show Award</td>
<td>GCH Shandalee Fireworks “Moxxy” Breeder(s): Sue &amp; Harvey Goldberg. Owner(s): Dawn Sealy, N Bailey, Sue &amp; Harvey Goldberg</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>GCH Doubloon’s Extreme Play “Derby” Breeder/Owner/Handler: Elena Landa</td>
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10/3 Sweepstakes Critique: Mrs. Pam Mandeville

Whenever I’ve talked to a breeder judging Sweepstakes for the first time, they always say they went in expecting to reward dogs with particular traits only to find out that they still had to make compromises.

This Sweepstakes entry was a nice group of youngsters but not surprisingly, there were still compromises to be made. Where possible, I chose to reward a square outline or a good coat on a sound dog when a choice needed to be made.

Temperaments were good. Some observers thought one young male went for me: I want to clearly state he did not...a tribute to him and all the contestants in miserable weather over a long weekend! Overall heads were improved, bites were mostly good, pigment dark, dogs were generally in solid weight. I was surprised that some eyes were lighter than optimal.

One area of criticism is what others have said over and over: fronts. For me, it is the lack of correct reach on so many dogs. Given the weather and age of the puppies, I forgave a little more rear “bicycling” than correct and some funny front movement. But breeders need to start recognizing that reach isn’t coming from the elbow.

A second criticism is that some entries...fortunately few...that lacked any of the elements of type. When a dog doesn’t have at least one of them...silhouette, coat, head, attitude...honestly, I’m just not interested. If your exhibit landed at the end of the line and you felt he or she didn’t get well-considered...that’s why.

Thank you to my husband John, for so much unseen support; the spectacular MCKC Coordinators, Julie Burdick and Mary Ann Curtis and the Sweeps Secretary, Bruce Peters, for all their planning for bad weather; my very capable steward, Mary Yourich; Josh Burdick, whose photos refreshed my recollections; the club for the lovely photo frame; the membership for their vote; and most of all, to every exhibitor for their entry and patience on a day when we might all have preferred to be snuggled under the covers with our Wheatens!

My comments below focus on the winner of each class except where it was a close call.

6-9 Puppy Dogs: Greentree Luellen Unbridled Song. Lovely coat, lovely head, moderate and a very good moving youngster, especially impressive for his age. I would like a little less length of back.

9-12 Puppy Dogs: This class could easily be retitled “Dog on the Day.” First to Jendu Unbridled Spirit. Squareness and moderation brought him to the front. He moved cleanly from all angles, with lovely timing. The grey over the withers was concerning but given his age and an overall clear and well-textured coat, forgivable on the day. Second place to Harbour Hill Double Dog Dare. When this class assembled, I was drawn to this dog, thinking he would be Best or BOB. He was lovely to go over, well-balanced, good leg, short in loin, nice coat. Unfortunately, he was clearly so uncomfortable on lead that I could not assess his movement, to my disappointment.
12-15 Puppy Dogs: Whindancer Under the Wide and Starry Sky. My notes failed me on this class so my comments are from memory and photos…but as he went onto BW on Sunday, readers will surely see detailed comments from Candy. An “honest” dog…sound, lots of neck, good substance and moved well. He is in adolescent coat. I would like a shorter back on him. He easily came to the front of the class.

15-18 Puppy Dogs: Birchbark Bonney Super Yooper. A nicely made young man of better size than the runner up. He could use a bit more head for balance. He is in adolescent coat that is beautifully conditioned and presented. I’d prefer to see him on a slightly looser lead as he seemed a bit strung up, affecting his front.

6-9 Puppy Bitches: This was a very large class that I divided. Had it been two, I would have been satisfied giving ribbons to the first 4 in each section. The decision between first and second was very difficult. First to Star Story of My Life, a square girl, nice head, nice coat and well-made. In the class, she was handled by someone perhaps unfamiliar to her so she moved just adequately enough to win; in Best she settled in with her “mom” and thus rewarding my faith. Second to the beautifully conditioned and shown Bryr Rose Moon N’ The Stars: lovely headed, lovely coated, a bit less substance than I prefer and a bit more length than the first place bitch.

9-12 Puppy Bitches: As with the previous class, many of those left out of the ribbons would have fared well in a smaller entry. First to Jendu Wild N Free. A nice moving bitch with a lovely coat but a bit large and off square. Second to Frolic’s Heading for Stardom for her lovely outline and short loin. She could use a bit more head to be in balance and did not have the coat of the first place bitch.

12-15 Puppy Bitches: Azydeco How Can U Surpass Perfection. An adorable eye-catcher from the start. Compact, moderate, nice moving, lovely headed. Her coat is light but appropriate to her age and nicely textured. I learned later she won the breed over specials at Hatboro, and I understand why.

15-18 Puppy Bitches: Frolic’s Caper to Coventry: a bitch whose short back comes from her short loin, with a good head, and overall true silhouette. Given her age, her coat is acceptable. Eringlo Wannabe Fast was a very close second, a difficult decision. She is showy, slightly better adolescent coat than the winner but not as square or quite as free a mover.

I was pleased with my Best class, feeling any of them could have won on any given day. Interestingly, I focused on the two younger males and the two older bitches. I appreciated the outline of my 9-12 dog but at the end, the 6-9 puppy dog beat him on the basis of his clear coat and better head. As to the girls…that was tough! The 12-15 bitch was a nice mover and her light coat was nevertheless appropriate for her age. The very well-balanced, square 15-18 bitch who moved well overcame a lesser coat. BISweeps went to Frolic’s Caper to Coventry with BOSweeps, Greentree Luellen Unbridled Song.

I was pleased to find what I wanted…square, sound, coat, and heads. Maybe another time these qualities will be in every entry – great for the breed and a happy challenge for whoever judges them.
All of us look forward to Montgomery. New clothes, airline travel, old friends, and beautiful sunny, fall weather. Well, Montgomery 2015 was cloudy and brisk, but still beautiful. The cold air invigorated the dogs, and they were all on their tip-toes. Using the ramp allowed everything to be seen, clear down to the feet.

The ring was decorated in beautiful fall flowers, and the trophies were shining. It was a day I had been anticipating for over a year. I didn’t judge any Wheatens in 2015 so all of the dogs were “new” to me.

Generally speaking, the breed is in good shape. We have gotten size under control, our ears are mostly small and correctly shaped and placed. Good eye color, only a few were too light and round. Bites were good and head planes parallel. Some were a little too cheeky which ruins the smooth and rectangular look. The few undocked tails were set properly and carried nicely. Coats were not over-trimmed with enough length to be brushed up and down on the dogs’ flanks. Color was good; the grey factor was rarely seen. The main problem area was (as it is in most all breeds) upright shoulders. Too many entries were lacking the proper layback. This results in a stilted, hackney-type movement, not moving from the shoulder.

****

Photos by Josh Burdick Photography, www.joshburdick.com

BOB was GCH Serendipity’s Urban Legend (bitch). Beautifully put together, with nice outline, lovely head and ear set and moved properly. Short back and compact body. I have always been a “bitch” lover and was pleased to have this girl in the ring.

BOS was the dog GCH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising. A stallion of a dog, with correct tail set and carriage, lovely coat and proper trim, well angulated rear not too extreme and presented beautifully. He is a lovely dog.
BOW/WD was Whindancer Under The Wide And Starry Sky from the open class. Good size and carriage. Very nice coat and good headpiece. Presented a very nice outline and moved with purpose.

WB was a 6-9 bitch Bryr Rose Written In The Stars. Beautiful head and ears, good legs and feet. Coat in that puppy color and trimmed very nicely. Good tail set and short back. I would take her home.

Both of the reserve winners (RWD- Sam Hills Happy and RWB- Frolic Heading For Stardom) were deserving. Good outlines, coats, head pieces and movement. I hope that our club will consider the new AKC rule which allows for points to be given to the reserve winners at the national. In entries of this size (rarely seen elsewhere) the reserves are deserving of points.

The selects (dog, CH Star On Cloud 9 and bitch, GCH Haldane Does Your Mother know?) were in the competition to the end. Both moved properly were of good size, type, and attitude.
The AOMs were (in no order):

CH Greentree Real Quiet
CH Sundance Second Chance
CH Clover Mr. Blue Sky
GCH Pinehome Merrimoor Came To Dance
CH Keepsake's Soul Surfer
CH Villanova Good Golly Miss Raleigh

SB: GCH HALDANE DOES YOUR MOTHER KNOW?  
GCH Cuillin Espresso Con Panna x CH Haldane Colors Of The Sun  
Owners: Jana & Scott Brown & Tim Smith.  Breeders: Gina Schlisner & Tim Smith

AOM: GCH CLOVER’S MR. BLUE SKY  
CH Wheaten Rebel's Nelson For Navy x CH Greentree Clover Ooh La La  
Owners: Liz Jamiozkowski & Mike Jamiozkowski.  Breeders: Liz Jamiozkowski & Mike Jamiozkowski & Beverly McDonald & Kevin McDonald

AOM: GCH PINEHOME MERRIMOOR CAME TO DANCE  
CH Pinehome's Seamus Walnut x Pinehome's Check Me Out  
Owner: Linda Hallas.  Breeder: Peggy A Gale

AOM: CH KEEPSAKE’S SOUL SURFER  
CH Greentree Keepsake Surfing USA x Keepsake's Sizzlin' Hot  

AOM: CH SUNDANCE SECOND CHANCE  
Ch Eudora's Isak Finningan O'Bradberry x Ch Sundance Truly An Heirloom  
It was a very lovely entry. I got a little misty at the veterans classes as I remember them as pups.

SCWTCA is lucky to have such wonderful stewards in Gary Vlachos, Bill Behan, Mary Yourich, and Sally Sotirovich. They kept everything under control and we finished on time. Our show chairs, Julie Burdick and Mary Ann Curtis, did a great job. All details covered, great correspondence and a wonderful national.

I have been in this breed for a loooong time. I saw old friends, new friends and had memories of friends who have passed on. Montgomery and the national is more than just a show, it is a renewal of our wheaten spirit, love for our breed and each other. We are a family...I love you all and thank you for the honor.

Candy

Photos by Josh Burdick Photography, www.joshburdick.com

Our Judges Look for “Essence of Type”

**COAT**
Soft, Silky, Gently Waving, Warm Wheaten Color

**SILHOUETTE**
Square, medium-sized Tail set well up on back Neck ... Moderate in length

**ATTITUDE**
Happy, steady, shows himself gaily

**HEAD/CHARACTER**
Rectangular, moderately long, in proportion to body Ears ... Small to medium, level with skull, held close to head, point to ground

**MOVEMENT**
Must be able to cover ground in an efficient/graceful fashion, indicating strength and endurance. A properly structured, well-conditioned dog has reach and drive, and maintains a strong, level topline when moving.”
### Weekend At A Glance

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<th>Judge</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>9/30</td>
<td>30 Hatboro DC</td>
<td>Ken Kauffman</td>
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<td>Whindancer Under The Wide And Starry Sky</td>
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<td>10/1</td>
<td>Morris &amp; Essex KC, Del Val SCWTC Specialty</td>
<td>Sue Goldberg</td>
<td>Kathleen Ferris</td>
<td>Bryr Rose Starr Starry Night</td>
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<td>10/2 Hatboro DC, Del Val SCWTC Specialty</td>
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<td>Whindancer Under The Wide And Starry Sky</td>
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<td>10/3 SCWTCA Sweepstakes</td>
<td>Pam Mandeville</td>
<td>Candy Way</td>
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<td>10/4 SCWTCA National Specialty, Montgomery County KC</td>
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| WD         | Whindancer Under The Wide And Starry Sky  | Sundance My Beau’s A RoxStar           | Bryr Rose Written in the Stars | Whindancer Under The Wide And Starry Sky         |
| RWD        | Sundance My Beau’s A RoxStar              | Sam Hill's Happy                       | Orla Geragold Lake Isle of Innisfree | Sam Hill's Happy |
| WB         | Azydeco How Can U Surpass Perfection      | Marquee's It Ain't No Trick            | Frolic's Caper To Coventry   | Bryr Rose Written in the Stars                   |
| RWB        | Saddlebrook's Champagne Fizz              | Harbour Hill Gucci Gucci Goo           | Orion Trebol Breaking Bad   | Frolic's Heading for Stardom                     |
| BOB        | Azydeco How Can U Surpass Perfection (b)  | GCH Canopy Road's Carry On The Legend (b) | GCH Bryr Rose Matisse (d) | GCH Serendipity's Urban Legend (b)               |
| BOW        | Azydeco How Can U Surpass Perfection      | Sundance My Beau’s A RoxStar            | Frolic's Caper To Coventry   | Whindancer Under The Wide And Starry Sky         |
| BOS        | GCL Li'Town Fiddlers Lullaby Of Ardnacassa (d) | GCH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising (d)  | BOS - GCH Canopy Road's Carry on the Legend (b) | GCH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising (d) |
| Vet        |                                          |                                        |                        | VD - GCH Greentree Real Quiet                    |
| SD         | GCH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising              | GCH Rosheen Ring of Fire               | GCH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising | CH Star on Cloud 9                               |
| SB         | GCH Canopy Roads Carry On The Legend      | GCH Serendipity's Urban Legend         | GCH Raelyn J’Adore Effel   | GCH Haldane Does Your Mother Know?               |
| AOMs       | -GCH Serendipity's Urban legend (b)       | -GCH Li’Town Fiddlers Lullaby of Ardnacassa (d) | -GCH Rhodowen American Dream (d) | -CH Keepsake's Soul Surfer (b)                   |
|            | -GCH Haldane Does Your Mother Know? (b)   | -GCH Haldane Does Your Mother Know? (b) | -GCH Haldane Does Your Mother Know? (b) | -CH Clover's Mr. Blue Sky (d)                    |
|            | -GCH Bryr Rose Matiasse (d)               | -GCH Bryr Rose Matiasse (d)            | -GCH Diamond's Ain't Misbehavin | -GCH Sundance Second Chance (d)                  |
|            | -GCH Marquee's Collection of Gemstones (b)| -GCH Marquee's Collection of Gemstones (b) | -CH Villanova Good Golly Miss Raleigh (b) | -CH Greentree Real Quiet - Veteran Dog            |
|            |                                          |                                          | -CH Villanova Good Golly Miss Raleigh (b) | -CH Greentree Real Quiet - Veteran Dog            |
|            |                                          |                                          | -CH Villanova Good Golly Miss Raleigh (b) | -CH Villanova Good Golly Miss Raleigh (b)        |

### A note from your Editors:

Our March issue of Benchmarks will feature the Wheaten IQ on breeding.
The Wheaten Health News will also focus on breeding.

Remember, Benchmarks is your publication, so please send us your ideas, input, and articles you’d like to see in the future.
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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 March 2016 issue: Feb 1

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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.

No commercial advertising. Only photos with un-retouched dogs accepted. Limit health references to hip and eyes and/or “health testing current and shared upon request”. Ads accepted from club members only, limited to two pages per issue. ONLY CLUB MEMBERS’ CHECKS ACCEPTED for ads of co-owned/bred dogs.

Ad closing date for March 2016 issue: Feb 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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Checks should be made payable to SCWTCA, Inc., drawn on US accounts or with international money orders in US funds
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Toni Vincent, SCWTCA Endowment/Treasurer
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Bellevue, WA 98005-1503

the SCWTCA Endowment Fund
Make checks payable to SCWTCA Endowment, Inc.
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Submit to editor by closing date

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- Morris/Essex - Award Of Merit
- Hatboro KC - Award of Merit

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Thank you Allison Sunderman and Louise Bishoff!

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