“I will love you and protect you for the rest of my life.”

Pamperedpetstravel.com
And The Winner is...

“NORA”

GCH Heirloom Nobody Does It Better CA x GCH Stratford Fashionista

This was a huge 5-day cluster!!!
Nora also won BOB the first two days.
Thank you, Karen Wilson for her Terrier group 1, and special thanks to Robert Robinson for this exciting BIS(NOHS) win.

co-owned and co-bred by Barbara Gillett and Kay Kotzelnick

Stratford Wheatens
Molly O’Connell
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About The Cover

Photo of these sweet 7 week old pups provided by Beth Sorenson. Mom is GCH Ceili’s Shiny And Bright OA OAJ. Russ, Beth’s husband, took the picture while Beth entertained them to get that adorable and undivided attention!
From the President

The polls have closed! We will hear that phrase many times during this election year as people exercise their rights to vote. As members of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America, we also have a voice and a vote in the policies governing the club. Earlier this year, after months of review, the COE committee proposed a number of updates to the Code of Ethics. Ballots with the proposed changes were sent to voting members and all of the items were approved.

The Breeding area of the COE saw several new policies approved including a minimum breeding age of 15 months for males. Eyes will be examined by a board certified ophthalmologist and registered with the OFA Eye Registry (CAER) prior to breeding and every two years thereafter until age 10. The PLN DNA Test will be done prior to the first breeding with exceptions noted. The newly revised Code of Ethics will be included in the 2016 Member Directory as well as on the SCWTCA website.

I’d like to offer a big thank you to COE Committee Chair, Kathy McIndoe, along with members Sue Goldberg, Beverly McDonald, Jinx Moore and Health Chair, Molly O’Connell, for their many hours of work and dedication to both the breed and the club.

In other important news, June 1st marks the retirement of Dr. Meryl Littman from the University of Pennsylvania. We always knew this day would come and now it’s here. For well over twenty years, Dr. Littman has worked tirelessly to find answers to our breed health issues. Her efforts, along with those of dedicated Wheaten owners and breeders, led to the establishment of the Open Registry, DNA collections through the Geriatric Dog Project, and other important research. Ultimately, with Penn geneticist, Dr. Paula Henthorn, she developed a genetic marker test for PLN.

So many affected Wheatens and their owners have benefited from her guidance and support over the years. She has answered countless emails and phone calls from worried owners, calmed their fears and offered sympathy when a battle was lost. Our heartfelt thanks to Meryl for all she has done to help our dogs live long, healthy lives.

“I love a dog. He does nothing for political reasons.” . . . Will Rogers

From the Editors

First, thank you to the people who took the time to contribute articles and/or information for June Benchmarks. Your participation is key to an interesting and meaningful publication. As we began planning for just two issues concentrated on breeding, we quickly realized we had underestimated the potential for this enormous topic. March was centered around making the right breeding decisions, June’s primary focus is on whelping, and September will continue with information and articles pertaining to the development stages and rearing pups.

2017 SCWTCA CALENDAR

Do you have a high quality photo of your special Wheaten(s) that you would like to have considered for our calendar? If so, email your photo to: Linda Hallas at lindah3@verizon.net

This is what we require:
- A good, clear, high resolution photo of at least 1 mb (jpeg preferred)
- NO people in the photo, please, just the dog(s)
- All photos must be received by July 31st.
- Be sure to include your name, the owner’s name (if different) along with the dog’s call name.
Whelping a litter is both miraculous and a bit scary at the same time. Hopefully some of these articles will offer education and comfort that it is a natural process that both you and your dam will marvel at.

Along with some terrific articles from both members and highly regarded canine experts, a very interesting and informative WHN on whelping and some complications are included herein.

The “pull quote” from the Dr. Sillers’ article on page 12 has long been a concern of mine. I’m no expert and have bred fewer litters than most. However, I can recall when our bitches were anxious to be bred, whelped easily and exhibited incredible maternal instinct. I’m now seeing some bitches that want nothing to do with males and sometimes lack that maternal instinct for several days until it finally kicks in...just something to think about as we plan for a foundation bitch.

The SCWTCNCA Specialty, Roving Specialty and Bucks, Del Val show wins and events are also covered in great detail this issue.

In our continuing effort to make Benchmarks more informative, we’d like to know how you, our readers, like the focused approach of each issue on a particular topic, such as “Type,” Breeding, Whelping, Rearing, etc...

An interesting suggestion prompted an experiment for June, “Hot Topics,” an attempt to obtain feedback from a panel of “Wheaten Gurus.” We pose a question to them, and responses are published (page 19). Since this is the first time we have tried this, your feedback is really important...let us know your thoughts.

This is indeed another voluminous issue, and in order to fit everything and meet our page requirements and/or limitations for printing, articles may not always begin at the top of each page. This not ideal, but necessary. Our goal for the future will be to keep the publication to 60 pages or less.

Please enjoy, and don’t forget about advertising in September as we prepare for Montgomery.

Helen Fraguela

In this issue you’ll find results and judges critiques from two regional Specialties as well as the Roving National. Those judges’ critiques include feedback from two very longtime Breeder Judges. It’s nice to read some positive comments, especially since a few years back those accolades were not as frequently heard. But where I believe the real benefit lies is in the constructive criticism. A theme that I think we can all benefit from is getting back to the four elements of Essence of Type ... Coat, Silhouette, Head, and Attitude.

Both of these Breeder Judges noted differences in dogs they see in the rings from coast to coast, and in between; but their suggestions on areas of improvement lie squarely in the four elements of Type. Whether or not you attended or were entered at either of these Specialties, I think you’ll find the critiques interesting ... maybe you’ll read the comments and reflect on a dog you’re currently showing or even take them into consideration as you plan your next breeding combination.

Another piece I hope you find interesting is this quarter’s Wheaten IQ which includes photos of some of the early Wheatens who make up many of today’s pedigrees. In addition to testing your knowledge and “eye” for a dog to match the photos of puppies to their adult pictures, you may find it interesting to see the elements of breed Type these early dogs contributed. In my opinion these dogs certainly stand the test of time and could easily win in today’s competition.

Deb Van De Ven
Summer was born in Wisconsin on the day our first Wheaten died. We took it as a sign that she was supposed to come to Pittsburgh to be our dog. Finding the perfect name for her was very important to us. While reading a book about pet loss we found a short passage by Robert Richardson.

Warm summer sun, shine kindly here; Warm western wind, blow softly here; Green sod above, lie light, lie light – Good-night, dear heart, good-night, good-night.

We often find peace and tranquility in nature and so we gave her the name “Summer.” This passage seemed to be so perfect when we found her name within the lines and then when we said goodbye to her this February.

She had a good life. She enjoyed obedience training, agility, and as a good Irish dog – marched in many St. Patrick’s Day Parades. We celebrated her birthday every year with ice cream cake. We called her our “Gentle Spirit” because of her gentle nature with everyone. We have so many memories that will shine through after the heartache and pain subside.

Sandi & Randy Gross
Bred by: Kathy Eichman and Cynthia Stokvis

Brady came into our lives when the search for a hypoallergenic, medium-sized dog led us to this beautiful breed. We contacted a local breeder who thought that Rose Clime might still have one puppy left from her last litter. Upon contacting Rose, she insisted on meeting the whole family. Adopting a dog from a breeder was all new to us but it was clear that she really cared about placing that pup in a good home. We passed the test and Brady came home with us. This was back in 2001 when he was a springy 6-month-old puppy.

This last January he celebrated his 15th birthday. We never thought he’d actually live this long as he had a health issue early on that resolved itself as he matured. For that, we are grateful.

We lost Brady in March, and the pain is still so raw and hurtful. I choose to remember him as he was in his youth; poetry in motion. When he ran, he was a gazelle, he had a natural, regal stance. I remember inquiring with our trainer about why he wasn’t considered show-quality when I thought he was so beautiful. She said that, yes, he had the right attitude but he was too tall and lanky for the breed. I would say that he was tall, dark and handsome. It was obvious early on that he always enjoyed looking good. We’d all chuckle when he’d prance in the house after being groomed as though saying, “Yeah, I look good!”.

Brady was a large part of our family during our kids’ youth. His golden years and departure to the Rainbow Bridge mark the end of an era for our family as our youngest child is graduating from college in May and will be leaving us with a fully empty nest. Brady will forever be in our hearts.

Sonia Bishop
Do I smell Birthday Cake?

“Meadow”
Woodland’s Fire Faerie  
DOB: 8/21/02  
Woodland’s Midnite Regatta X Woodland’s Loganberry Love

You would never know Meadow is a senior dog. She still loves to chase the squirrels that dare to come into our yard. She is the cuddliest Wheaten we have ever owned, always wrapped around our feet, on the couch beside us, or in our bed with her head on a pillow. She is sweet and gentle but can also be the great protector. She warns unwelcome visitors like the mailman and UPS man to keep their distance. She brings us joy everyday and we hope for many more years of good health.

Sandi & Randy Gross  
Bred by: Kathy Eichman and Cynthia Stokvis

“Kandi”

DOB: 4/1/01  
CH Winterwheat Kinsey’s Kandi Kiss  
(Ch Meirleac’s Quarterback Sneak X CH Winterwheat Galway Klassic)

Our dear little Kandi turned 15 on April 1st. Always an energetic, happy girl, she never was an April fool’s joke. It is only recently that she stopped running laps around the yard. However, we have been unable to get her to stop jumping onto the deck and into the house or chasing the vacuum cleaner. Her eyesight has dimmed and her hearing is selective, but she still is very generous with her kisses and her desire for attention. We are ever thankful to Kandi’s breeder, Bette Eckstrom, for allowing us to adopt this little girl and to Nancy Andersen for showing Kandi to her championship. And, we can’t forget our vet, Dr. Eric Munson, for helping us keep her healthy all these years. Here’s to you, Kandi. A very Happy Birthday!

Karen and Geoffrey Bilda

Welcome New Open Registry Members

May 1, 2016

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.

Dawn Sealy  
Cheryl & Jack Kinney Jr  
Katia Lemya & Marc-Andre Hebert  
Elizabeth Stonehouse  
Lorene Jones  
Nancee Baile  
Diane Guillotte
Welcome New Members

Mary Brown: Corporate Environmental Health & Safety Manager for a satellite communications company

When my husband and I got married, I told him that having dogs in the home was non-negotiable. He has significant allergies so we looked for a dog less likely to cause an allergic reaction. We “test visited” several breeds, but when we saw the Wheaten the search was over.

Our first Wheaten, Puka Shell, came to us in 1998. She raised my children and lived to 13 as the “best dog ever”. When we began looking for a second Wheaten I had learned enough to insist on a SCWTCA breeder. We connected with Sandra Amorosia (Avalon) and welcomed Bliss into our home. I didn’t pay attention to the phrase “…oh, and she’s a show dog” until it was too late. Bliss is now Ch Avalon Noblesse Oblige and has had two litters producing multiple champions and 18 happy families. We now also have, Kolohe Waiola Rainbow Ice (Penny), age 6 months and Kolohe Annie’s Song (Shine) age 6 months... I am mentored daily by Jon Caliri.

At this point, I am really enjoying conformation showing, although I’m not ruling out a try at Agility. Just like at work, I feel it is important to be involved in professional organizations, particularly those that provide information, guidance, and hold to a Code of Ethics. If I was going to breed, I wanted to do it right.

Mary was sponsored by Sandy Amorosia and Bonney Snyder. Mary brings skills and interest in crafts, writing, project management, rescue and stewarding.

James and Jessica Jackson: James is a System Safety Engineer. Jessica is a Deputy Clerk with the Circuit Court.

Dogs have always been a part of our lives but when we lost both of our dogs in 2013 to cancer, we were so heartbroken that we decided to take a break from dogs altogether. Well, needless to say, our home just wasn’t the same and it was only a few months before we needed to fill that void. I took several dog breed quizzes online and the Wheaten came up in the top 3 each time. So after lots of research, we decided that the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier was the breed for us. After a lot of searching we finally found a breeder on the SCWTCA website that had a puppy available. We got our first Wheaten, Lily, (now, GCH Haldane Total Eclipse of the Sun) from Tim Smith. She was a show potential puppy, and my Husband and I, with absolutely no experience, decided we would give it a try. With the help of Tim and many new wonderful “Wheaten” friends we were meeting at the shows, we began learning to groom and show. We enjoyed the experience of showing, the competition and our new friendships so much that we added our second Wheaten, Khaleesi (CH Edgewood Rush) from Carl McGill in 2014. We have since finished both of our girls and survived whelping our first litter on our own that produced our new baby, Rioga, Tell Tale Heart.

We have only participated in conformation thus far but have started some beginner agility and obedience classes just for the fun of it and in the hopes of maybe one day pursuing this further. We joined the SCWTCA because we believe it is the best way to stay informed and further our knowledge. I want to continue to learn from the many experienced members. It is our hope to be able to mentor and educate new people about this wonderful breed the way all of our new “Wheaten family” have done for us.

James and Jessica were sponsored by Tim Smith and Marla Braun. Interest and skills include computer, event management, fundraising, marketing, and project management.
Tom & Gail Richvalsky: Tom is retired from Industrial Sales and Gail is a Lifestyle Director

We got our first Wheaten in 1997 and fell in love with the breed. Her name was Little Bit O Honey. She was a pet, (not a show dog) but she was the best dog ever! We were inseparable. She was always with us. We were looking for a breed that would be great with children and non-allergenic, as Tom has allergies. We saw that they make a great family dog and love to do things with their humans. At that time, we were very active in camping, hiking, kayaking and lots of other things, and Honey was a perfect fit for our family. Plus, they are adorable.

We currently have two wheatens, GCH Villanova Ainle Just One Look “Shadow” & GCH Ainle Money Talks “Cash” that we have been showing in Conformation. We will be starting obedience/Rally with Shadow in the near future, continuing Cash in Conformation for a while longer. We enjoy long walks and soccer games with the grandchildren as well. The dogs love the kids.

As we have become more involved with the dogs, we wanted to be a part of something bigger and learn as much as we can about the breed; best practices for training, breeding, feeding, grooming etc. We were encouraged by other members to join because they knew how serious we are about doing the right things for our dogs and the breed. We also wanted to help promote the breed and the breed standard and enjoy the camaraderie of other people who love the SCWT as much as we do - when you have them, you tend to talk about them all the time, and people who don't get it, don't get it!

Gail and Tom were sponsored by Kathi Elliot and Linda Hallas. They looking forward to helping the Club wherever help is needed!

SCWT Champion and Performance Titles

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<tr>
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<td>Adare’s Dancing Miss Daisy NF</td>
<td>GCHS CH Greentree Moonstruck Mombo Man Buckwheat Emperor Over The Sea</td>
<td>CH Waterford Adare Anew</td>
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<td>Almar’s Miss Cassandra VCD1 BN GN RE OAP OJP CGC Ama CGCA</td>
<td>GCH CH Stratford Top Brass</td>
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<td>Azlough Lighthearted Anna Belle CDX RA</td>
<td>CH Whindancer’s Heart Like A Wheel</td>
<td>CH Eringlo Light My Fire</td>
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<td>Barrum’s Pumpkin Pie Sage AXJ AJP OFP CGC</td>
<td>CH Whindancer Little Ball Of Fire CD</td>
<td>CH Geragold Whindancer Sunny Two</td>
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<td>GCH CH Salthsea Runnin’ Down A Dream</td>
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<td>CH Bartrons Bubbidi Bubbidi Boo</td>
<td>GCH CH Salthsea Runnin’ Down A Dream</td>
<td>GCH CH Bartrons Give The Girl A Kiss</td>
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<td>CH Blessing Sweet Symmetry</td>
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<td>CH Islander’s Kiss The Girls</td>
<td>GCH CH Canopy Road’s A Star Is Bjorn</td>
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<td>CH Eringlo Rise Above The Mist</td>
<td>CH Cuillean One Hot Minute</td>
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<td>CH Hollywood’s I Got You Babe</td>
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<td>CH CH Saddlebrook’s It All Started With A Big Bang</td>
<td>CH Kaler Star Ice Ice Baby</td>
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Official publication of the SCWTCA, Inc, volume 44, number 2, June 2016 pg 9
Getting your dog’s attention…

One of the biggest complaints I receive from pet owners besides barking and jumping is that their dogs simply will not pay attention to them in public. They are so distracted. Here are some simple tips to teach your dog to acknowledge and check in with you. Remember the more that you reinforce a behavior, the more likely it is to increase.

**Have your dog earn all of their rewards.** For me this is the most important foundation to all training. It is simple, easy and once made a part of your everyday routine establishes your position as leader. Waiting for the food bowl, having your dog wait and then on permission follow you outside, waiting when crossing the street and asking permission before being allowed on the sofa by offering a behavior are all a part of the plan.

**Teach your dog to look at you.** Start in a quiet place like your home, then move outdoors and try different venues like pet stores and banks. One way to do this is to praise your dog every time they look at you. Another is to actually teach this behavior by taking a treat and placing it up by your nose so that as your dog looks at you they look into your eyes. A quick “Yes” to confirm their success. Then once they understand see if you can move the treat to the side of your face, say their name and get eye contact. Say your dog’s name and then WAIT for them to look at you. Say it once. And when they do big praise and a nice treat.

**Be interesting!** Besides using your voice you can pat your leg, change your pace and your voice, use a sound that catches their attention, master silly walks. The goal is to be far more interesting than anything else in the environment. Squeak a toy, whistle or prance and when you get that look praise and treat.

**Take your training on the road.** In the photo above, Krista and I are practicing at Porcelanosa in Ramsey, NJ. Ask permission from local store owners. Pet stores are a good place to start, moving up to local banks which for the most part are dog-friendly. Remember to bring a treat pouch so you can work hands-free, wear comfortable shoes, and have your dog go to the bathroom BEFORE you even think of entering the store. When training outside the home I make sure that my dog will WAIT until I give her permission to leave the car and before entering any building. Most pet-friendly shop owners will be thrilled to see that you have practiced this skill. And once your dog has begun getting in the habit of working for you it just gets better and better!

What treats do I use for training in public? Cooked chicken, beef and cheese cut up into very small pieces. When the weather is warmer I bring a small lunch tote with ice to keep things fresh.

_Dorice Stancher is a CPDT-KA and owner of Canines Can Do, llc. For more training tips visit her Canines Can Do Dog Training page on Facebook or subscribe to her training blog on WordPress at https://caninescando.wordpress.com She also is a regular contributor to the AKC Family Dog and AKC Gazette._
Mother Nature has been responsible for reproduction and the continuation/evolution of all living things from the beginning of time without the help of veterinary medicine. Before I need to make sure there is still air in my tires the next time I drive my vehicle, I want to put it out there on the table that I am grateful for the advancements in veterinary medicine. Changes that took place over the last ten to fifteen years in the understanding of canine reproduction I used daily while I was in practice. Advances in veterinary medicine pertaining to canine reproduction have greatly helped those individuals who also have a basic background in canine husbandry. What is missing today is knowledge of fundamental canine husbandry. Those individuals who have essential knowledge in both fields are the ones who move to the forefront.

I see many canine owners/breeders who do not have even rudimentary knowledge in canine husbandry and have little interest in learning it. This is not knowledge that can be learned by reading an article on the subject; it takes years of being very observant of one’s bitches as they continue their journey though “the circle of life.” Many rely on their veterinarian to fill in this gap, but unfortunately many veterinarians do not have the required knowledge or experience in canine husbandry.

In this article I will try to discuss Canine Reproduction 101 by organizing my thoughts from forty years of breeding dogs plus my experience as a veterinarian. I believe this discussion is important because in the past Mother Nature removed individuals from the gene pool that probably should not have reproduced. However today, with the advances in veterinary medicine along with canine owners that love their dogs and want offspring from them, regardless of any genetic issues that the dog might have, nature has lost that control. Some of these dogs could be top winners. Are we doing the breed any favors by adding them to the gene pool? I hate it when I hear the words coming from a breeder that they must have pups from this dog because he is the last of their line.

I am thinking if he or she is the last of their line, maybe there is a reason for that.

There is still much that we do not understand about canine genetics or husbandry. A breeder might not want to purchase a pup from a dam that has yellow eyes, very poor coat or very straight shoulders, because we know these traits can be passed on genetically. Breeders may want to also consider not purchasing a puppy from dams who have abnormal heat cycles, poor fertility, poor milk production or are difficult whelpers for these traits might also be passed on to their offspring genetically.

Example: If we continue to breed bitches that are poor whelpers and lack normal motherly instincts to care for their babies, will this be passed on to their offspring? If it is passed to the next generation then one day you may wake up to discover that the only way you can continue your breeding line is if you personally take the place of the bitch and take on the task of raising the pups yourself. Years ago I had a client that asked what they might do so that their bitches did not always require caesarians. I was aware of three generations of daughters that all required caesarians when they were bred. I told the owner that I did not really have an answer to that question, but possibly with their next litter they should keep a male instead of a daughter to carry on their “line.” They did exactly that and over the next 25 years have not needed a caesarian. Was this just dumb luck or was it that with each generation the dams were passing genetic information on to their daughters that caused uterine inertia which resulted in the need for caesarians?

Today we all lead very busy lives. It is easier to have a blood test to tell you when to breed your bitch than to take time and just observe the changes taking place during the bitch’s estrus cycle. I took close observations of any changes that took place on all of my bitches during their heat cycle. I noticed that not all bitches have read the textbook so I am aware of their individual habits. Most heat cycles progress in the same way cycle after cycle. If one knows ahead of
time how a bitch has progressed through her heat cycle in the past, this knowledge will be helpful during the heat cycle when you want her bred.

Many stud owners want their dog collected for artificial insemination when used for breeding because they do not want to take the time for the dogs to breed naturally or they are afraid their stud dog might get hurt. Playing the devil’s advocate, will this lead to some day in the future a generation of males that will have no interest or enough libido to breed naturally?

A normal bitch will show signs of heat for about three weeks. One will first see just a few hairs at the end of her vulva that are stained with blood. At this time usually no changes are seen in the vulva itself. It is important to observe the bitch for the next few days. It will be apparent that some will continue to progress with their heat cycle where others will not. If one observes this latter group of bitches, the bleeding will restart again in a few days. I have seen some where this period lasts up to one month before the bitch starts her actual heat cycle. I always marked on the calendar the day I first noticed any bleeding from the vulva. However, if the bleeding stopped the next day, I just observed what was happening and when the bleeding restarted again and continued to progress into a normal heat cycle I changed the day of the first day of heat to coincide with my new observation. If this had not been noticed the breeder would be trying to breed the bitch long before she is actually ready to be bred.

There are always exceptions. I have observed some bitches in which the first sign of bleeding, which would indicate the start of their heat cycle, was actually the first day that they should be bred. There was no indication of any vaginal discharge until she was ready to be bred. I found this happening more often in Toy breeds or other small breeds than in larger breeds of dogs.

A normally cycling bitch will first have the discharge from her vulva as mentioned above. Within two to four days the vaginal bleeding will increase in frequency and amount. The vulva will also start to swell and increase in size. As the time moves closer to when the bitch needs to be bred, the discharge will become less bloody and look more mucous-like. That is where the term “straw color” mentioned in the textbooks comes from. The vulva will change from being firm to more spongy in texture. The days when the bitch is bred one might not see any blood in the vaginal discharge. Once she starts to go out of heat, which coincides with either her ova (or “eggs”) being fertilized or with the eggs no longer viable for fertilization, the discharge will turn to a black tar-like color.

Many bitches will flag for me starting around day five. Flagging is when you scratch the back of their thighs and the bitch will lean toward your finger while her tail is pulled off in the opposite direction. When you start to rub your index finger along the back of the opposite thigh muscles she starts to lean in the opposite direction toward the finger and will pull her tail up and out of the way. Many bitches that will flag for me around day five will not flag for the stud dog until they are actually ready to be bred.

Progestrone levels are used to determine the exact time for breeding, which is necessary when using frozen or chilled semen. This is a simple blood test and most clinics will have the results within 24 hours. Once the progesterone level rises the bitch will ovulate in 48 hours. It then takes another two days for the ova (or “eggs”) to mature and then they stay viable for the next 72 hours. This will not guarantee that your bitch will become pregnant, but at least she was exposed to semen during her fertile period.

The next thing most breeders do is have an ultrasound done at day 18 to determine if their bitch is pregnant. Yes, it is nice to know the results, but again, being the devil’s advocate, it is just adding an additional expense. If the bitch is pregnant, after 30 days changes will be noticeable in the mammary glands of the bitch. Starting at around 35 days of pregnancy you will notice some clear mucous discharge from the vulva. It will not be much at first but it will become more and more noticeable as the pregnancy advances. This discharge is mucous from the mucous plug which naturally occurs in the cervix if the bitch is pregnant. The only exception to changes in the mammary glands is in bitches having their first heat cycle. These bitches will start to have swollen mammary glands which will be noticeable starting around day 30 after their heat cycle. However, this only happens during their first heat cycle. In subsequent heat cycles, mammary gland development is not seen unless the bitch is pregnant. Bitches that are
having a false pregnancy will have noticeable mammary development and actual milk at whelping time, but examination of the vulva will not show the changes that would occur if they were pregnant. Also the mucous discharge previously mentioned will not be present.

What are the signs that would indicate a bitch needs a caesarian? In those breeds where a caesarian is indicated more frequently I would suggest having a radiograph taken of the bitch two or three days prior to her scheduled whelping. The bitch should be positioned on her back in the same position as if you were taking a film to check for hip dysplasia. Then the width of the birth canal can be measured. If the pup’s head equals or is smaller than the width of the birth canal, theoretically the pup should be able to pass through it. If the pup is too large then a caesarian can be scheduled before the bitch actually goes into labor. The progesterone level returns to normal when the bitch is ready to whelp so this blood test can also be used to determine the optimum time for the caesarian.

I cannot stress enough the timing of this radiograph. It needs to be taken as close to the actual whelping date as possible, because the pups grow so fast toward the end of the gestation period. Another reason for the radiograph, besides checking on the size of the pup compared to the birth canal, is to get an accurate count on the number of puppies the bitch is carrying. If the wrong view is taken, a pup can be superimposed over another pup, therefore being omitted from the count. Many giant breeds are too large to get detailed radiographs using the radiographic equipment in many veterinary clinics.

Breeds that normally are free whelpers and usually have large litters might require a caesarian when they are only carrying one or two pups because these pups are usually larger than what one would normally expect. A radiograph taken a couple of days prior to whelping is indicated to see if the pups are too large to pass through the birth canal. Usually these bitches do not look pregnant even though they have mammary development, milk, and the vaginal discharge as described above. Always remember the two hour rule. Once the fetal membranes rupture, meaning the water breaks, there should be a pup born within two hours. If not then I would suggest the bitch be given an oxytocin injection. If no pups have been born within the next one to two hours, I would do the caesarian. Each time a pup is born I would record the time. If it gets more than two hours between pups, I would then give the oxytocin injection and do the caesarian if indicated as written above. The two hour rule is also used at the end. Many times an owner thinks a bitch is finished whelping and a dead pup is born hours later. If the bitch is getting exhausted, this last injection of oxytocin usually will help her to whelp any remaining pups.

I received a phone call from a longtime breeder at nine o’clock last Sunday evening. The caller knew I was retired but just wanted some information. The water (fetal membranes) on his bitch had ruptured over an hour earlier and the bitch was not straining but was passing a greenish discharge. I explained to the caller that a greenish discharge is always a concern, especially when the whelping is not progressing with the birth of pups. I told him he could wait another thirty minutes, but if she had not whelped a pup by then he should take her to an emergency clinic.

Once at the clinic the veterinarian suggested using a fetal monitor to check on the pups to see if they were in distress and possibly taking radiographs. The bitch owner told him that the bitch has been passing a greenish discharge for over two hours and was showing no signs of straining, so he just wanted a caesarian as soon as possible. He phoned me the next day and thanked me for the advice. The bitch had thirteen puppies and all were alive and doing well. The first one was found all green in color and was twisted so it could not move into the birth canal. If he had waited he probably would have lost most if not all of the pups. I explained to the bitch owner that the reason the bitch did not strain is because she is not able to strain unless a pup is positioned in the birth canal.

If a bitch is bred naturally and gets to day 65 of pregnancy but has not whelped, I would suggest a caesarian. In such cases the bitch usually whelped in a day or two but the pups were all born dead or I wound up doing a caesarian in the middle of the night and the pups were dead.

With progesterone testing to determine when a bitch should be bred, I discovered that bitches whelped on day 59 instead of day 62 or 63 when bred naturally. These bitches that have not whelped by day 62 I would recommend a caesarian to ensure live puppies.

Until next time...

Dr. Jim
On Saturday, June 20, 2015 our adorable Zuma, CH Taras Good Vibrations for Claddagh gave birth to her first litter.

My longtime friend, Cecily Skinner and I co-own Zuma. Cecily was her breeder. Cecily and I have an unusual history. One of my first litters, produced Cecily’s first show Wheaten and we’ve been friends ever since. Her last litter with Roxy produced our Zuma. My husband, Jim, Cecily and I thought it was fitting that such a special little dog had her puppies over our SCWTCSC Specialty weekend. It was a beautiful, healthy litter of six puppies, four girls, and two boys. She had them easily and quickly and was that wonderful mother that every breeder hopes for.

Jim and I have had Wheatens for 30 years. After taking our first one into the show ring we were hooked. Our breeder, Patty Godfrey had me help her with her next litter and it was a wonderful, life changing experience. With our second Wheaten we began breeding after she became a champion. We breed usually when we want to have a new show dog – about every 2-3 years. We have been blessed and are grateful that we have rarely had a serious problem whelping. Over the years we have had the privilege of having two incredible vets that we had terrific relationships with. They were both the kind of vet that you can call or text with a problem and they walk you through it. Unfortunately, both have retired.

As we all settled down after the whelping into that sleepy, happy, warm relaxed state, I called our new vet to get Zuma’s pit shot but the receptionist told me that if she had had all the pups and the afterbirths she didn’t need a shot and that thought was old school. I wasn’t comfortable with the answer because I was so used to doing it the other way, so I called again later in the day and was told the same thing by someone else.

Sunday morning about 4 a.m. (24 hours after having the puppies) her temperature shot up to 103. Frantic, I bundled her up in cold towels and took her to the neighborhood Emergency Clinic while my husband looked after the puppies. She had an x-ray which showed she had delivered all her puppies; she received a pit shot and the antibiotic, Clavamox.

When we got home she happily went back to the whelping box to look over her pups. She continued to be a fabulous mother, but refused any water or food. I was worried she wouldn’t be able to nurse the puppies for much longer without nutrients. So I was forced to stuff her with satin balls, water and chicken broth.

Monday, I took her to our new veterinarian, who gave her an ultrasound, which showed fluid in her uterus and she took a sample to send out to a lab to determine which antibiotics were the right ones to fight her infection. In the meantime, we were to continue the Clavamox every 12 hours. Her appetite never increased and her fever continued. A few days later we took pups in for tail docking and dew claws and Zuma in for another ultrasound which showed fluid still remaining in her uterus. The doctor decided to try Lutalyse. We had to give her injections twice a day. The Lutalyse causes contractions in the uterus so after each injection she had to walk for about 15 minutes to help her get through the contractions easier. The object of this was to get all the fluid out before her cervix closed, locking the infection in her body.

When the lab report came back, about 4 days later, it showed that the Clavamox wasn’t working and that Gentocin was the correct medicine. Gentocin, if given orally could hurt the nursing puppies. The new plan was to douche her with the Gentocin twice daily by inserting a catheter 4-6 inches into her vagina.

Zuma is an amazing little dog with a bigger than life personality. She’s a WOW with capital letters. Amazingly she stood calmly and quietly for each shot and each treatment even though my heart and hands were trembling. Once on the Gentocin, her temperature became normal again. Her appetite came back and she began to eat and drink with gusto. Her favorite meal was Cecily’s Pork Loin Roast with a side of macaroni.
The litter thrived and we were blessed to find exceptional families. All the puppies share Zuma’s joy and zest for life. They are fun!

Thank goodness Zuma has no permanent uterine issues and we are excitedly looking forward to her next litter when the time comes to breed again. What did I learn; no matter how prepared you are, unexpected questions and life circumstances are certain to arise with each litter, always take your girl’s temperature, be sure you have access to an emergency vet and watch your dog and believe in yourself. In addition to your veterinarian, other breeders and Wheaten friends are invaluable sources of information, common sense, courage and guidance.

Happy tails for all of us!

Using Technology to Whelp Pups

The name WhelpWise can cause several reactions from people: a smile from those who have used the service and had a successful whelping; a groan from those who tried but found the demands of the Doppler, Uterine Recording and working with the Whelp Wise Staff too much and those who just don’t believe in interfering with Mother Nature. I fall into the first category. I have never whelped a litter without WhelpWise at my side. Out of the six litters using WhelpWise I have not lost a puppy during the whelping process or in the 1st couple of days following as Whelp Wise continues to support clients post-whelp.

Karen Copley RNC, BSN is the brainchild behind WhelpWise™ Services, and an Airedale Breeder. She is a practicing perinatal nurse, holding a certification in high risk obstetrics. Her staff are practicing nurses with diverse medical backgrounds, and experienced vet techs currently working in specialties such as theriogenology, most of them breeders themselves. As a Breeder, Karen has seen all there is to see. This makes for a great combination.

I opted to use WhelpWise with my first litter. Never having whelped a litter before, the litter I did sit in on ended up becoming a c-section and a very difficult time for pups and dam. Watching this sealed the deal for me. I didn’t want to be alone with a novice bitch and run into difficulties, not knowing what to do.

Libby’s 1st litter was a surgical artificial insemination. Ultrasound showed 7 puppies. The Whelp Wise equipment arrived a few days early and I started to practice with the Doppler listening for heart rates and the monitoring equipment. Libby went off her food around day 56 +/- (Without having done an LH Surge the actual date is approximate.) I noticed that Libby was shivering and you could see her sides ripple. WhelpWise responded right away and told me to get her on the monitor. Sure enough, Libby was having contractions and some were fairly strong. The goal became to save the litter and my bitch. I was instructed to start using Terbutaline, a drug that is given to pregnant women to halt contractions. This was the start of a very long 5 days of monitoring on various schedules for an hour each time, injecting Libby when contractions picked up again and monitoring the puppy heart rates to make sure they were not in distress. On the fifth day the Terbutaline would no longer hold off the contractions and a c-section was performed.

7 good-sized healthy puppies were delivered. All thrived and Libby was a natural mom taking to the puppies without a problem. The same thing occurred with Libby’s 2nd litter of 8 pups, but this time we were prepared for what would most likely happen.

By Holly Craig
Who knows what would have happened if I hadn’t been using WhelpWise but the odds are that Libby would have whelped way too early and the litter would have been most likely lost. The lack of sleep, the cost of the service and the resulting c-section were all worth the effort.

Jump ahead to Sizzle’s 2nd breeding. Sizzle is Libby’s daughter from her 1st litter. Siz whelped a litter of 5 naturally her first go around, no problems. So, it appeared that the issue was not inherited. Upon the next breeding, she developed open Pyometra and was successfully treated by my Reproductive Vet. The downside of the treatment is that most often the bitch when in whelp in the future, will start having contractions early and not be able to hold the litter to term. Sure enough, Sizzle was bred on her next season, Surgical Implant and upon ultrasound there were 6 pups. The WhelpWise equipment arrived several weeks before her due date and the monitoring twice a day began. At times there would be signs of contractions but they can be difficult to distinguish from gas. Jump ahead to day 58 +/- and Sizzle was having strong breakthrough contractions. Fetal Heart rates were strong. Karen overnighted the Terbutaline and the injections began. Monitoring frequency became every two hours and the Terbutaline worked in staving off whelping until day 61 +/- . Whelp Wise conferred with my Reproductive Vet and the decision was made to do a c-section because of uterine exhaustion. Several hours later and a laundry basket of fat and happy puppies came home.

Last summer, Scandal, my 3rd generation coming down from Libby was bred via AI. Ultrasound showed 6 pups. Whelp Wise service came on board and on day 65 +/-1, Scandal began to whelp just as WhelpWise and my Reproductive Vet said she would. Five puppies in 3 hours with the first puppy presenting hind legs first. WhelpWise walked me through how to aid the puppy and the others quickly followed. Scandal settled down with her get after the 5th was born. No x-ray was taken as my Reproductive Vet is not a fan of them and we had done an ultrasound early on.

Without the use of the WhelpWise service I would have packed Scandal and the pups up in the car and run to the vet for an x-ray to make sure that the mystery pup #6 wasn’t still waiting to be delivered. With the fetal heart rate monitor (Doppler) Whelp Wise provides, I didn’t have to make the trip to the vet because the 6th puppy must have been reabsorbed, there were no other heart beats present. The outcome was less stress on both the Dam and the get in the long run.

Karen and her Staff are all retired Nurses with a strong background in Neo-Natal births or Veterinarians. All recommendations made by WhelpWise are made in conjunction with your Vet. Many General practice Vets are hesitant to do a C-section, they want nature to take it’s course. WhelpWise can alleviate this situation. They supply all calcium and oxy in titrated doses. Should additional meds be needed, WhelpWise will also supply those.

Going forward I know that when I first opted to utilize WhelpWise based on rave reviews of a fellow breeder, it was the best decision I could have made without even knowing what lay ahead with Libby, Sizzle and then Scandal. The service has more than paid for itself in thriving litters without losses. And, in the process I have gained another friend in the dog world, Karen Copley.

Verninary Perinatal Specialties Inc. is Home of the WhelpWise™ Service
Developing confident, well-adjusted puppies in every litter

By Karli Meuller, Dog Coach

We have all spent a great deal of time choosing the right Sires and Dams for our breeding programs. We spend countless hours on the phone picking the right families. But, one of the pieces of the puzzle I often see missing is training. You do not need to be a trainer to give your puppies the important early education only you can provide.

“Early Puppyhood development is the key to a successful upbringing”  Karli Meuller

As a trainer, many of the behavioral issues I see when working with owners and their dogs can be prevented during the early stages in which the breeders have them. You can never go wrong spending more time working with your pups. In this article I will cover a few of the things we do with our litters. I hope this gives you some new ideas on ways to improve that piece of the puzzle.

(It is important when researching different training techniques that you are able to recognize what is right for our breed and what is not. Many techniques can be picked through and rearranged to work well for our specific breed. I have spent years researching what combinations benefit the training program for our litters)

Early Neurological Stimulation:
ENS introduces mild stresses to very young puppies in a controlled way. These stresses help stimulate the neurological system which improves the growth and development of the pup’s immune system, cardiovascular system, and stress tolerance. Only 30 seconds a day for 2 weeks and we see a great improvement in their immune systems and stress tolerances. I consider this the foundation of our training program, which allows your pups to absorb training much younger than before.

Sight and Sound De-sensitizing:
Introducing and rotating sight and sound stimuli in your pups environment will help them with daily coping skills which in turn decreases the fear impulse to new objects. Sound is key here for decreasing anxiety of storms or other fearful noises we see. This is a very valuable skill for the pups to have as they continue to experience new environments. Keep in mind the types of stimuli your pups may come across in their new homes, neighborhoods, and show grounds. As breeders we hold precious time in our hands, we need to be sure we are imprinting our pups properly. These skills will be tested throughout their lives, therefore you need to discuss the importance of continued training once the pups go to their homes.

Introduction to Potty Training:
We start introducing our pups to potty training around 4 weeks old. Within a few days the pups are seeking out their designated potty spot. Introducing them to both indoor and outdoor potty training is extremely important. Weather will play a large role in which is predominantly used with each litter.

Problem Solving:
We spend a good deal of time working on problem solving with our pups. We have all seen the unruly teenage pup who gets frustrated at seemingly simple tasks, such as leash walking, or holding still for exam.

It is our job to work with them so they can learn to work with us. In training we create simple tasks and work together with each pup to guide them in the proper direction. This creates pups who look to you for direction when they are confused, again, benefiting you and your dog throughout its life. During this time an incredible amount of eye contact is apparent as well as an eagerness to learn new skills. As with everything in our pups’ lives, balance is key. We do not want to create needy pups. We want to create confident, independent dogs who know how to accept help when needed.
Body awareness:
Puppy agility equipment and balance boards are some of the tools we use for body awareness. This helps them learn how their body works; knowing they have a rear end as well as 4 feet allows them to manipulate their body when moving fast. And what pup doesn’t fly through life. This helps decrease the amount of strain on their bodies when jumping around as well as staying mentally present while moving. I remember the first 12 week old pup I was working with in the late 90’s that had great difficulty going down stairs. Some of that was due to fear of the unknown (another reason to implement the previous training we discussed) but most of it was due to not knowing how to move his body properly to get down the stairs.

Other breeders often ask me, how long should we keep our pups? Every trainer and breeder have different feelings of when puppies should go to their homes. I have found 10 weeks is the key age that works for us. During my time researching I have found most of the discussion on age of placement has much more to do with the litters with little human interaction and you see the normal, uninterrupted progression of growth. With training we change a lot of that, much like a child who has an early childhood education. I personally like keeping mine with me until 10 weeks of age due to the amount of change I see in the pups between 8-10 weeks during training. If you temperament test between 7 and 8 weeks, it leaves you little to no room to work with your pups in areas where they fall short. Obviously that is a bigger commitment for breeders. Do what is right for you and your breeding program. That being said, I certainly do not advise any earlier than 8 weeks.

Video of Dr. Carmen Battaglia explaining ENS from 3 to 16 days of life. available at www.breedingbetterdogs.com/seminars/early-neurological-stimulation.

The journey of life is sweeter when traveled with a dog.

Author Unknown

A Note from your Editors

Our September issue of Benchmarks will continue to feature articles and Wheaten IQ on breeding and rearing pups. Additionally, we will discuss some unusual and inappropriate behaviors sometimes seen in this breed (such as coat-chewing, foot licking, abnormal consumptive behavior, etc…) We encourage your participation with articles and information regarding any behavioral issues you have experienced over the years.

Remember, Benchmarks is your publication. Please participate with articles and contributions.
Test Your Wheaten IQ

So you’ve raised your puppies to perfection. Nurtured and socialized them to make them the very best versions of themselves. Now it’s time to make your choices on who will grace the show ring. How sure are you of your picks? Do you have an "eye" to recognize the next super star who will make you and your kennel name proud?

The puppies on this page were just that; the dogs that changed the history of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier breed in America. They represent some of the very best in our breed and make up the lineage behind many of today’s pedigrees. This year’s Education Seminar at our National Specialty will cover Puppy Evaluation ... until then, how about testing your knowledge by matching the puppy photos on this page to their corresponding adult photos on the opposite page? And for those of you who want bonus points, try to also guess the names of these famous dogs ... the Answer key on page 22 will reveal both names and puppy/adult matches.
Wheaten IQ… How well did you do?

Answer key:

A= 5
Ch Paisley After Midnight ROM, “Jack,” was a stunningly beautiful and typey dog, sound and with a perfect flowing coat, and a happy, goofy temperament that was a delight to live with.

B=6
Ch Waterford Just For Westridge ROM "Cruiser"
At the time when I was showing him, it was not easy for an owner / handler to achieve recognition, and it was his quality that helped us do as well as we did, getting ten group placements (including four group 1's). His biggest contribution to his offspring was his beautiful head and front assembly. But most of all he had a wonderful temperament. He was a "scholar and a gentleman" and I still miss him.

C=3
Ch Gleanngay Gather Moon Dust ROM "Duster" (August 4, 1981 – November 30, 1994) was a "Doc" grandson. He was graced with an enviable coat, lovely length of neck, beautiful top line, and very high tail set. His breedings produced 44 pups and 20 champions. His most renowned offspring was Ch Wildflower Stardust ROM, "Billy," whose dam was Ch Gleanngay Gotta Be Me. It is through Billy's descendants, along with a few others, that Duster's legacy lives on.

D=8
CH Andover Song N Dance Man CGC ROM "Harry"
Most of Harry’s win records still hold today, almost 30 years later. Ironically, it’s only his Best in Show Record that has been eclipsed, but I believe that he was the first to be considered a true contender at the BIS level. His group win at Westminster KC has not been duplicated. As a sire, he consistently improved outlines, heads, fronts, rears, toplines and tailsets. He was a great ambassador for the breed, whether in the show ring, “entertaining” guests in our kitchen, or doing therapy work at the nursing home.

E=2
Ch Gleanngay Holliday ROM "Doc" (April 8, 1977 – December 28, 1992) lived to be just shy of 16 years old. He was truly a watershed dog for the breed and remains the top-producing terrier sire of all time with over 126 champions. In his time, he was considered to be an exaggerated dog and, as such, was found to offer “a cure for the commons!” Needless to say, the list of Doc's outstanding progeny is extensive.

F=7
Ch Bantry Bay Kairo ROM "Kairo"
(Ch. Gleanngay Gather Moondust ROM x Ch. Gleanngay Holly Berry) was born 11/8/87. Handled by Candy and Peggy Browne, he was the Montgomery BOB winner in 1990 (where his son Ch. Bendacht Amaden’s Gold was WD and Kash’s daughter Ch. Amaden's Kash Sterling ROM was WB/BOW). He was a multiple Group Winner, Westminster BOB Winner and winner of multiple Specialties. He retired to live with Candy and Roger and died peacefully in his sleep.

G=1
Ch Bantry Bay Gleanngay Kashmir ROM "Kash"
Kash (Ch. Gleanngay Gather Moondust R.O.M. x Ch. Gleanngay Holly Berry) was born 10/10/84. Handled by Candy and Penny Belviso, he was the Montgomery BOB winner in 1990 (where his son Ch. Bendacht Amaden’s Gold was WD and Kash’s daughter Ch. Amaden’s Kash Sterling ROM was WB/BOW). He was a multiple Group Winner, Westminster BOB Winner and winner of multiple Specialties. He retired to live with Candy and Roger and died peacefully in his sleep. Roger and I were blessed to have bred, owned and loved these two beautiful Wheaten.

H=4
Ch Raclee Express West O'Andover CD ROM "Ryan"
Ryan paved the way for Wheaten in the group. He was one of the first to place consistently in the group, and won quite a few. As a sire, he consistently threw his wonderful temperament, lovely head, well-structured front and pretty coat.
A couple of months ago, a fellow SCWTCA member asked “Without looking, how much is in SCWTCA’s checking account?”

That question started me reviewing past SCWTCA Treasurers’ reports. I’m still cursing the person who asked that question.

Two caveats: First, I’m not suggesting any SCWTCA Treasurer has committed malfeasance. Second, this isn’t a rant about why we have so much money. Boards try their best and habits continue with little examination.

It’s long past time for the Board to get beyond the idea we are always facing dire financial straits. It’s time to improve the financial management of the club. This doesn’t require sophisticated knowledge, just the same common sense things we do with our family finances.

Let’s start with that checking account. When I first looked at it, I assumed the large balance was due to the timing of the club’s cash flow…a lot of money coming in at a particular moment. Nope….report after report showed a boatload of money sitting in the checking account earning no interest. Checking accounts should hold the cash needed to pay bills due before you can free up less liquid funds. After all, how many of us keep 80% of our assets in our checking accounts?

Fortunately, since I first looked, the Board voted in February to move a significant amount into a CD. Kudos…at last…for understanding basic cash flow management.

So the club took the first step but what was the basis for the decision to move $100,000 into a CD? Was it common sense? A back of the envelope calculation? Wavelengths only tells us a motion was made and approved.

This first step to improve cash management needs to be followed by more. The next step should be an analysis of the financial information in the Treasurer’s records over the last 5 years. Lest our Treasurer think I’m loading her up with more work, I think the Board should create a Finance Committee. We almost certainly have club members who have done similar tasks in real life.

The first goal of this analysis should be to determine the required amount of liquidity by analyzing what’s needed each month of the year. That sort of analysis doesn’t just help with cash flow. It allows the Board to do something even more significant for the future of SCWTCA…determine appropriate reserves. I am sure every Board thinks at some point or another “what if there’s a huge disaster at MCKC and we’re on the hook?” Saying it’s never happened isn’t the answer.

But analyzing how the club has spent money over the last few years helps. Knowing the downside of SCWTCA’s financial commitments facilitates planning. It can indicate the amount of money required to guard against hard times. It is a specific action protecting the club and easing fears of the unknown.

The next goal of the analysis is providing a dollar basis from which the Board can create a budget. It’s easy to avoid this budgeting if you’re living hand to mouth; then you’re just paying bills as they come due. Good news: Our Treasurers’ reports say SCWTCA is far from robbing Peter to pay Paul.

As an aside, some years back the Treasurer’s job description included budgeting. It certainly was in the 2008 Policy and Procedures Manual when I looked it up. Somehow, it’s disappeared. Not only is that an abdication of responsible club management, it’s also failing to do something to make other Board decisions easier. Board: restore that requirement.

Today “budgets” are done piecemeal; the recent Wavelengths shows a set amount “budgeted” for Breeder Education but no basis for the amount voted. That’s not a substitute for an overall club budget.

At heart, budgeting isn’t about money. It’s about setting priorities. Think of your monthly budget…you’re going to make sure shelter and food bills are paid before new furniture and a vacation. If you have a good month, with money left over after everything’s paid and you’ve tuck aside some savings, you choose what to do with your funds. Buy new shoes? Go for a special dinner? Get new thinning shears? You spend according to your priorities.

Determining those priorities for SCWTCA is the Board’s duty. They need to collectively decide shoes or shears or dinner…in other words, Specialties or education or special projects. For the insecure, decision-making is fraught with risk. Regardless, it is the Board’s responsibility; fully considered Board decisions based on transparent, reported rationales
enable every Board member to respond to any club member’s criticism. That is not the same as saying said club member will agree, let alone be happy. C’est la vie.

Consider the upside of budgeting. If the Board does the hard work of saying “ok, we’re setting a trophy budget of X dollars this year,” it is easier to deal with requests that come in. It also provides opportunities for some creative thinking if members know there is funding available.

Budgeting also permits popular decisions. Say the club has planned for its regular expenses and put funds into reserves. There are discretionary funds left over. The Board can tell its MCKC chairs, hey, this year, SCWTCA will subsidize dinner so members pay less.

Substitute the Yearbook price or Thursday night seminar or anything else for the annual dinner. In short, answer that one question that some members keep asking: what am I getting for my $50 annual dues?

Finally, the Finance Committee should have a subcommittee devoted specifically to budgeting for specialties. Again, the recent Wavelengths indicates some work has been done on this topic. If it’s not a full-blown analysis which includes a budget and guidance for future specialty chairs and Boards, then that work should be done. Engaging past specialty chairs will help this effort.

None of this is the fun part of running the club. But it’s important and in the long run is a lot more beneficial

Hot Topics

June Question:
When evaluating a lovely and consistent litter, what is the most important factor that makes a puppy your “pick”?

I HAVE FOUND THAT, MOST OF THE TIME, MY PICK PUPPY IS THE ONE THAT CATCHES THE EYE IN THE EX-PEN BECAUSE IT SETS ITSELF UP AND STACKS ITSELF WITH GREAT EASE. IT IS ALSO, USUALLY THE ONE WITH THE BODY PARTS THAT ARE PROPERLY BALANCED... AND THIS MAKES IT EASY FOR IT TO ASSUME THE PROPER STANCE NATURALLY.

Ilze Barron

For me, it has always been outline and balance. These two factors really cover all aspects of a well made dog or bitch. The term, BALANCE includes length of head, neck, back, leg and the correct ratio of these. OUTLINE tells me if the pup is well up on leg, if the tail is set correctly up on the back, if there is sufficient “butt” behind the tail, if the front and rear angles are correct and if the neck-to-back transition is pleasing.

Gay Dunlap

The most important thing I look for is outline. This means I want a balanced square dog, up on leg, with a short back and a long neck that flows into the topline, which ends with a well set-on tail.

Kathy McIndoe

Overall balance which encompasses proportion, square outline, level topline, butt behind the tail, plus, of course, proper coat, brick-like head, correct bite and sound movement. These apply to both show and breeding stock. Additionally, for the show ring, presence, carriage, and attitude are very important considerations. After all, these are terriers, and showmanship can often overcome and outweigh structural deficiencies.

Sue Goldberg

All things being equal, I do love good ears on a pretty headpiece but if that pup is not screaming (with body language) “I am the one!”, I might go for a slightly inferior pup, with superior attitude. Crisp, curly coat is a deal breaker.

Emily Holden

Having seen many beautiful dogs that did not enjoy the show ring, if everything else is fairly equal, I would lean towards the puppy that seems to have the best attitude, or temperament.

Cindy Meyer
4 shows at the Waukesha County Expo Center

Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater Milwaukee
Show date: Friday, July 29, Closing date: July 13
• Specialty #1, Judge: Mrs. Lorraine Bisso
• Specialty #2, Judge: Ms. Janie M. Bousek
Sweepstakes Judge: Mr. David R Miller

Join us for our complimentary luncheon and silent auction to follow breed judging

• Waukesha Kennel Club, July 30
  Breed Judge: Mrs. Peggy Beisel-McIlwaine
  Supported by SCWTCA
• Waukesha Kennel Club, July 31
  Breed Judge: Patricia V. Trotter
  Supported by SCWTCGM

2 shows at the Walworth County Fair Grounds in Elkhorn

• Burlington Wisconsin Kennel Club, August 1
  Breed Judge: Mr. Joseph E. Gregory
• Burlington Wisconsin Kennel Club, August 2
  Breed Judge: Mr. Robert Stein

Show Chair: Geoffrey Bilda  bilda@sbcglobal.net
premium list available for all shows at royjonesdogshows.com
Back-to-Back Specialty Winner

Hattie
BISS GCH Serendipity’s Urban Legend

Thank you to Judges:
Mrs. Sue Goldberg - National Roving Specialty
Mr. Fredrick R. Stephens - SCWTCNC Specialty

Special thanks to Amy Rutherford for always showing Hattie to perfection.

serendipity WHEATENS

Dick and Camille Taylor * sena101@sbcglobal.net * 209.236.1208

Original photo by Josh Burdick
**GCH Greentree Havana Moon-struck**

**A Tribute to**

**“Lucy”**

**And her credits:**

**Lucy bred to:**

**GCH Sundance Second Chance “Benny”**
- GCH O’Mannion Greentree Havana’s Midnight Rambler “Jagger”
- CH O’Mannion Greentree Havana’s Honky Tonk Woman “Angie”
- CH Greentree O’Mannion’s Savannah “Savannah”

**US & IRISH CH, GER CH (KFT & VDH), LUX CH, SWISS CH Wheaten Rebel’s Nelson For Navy “Nelson”**
- CH O’Mannion Greentree Heartbreaker “Charlotte”
- CH O’Mannion Greentree Heart of Stone “Caroline”
- CH Greentree O’Mannion Jack Pot “Jack”

**And coming...**

**Lucy x GCH Take a Ticket to Greentree “Gavin”**

Breeders: Helen Fraguela, Beverly & Kevin McDonald
Owners: Joanne Manning, Beverly & Kevin McDonald

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WHEATEN TERRIERS
Omannionswheatens@gmail.com
Westminster

“Best of Breed”
GCH Clover's Mr. Blue Sky

Thank You judge, Mr. John R. Walsh

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

Owned by: Liz & Mike Jamiolkowski
ljamiolkowski@yahoo.com

Bred by: Liz & Mike Jamiolkowski
and Beverly & Kevin McDonald
www.greentreewheatens.com
Kennel Club

“Select Dog”
CH Greentree Feis Dancer
Midnight Tobasco Waltz

Dempsey

GCH Greentree Keepsake Tobasco Cat x CH Greentree Wind Dancer

Bred by: Donna & John Baird and Beverly & Kevin McDonald
www.greentreewheatens.com

Owned by: Kate Heller, Donna Baird, and Beverly McDonald
BRADBERRY WHEATENS

SO GRATEFUL FOR GREAT FRIENDS ON BOTH COASTS!

THANKS TO DAVID HEALEY, HENDRY CAHAYA-HEALEY AND PAT MULLIN ON THE WEST COAST

Bradberry’s One Busy Little Bee
‘Bizzie’

Thank you to Judges Mrs Sue Goldberg and Mr Ekarat Sangkunakup for recognizing Bizzie.

THANKS TO SALLY & DAVE SOTIROVICH ON THE EAST COAST

Bradberry’s McLaren Love, Love Me Do
‘Gracie’

Thanks to Judges Ms Gay Dunlap and Mr Houston Clark for recognizing Gracie.

THANKS TO BARBARA KOLK FOR HER HELP WITH

Bradberry’s One Quintessential Love Story
‘Quinn’

Thanks to Judges Mr Fred Ferris, Ms Gay Dunlap and Mr Desmond Murphy for recognizing Quinn.

Bizzie is owned by
David Healey & Hendry Cahaya-Healey
& Deb Van De Ven

Gracie is owned by
Sally & Dave Sotirovich
& Deb Van De Ven

Quinn is owned by
Deb Van De Ven
702-308-9542

Bred By Deb Van De Ven - deb@bradberryswheatens.com
So Proud of this Boy...

GCHB Sundance My Beau's A RoxStar

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

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- Multiple BOB Wins as a young "Class" dog
- RWD Hatboro 2015
- WD/BOW Morris & Essex 2015
- Placed 3rd in his class at SCWTCA Ntl Specialty 2015
- Earned his Championship at 17 months
- Earned his Grand CH a month later
- Earned his BRONZE GCH shortly after


Special thanks to Tracy Szaras

Cheryl Johnstone  *  772-597-5365  *  RoxStarWtms@comcast.net
Back to Back GROUP ONES

THANK YOU JUDGE Mr. Ricardo Forastieri Gonzalez

Owned by Edward J. & Janet E. Koharik, Jr.
Bred by Jeanne “Yenna” Pedersen Ferris
MULTIPLE SPECIALTY WINNING
MULTIPLE GROUP WINNING

GCHG BRYR ROSE Matisse

Silver Bay Kennel Club of San

THANK YOU Judge Dr. Vandra Huber

number ONE

Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier*
Breed & All-Breed
Spotlight on

New CH Harbour Hill Finding Nemo?

DORY

Adorable Dory is owned by Sandra Lightner & Susan Sakuye

Beautifully presented by Gwen & Kent Meyer, Jorje & Susie Olivera, and Susan Sakuye

CH Molandoos High Wire Act x CH Harbour Hill at Wisteria Ln
"PIXAR LITTER"

Introducing; Harbour Hill The First Noel

KALEA

Kalea congratulates her sister Harbour Hill Christmas Cookie (Cookie) on her 5 point major over NCTA weekend, under Judge, Mr. Edd Bivin

Cookie is owned by Susan Sakuye & Lauren Smith
Harbour Hill Toy Story (Buzz) x CH Harbour Hill Atas EVOO (Olive)
"A CHRISTMAS STORY LITTER"
Harbour Hill

New CH Harbour Hill Gucci Gucci Goo

Presented by Gwen & Kent Meyer, Susie & Jorge Olivera, and Susan Sakuye

GUCCI

- WB at Northern CA Terrier Assn. under Mrs. Patricia Nemirovsky de Alsina
- WB at Great Western Terrier Assn. under Mr. Wood Wornall
- RWB at Morris & Essex under Mrs. Sue Goldberg

Owned by Joan Wright, Becky Smith & Susan Sakuye

Ch Pitterpat's Blue Bayou x Ch Harbour Hill French Pastry

"RODEO DRIVE LITTER"

"Kim Kardashian has got nothing on this butt!"

New CH Harbr Hill Sparkles in Harry Winston

WINNIE COOPER

This exquisite charmer is Gucci’s little sister

Beautifully presented by Jorge & Susie Olivera and Susan Sakaye

"RODEO DRIVE LITTER"

Susan K. Sakuye 424 Covington Pl., Goleta, CA 93117 ssakuye@aol.com
GCH Finley Denali High and Mighty

CH Harbour Hill Mike Delfino (Mikey) X CH Marquee’s Party Girl (MeMe)

McKinley

Bred by Rose Rose and Sonya Urquhart

Owned and adored by Rose Rose

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‘Smahty’

Am Ch Mackanme MacPhail Wicked Smaht
Am Can Ch Mackanme Foreign Affair V Bodasca x
GCh Mackanme A Wicked Good Tale
CO-OWNED BY:
Marc Simon, Jacqui Cohen and Jeri Voyles

Smahty finished his
Championship with 3 Majors including
BOB over Specials

‘Josie’

GCH MacPhail Wicked Live Wire
Am Can Ch Mackanme Foreign Affair V Bodasca x
GCh Mackanme A Wicked Good Tale
OWNED BY: Sandra Ross

Championship from 6-9m class, undefeated,
with 3 majors. GCH at 15 months.
BOB - 2x - Philadelphia National Nov 2015
AOM - Westminster Feb 2016

BRED BY: Sandra Ross and Jeri Voyles

Greg & Jeri Voyles, Gig Harbor, WA
Phone: (253) 265-6577
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Having coffee or tea with someone special
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SCWTCA National Specialty
October 3-9, 2016
Montgomery County, PA
Whelping and Dystocia

The following interview was originally released as a podcast on April 23, 2015. In this podcast we discuss whelping and dystocia with Dr. Cindy O’Connor of Slade Veterinary Hospital in Framingham, MA. Dr. O’Connor received her DVM from the University of Wisconsin-Madison and completed an internship in small animal medicine and surgery at the Animal Medical Center in New York. After her internship, she pursued specialty training in the area of veterinary medical genetics, pediatrics, and reproduction at the University of Pennsylvania’s School of Veterinary Medicine and became a Board certified specialist in veterinary reproduction. (Questions from AKC-CHF, responses by Dr. Cindy O’Connor)

STAGES OF LABOR

Explain the three stages of parturition, or the birth process, in the bitch and how long they last? Dr. Cindy
Stage one of parturition is the preparatory phase for whelping. It averages approximately 6-12 hours but it can be as long as 36 hours. The bitch is usually restless and may show nesting behavior. She is nervous, panting, not interested in eating, and may tremble or shiver. Breeders may see a temperature drop (to 98-99°F) about 12-24 h before stage two in approximately 80% of bitches. This temperature drop is related to the abrupt decline in progesterone that occurs just prior to whelping. Uterine contractions become more organized during this stage and the cervix dilates; however, contractions are generally not visible. The signs of stage one in the bitch increase in frequency and severity as the uterine contractions become more frequent and intense.

Does she act noticeably different during stage one? (are there any warning signs?)
As mentioned previously, during the first stage of labor uterine contractions begin. These contractions can create some discomfort and confusion which may cause her to appear uncomfortable and restless - pacing, shivering and panting. Many bitches will not eat and some may even vomit. Some also whine persistently while others occupy themselves building a nest, digging and rearranging bedding.

Can a bitch’s environment impact the progression from stage one to stage two?
The beginning of labor is a complex process that involves multiple hormones and body systems in both mom and puppies. Stressors can interfere with the normal progress and can lead to numerous problems with pregnancy including the potential for premature labor and small puppies. It can also interfere with the bitch’s ability to relax for the important coordinated and complex body mechanics required for a smooth delivery. Every bitch is unique and the environment should be adjusted for her individual needs. A quiet, warm, draft-free area is ideal for most new moms during labor. Ideally, they should have time prior to delivery to adjust to their whelping area. While delivery of puppies can be an exciting event, it should not be the entertainment for the neighborhood as a houseful of strangers creates a tremendous amount of stress during whelping.

Now let’s discuss stage two and stage three – what is happening and how long should it last?
Stage two is the active propulsive stage when the bitch pushes the puppies out. A puppy is delivered every 30 to 60 minutes on average, although two hours can be very normal for some bitches in between pups as they may take some time to rest in between deliveries. As a result of litter size, the length of this stage can be variable 6-12 hours; however this can be as long as 24 hours in very large litters. Abdominal contractions are strong and coordinated, often causing a bitch to stop panting, lift tail, and even grunt during contractions. As a puppy moves toward and enters the birth canal, a reflex is initiated, the Ferguson reflex, which creates very strong uterine contractions. When the puppy reaches the vulva, the chorioallantoic sac may be seen first, then the pup with or without the covering of the amniotic sac. The normal birth presentation of the puppies is 60% head first with front legs extended and 40% hind legs first with feet and tail extended. During delivery or shortly thereafter, the bitch should tear away the amniotic sac and lick the neonate vigorously to clear airways and to stimulate respiration. Stage three defines the stage where the placenta is delivered. Placentas usually pass five to 15 minutes after each pup is born. Since the bitch has two long uterine horns
where the puppies reside, a bitch may deliver a puppy from the left horn and then a puppy from the right horn then the placentas from each horn. So she can deliver puppy then placenta then puppy then placenta or puppy, puppy, placenta, placenta.

DYSTOCIA

Are there clear signs that stage two is progressing well vs. not progressing as it should?
As breeders understand what is normal, it is much easier for them to identify when there are difficulties with birth, called a dystocia. Common signs of a dystocia or difficult birth are: black or green vulvar discharge prior to the delivery of the first puppy, 20-30 minutes of strong continuous contractions with no puppy delivered, 2-3 hours of weak and infrequent expulsive efforts failing to produce a pup, 4 of more hours between pups, or an obvious problem such as a puppy stuck in the birth canal.

At what point should a breeder seek medical intervention from their veterinarian?
At the point that the breeder does not feel that labor is progressing normally, they should seek advice from their veterinarian because dystocia is an emergency that if left untreated could result in loss of puppies as well as a potentially life-threatening situation for the bitch. It is important for breeders to be prepared ahead of time with a plan for emergencies since they can develop in the middle of the night. Having a plan in place, with either a veterinarian on call or with an emergency clinic that is familiar with the planned pregnancy, is important as time is an important factor when dealing with a dystocia.

There are several causes for dystocia and intervention relies on proper identification of the cause. Maternal causes include a physical obstruction such as a vaginal stricture that does not allow passage of the puppies, abnormalities of uterine function, or abnormalities of pregnancy such as a twist in the uterus. Fetal factors could also be involved such as large puppies that cannot pass through the birth canal, a deformity in the puppy such as one with retained fluid or “walrus puppy,” or an abnormality in the presentation of the puppy (a puppy that is folded like a pretzel).

The evaluation by the veterinarian will involve assessing the overall health and stability of the bitch for any complications of dystocia to her health. This may include blood work to evaluate for metabolic complications that can result in difficulties with birth such as low blood calcium, low blood sugar, or a negative energy balance (pregnancy ketosis). A vaginal exam will help evaluate for the potential of a puppy that may be lodged in the birth canal. X-rays assist veterinarians evaluating the number of puppies retained in the uterus and the potential for fetal or maternal causes of dystocia such as fetal oversize or malposition resulting in a problem with delivery. Ultrasound is also often utilized to assess fetal well-being, in particular fetal heart rate evaluations for evidence of distress. This is particularly important with considering the method of intervention in an effort to have the best outcome possible for a healthy bitch and puppies.

Is surgery the only option during dystocia?
No. There are several options for intervention based on the cause of the dystocia and the well-being of both the bitch and the puppies. One important consideration that may seem obvious but should not be disregarded is to ensure that the due date is correct (ovulation timing performed?) and that the puppies are full term. Canine pregnancy is only 63 +/- 1 day and so every day counts for fetal survivability.

If the bitch is in obvious labor and the result of the difficult delivery is a malpositioned puppy, some skilled obstetricians can resolve some positioning problems during the vaginal exam. In other cases of dystocia, medical therapies may be used to augment labor successfully. For example, some bitches may have ineffective uterine contractions and may respond to oxytocin and/or calcium therapy. It is important that an obstruction has been ruled out prior to their use as causing contractions against a blockage can not only result in fetal death and discomfort for the bitch, but risks serious uterine damage such as uterine rupture. However, other cases of dystocia may require surgical interventions such as an episiotomy or a C-section.

Can you briefly describe a canine C-section?
A C-section is performed by a highly skilled veterinary team. It is important that pre-anesthetic evaluations, including a physical exam and blood work are performed to assist in the plan for anesthesia.
An intravenous (IV) catheter is placed to deliver medications, such as anesthetic drugs and pain medications, as well as to administer fluids during surgery. As much of the preparation is performed prior to anesthesia as possible such as clipping hair on the abdomen to minimize the anesthesia time. There are various successful methods to perform anesthesia including epidural anesthesia or general anesthesia. Once appropriately anesthetized and a sterile scrub performed, the veterinary surgeon makes an incision in the mid to lower abdomen in order to exteriorize the uterus. A small incision is then made into the uterus in order to remove the puppies. In the bitch, the uterus has a short uterine body and two long uterine horns where the puppies reside. As a result, in larger litters more than one incision into the uterus may be needed in order to deliver all the puppies. Once a puppy is removed from the uterus, it is passed on to a highly skilled team of technicians who clear the puppy’s airways, stimulate breathing, clamp, tie, and disinfect the umbilical cord, warm and dry the puppy, and place the puppy in a warm and humidified incubator until the bitch is recovered from anesthesia and ready to nurse them.

As part of the team is caring for the puppies, the rest of the team, anesthetist and veterinary surgeon, are completing the surgery. Most commonly, the placentas are removed from the uterus with the puppies, although if they are difficult to remove or if bleeding is excessive with removal, the veterinarian may elect to leave them in place to be passed vaginally in the discharge (called lochia) that is seen after delivery as the uterus involutes or repairs. The uterine incision is sutured closed and the uterus is placed back into the abdomen where it is inspected to ensure that all the puppies were successfully delivered, evaluate for any abnormalities, and to make sure there is no bleeding. The abdominal incision is then sutured in several layers. As she is recovering from anesthesia, the veterinary team is making sure mom is comfortable and nursing puppies soon after surgery is complete.

**NEONATAL CARE**

If a bitch is progressed well through stage two, how should the puppies look and act immediately postpartum?

Once warm and dry, the puppies should be vigorous and searching out (rooting) for a nipple to actively nurse. Their mucus membranes (gums) should look bright red as that is normal based on the differences in the hemoglobin in their blood for the first few days after birth. They should have tone to their body (not feel limp) and they often vocalize when handled.

If a puppy is non-responsive, does the bitch usually manage resuscitation or should a breeder intervene?

As a breeder myself, it is hard for me to sit back and watch, so I tend to be involved during the delivery and assist the bitch with removal of the sac and fetal membranes, clearing of the airways, stimulation of breathing, drying and warming the newborn, and clamping, tying, and disinfecting the umbilical cord. However, it is also completely normal to allow a bitch to handle the delivery and stimulation of the puppy herself. Natural instinct is amazing, however, not all bitches are great moms and some need more assistance than others.

Should breeders learn how to safely aspirate fluid from the nose and mouth of a newborn?

Yes. It is important to learn how to do this properly and gently so that injuries to the puppy do not occur. This should never be performed with a high power suction vacuum. Bulb syringes or a favorite of mine, the Delee mucus trap, can be used to gently suction the airway and remove and mucus plugs that may be obstructing air flow.

Is cardiopulmonary Resuscitation, or CPR, ever performed on newborn puppies?

Yes. Neonatal resuscitation is performed most commonly on puppies that are not thriving immediately after birth. Clearing the airway and in some cases giving breaths to a puppy have been used to establish breathing. Neonatal puppies are very susceptible to low oxygen (hypoxia) from poor ventilation and they have immature...
control mechanisms for respiration. Their respiratory pattern is normally lower and more irregular than adult dogs. Fortunately, newborns have reflexes in the umbilical area and genital area (where mom would lick) that stimulate breathing. There is also a pressure point under the nose that is often used by veterinary professionals to stimulate breathing. One big difference in the physiology of neonates is that a low heart rate is most commonly a result of poor breathing (hypoxia) or a low body temperature, so these need to be addressed prior to reaching for drugs or considering chest compressions. Puppies are also amazingly adapted to survive the stressors of birth and so it is important not to give up on resuscitation techniques too early (giving resuscitative efforts at least 30-45 minutes before discontinuing).

**How long is the neonatal period in the dog and are there different needs during this early period of life?**

Generally speaking, a neonate is less than six weeks of age at which point the puppy would generally be referred to as pediatric. However, more specifically the following definitions have been suggested to better define neonatal puppies developmental stages: perinatal period (less than one day), neonatal period (one to 21 days), maturation period (21-28 days) and pre-weaning period (28-42 days). One important factor is that newborn puppies are less mature than newborns of other species, keeping in mind that the most critical period in neonates is the first three weeks.

As mentioned previously, a normal neonate is active, squirms & vocalizes when examined, has a strong suckle reflex, nurses, & gains weight (5-10% of their birth weight per day). Neonates are very active in their sleep often twitching. They have a well-developed rooting reflex which allows them to make their way to the milk bar. Birth weight is an important predictor of neonatal survival as higher mortality is seen with low birth weights, specifically more than 15% lower than the average litter birth weight. Monitoring weight gain is an important indicator of health status and weight loss or poor weight gain can be one of the early signs of a potential problem. As a result, it is recommended to weigh neonates twice daily for the first week of life.

A neonate’s body temperature is lower than adults, normally 97° to 98°F. Below 96°F, their intestinal tract does not have proper motility and so feeding should not be attempted until a normal temperature has been achieved due to the risk of regurgitation and aspiration pneumonia. Neonates are highly susceptible to environmental stress, in particular temperature stress, as they are not able to regulate their body temperature until 3 weeks of age when reflexes such as the ability to shiver develop. As a result, they rely completely on the warmth of their mother as well as the environment to prevent hypothermia. Hyperthermia (>100°F) can also be just as damaging to a neonate as hypothermia, so it is important for breeders to not over supplement heat. Neonatal temperatures should be monitored and should be evaluated if a problem is suspected. After three weeks of age, their eyelids and ear canals are open, body temperature regulation is established, and the puppy is capable of eating solid food and urinating/defecating without stimulation.

**CHF: What are your thoughts on appropriate weaning time for puppies?**

As a breeder, I tend to allow the bitch to tell me when she is ready for the puppies to be fully weaned. As mentioned previously, during the first three weeks of life, the puppies rely completely on their mother. After three weeks of age, they continue to mature and one important consideration is that they start to erupt their puppy teeth. At this age, they are also becoming increasingly mobile and it is a great time to start to offer gruel to supplement mom’s milk. The intensity of the weaning transition, in my experience, includes several factors, such as the desire of the bitch to continue nursing, her health, and the nutritional needs of the puppies. Some bitches will continue to nurse puppies for 6-8 weeks with a gradual weaning process while others are content to wean them rapidly at 4 weeks and who can blame them as their puppy teeth are erupting at this age. Some bitches will have significant irritation from rough nursing and some will even develop mastitis. In addition, as the puppies grow, their nutritional demands increase which creates a large strain on the bitch. All of these factors are considered in developing a plan for weaning which in most cases begins at 3½ - 4 weeks of age and is generally complete by 6-8 weeks of age, sometimes sooner.
Just as babies are not miniature adults, puppies are not smaller, younger versions of dogs. The growth and development of a puppy is hard work, and special nutrition is required. Young animals are especially sensitive to the effects of dietary deficiencies, toxins, and poor quality ingredients, so owners should pay very close attention to what food they feed during a dog’s first year of life.

What are the special nutritional needs of puppies? First, let’s take a look at calories — the gas in the tank, so to speak. Puppies should eat a more calorie-dense food than would be appropriate for a typical adult dog. A high-quality puppy food might have 445 kcal/per cup, while an adult food in the same line could have 375 kcal/per cup. That might not seem like such a big disparity, but the extra calories are very important in the long term. The differences don’t just stop with calories.

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<tr>
<td>Calcium (%)</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phosphorus (%)</td>
<td>0.8</td>
<td>0.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium (%)</td>
<td>0.3</td>
<td>0.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chloride (%)</td>
<td>0.45</td>
<td>0.09</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Take a look at some of the American Association of Feed Control Officers (AAFCO) minimum nutrient requirement for puppies and adult dogs:

You can see that puppies need more of many important amino acids and minerals (and more protein and fat in general) than do adult dogs. Puppies are at risk for nutritional deficiencies if they eat foods designed for adults. Nutrients not regulated by AAFCO are also important. For example, quality diets contain high levels of certain types of omega 3 fatty acids to promote healthy skin and a glossy coat as well as optimize brain and eye development.

Whether your puppy is going to grow to be the size of a chihuahua, a mastiff, or somewhere in between, make sure you pick a food that provides perfectly balanced nutrition for this unique time of life as well as one that is made from the wholesome, natural ingredients necessary for a lifetime of good health and well-being. Dr. Jennifer Coates

Jennifer Coates, DVM graduated with honors from the Virginia-Maryland Regional College of Veterinary Medicine in 1999. In the years since, she has practiced veterinary medicine in Virginia, Wyoming, and Colorado. She is the author of several books about veterinary medicine and animal care, including the Dictionary of Veterinary Terms, Vet-Speak Deciphered for the Non-Veterinarian.

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**DR. Jean Dodds**

**VACCINE PROTOCOL**

Note that Dr. Dodds does NOT recommend non-core vaccines such as: Corona, Leptospirosis, Lyme, Bordatella, or Giardia.

Perform vaccine antibody titers for distemper and parvovirus every three years thereafter, or more often, if desired. Vaccinate for rabies virus according to the law, except where circumstances indicate that a written waiver needs to be obtained from the primary care veterinarian. In that case, a rabies antibody titer can also be performed to accompany the waiver request.
**Supplementing Puppies**

According to Margaret V. Root Kustritz, DVM, PhD, DACT, puppies should be fed by mom whenever possible. No other milk product resembles bitch’s milk in nutrient content, and bitch milk contains compounds that cannot be mimicked, such as enzymes, hormones and antibodies specific to that environment. Of course there are times when a puppy or even an entire litter needs to be supplemented or fed. “Commercial milk replacers are preferred to goat’s milk or cow’s milk, neither of which approximates bitch’s milk in composition (Table 1-1). In an emergency, a milk replacement can be made by combining ½ cup whole milk, ½ cup water, 1 egg yolk, 2 Tums, and 1 teaspoon vegetable oil” (14).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nutrient (% Dry Matter)</th>
<th>Bitch</th>
<th>Cow</th>
<th>Goat</th>
<th>CMR 1</th>
<th>CMR 2</th>
<th>CMR 3</th>
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<tr>
<td>Protein</td>
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<td>27</td>
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<td>Lactose</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>16</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

There are multiple ways to feed puppies by hand. Of course there is **bottle feeding** which prevents the puppy from aspirating formula and will encourage the suckling response. Bottle feeding is very time-consuming and may not work for a puppy who is already too weak to suckle.

**Tube feeding** is a daunting idea, but it is quick and easy. There are instructions in many books about tube feeding; there is also a good YouTube video, demonstrating tube feeding. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIKWr7yRU2g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bIKWr7yRU2g). With this method, there is no worry about puppy’s suckling nor any worry about aspiration of the milk replacer. The puppy’s tummy should feel distended when you are finished feeding. Recheck the length of the tube weekly as the puppy grows. I had a litter of seven pups and a mom with just a dribble of milk. I had never tube-fed before, but it was clear that if I did nothing, these puppies would die, so I plunged in and was quickly able to feed seven puppies in 10 minutes. That was a bonus with those middle-of-the-night feedings.

Recently, articles and breeder stories about nursing newborn puppies with a **makeup sponge** have appeared. This method helps a puppy learn to nurse, and it can also be used with large litters of puppies where some of the puppies are not getting enough milk from an overworked mom. Read Pipe Kuhn’s article in *Canine Chronicle* (http://caninechronicle.com/breaking-news/sponge-supplementation-put-to-the-test) where she shares her experience with sponge feeding pups from two litters. To see how this feeding method is accomplished, go [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sm4KdHiRsnM](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sm4KdHiRsnM) for an instructive video.

“Some people like to supplement orphan pups with yogurt, baby food gruel, or goat’s milk while the pup is receiving milk replacer. Anything you feed the pups will alter the overall composition of their diet and may push the diet out of balance. Be aware that if you add other things to the diet, the milk replacer must be the primary component of the diet to ensure that it is balanced and complete” (15).

Specialty Judges’ Critique: Sue Goldberg

My thanks to the SCWTCA members for the honor of judging this National Specialty and for the beautiful Wendell August tray. Thank you also to our wonderful hosts, the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Northern California. The ring decorations were awesome and the Cruisin’ Wheaten license plate is a fun memento from a super show. Your hospitality and the post show get togethers made this event even more enjoyable. My appreciation also to the many exhibitors who brought me such fine specimens of the breed to judge.

Kudos to our West Coast breeders. As I’ve noted in the past, for the last 10 or 15 years whenever I’ve had the pleasure of judging one of your Specialties, it is clear that the quality in our breed resides with you. The overall entry was well above average, with some important, notable strides having been made: Happily, we are getting back to a square outline, which I was pleased to reward. Toplines were almost consistently level, and more and more, tailsets are creeping back up to where they need to be, although in some cases, the tail was still the end of the dog. Eye color was uniformly dark hazel or brown. There were many more correct coats with clear, warm wheaten color, although presentation still varied. It is no secret that I hold to the statement in our Standard that reads “…coat must be of sufficient length to flow when the dog is in motion.” Please note, however, that that does not mean the dog should not have had a haircut in 6 months! It still needs to be trimmed “…to show a terrier outline.”

As always, there is still room for improvement. There is still some variation in size, but not nearly as drastic as in years past, and size is easier to correct in a breeding program than some other faults which are far more persistent. While some heads are now of proper length with parallel planes, many were still short and square or have blocky back skulls and weak muzzles. This leads to a problem we haven’t seen in a while: questionable bites. Several bites had dropped incisors and uneven lower teeth due to a narrow muzzle, although the occlusion was still correct. One level bite bordered on undershot. Two mouths could not close, presumably because the molars didn’t mesh properly. However, most disconcerting were the preponderance of big ears! This was something we thought we had overcome, yet here they were again, detracting from correct expression. Fronts remain a problem. Still far too many upright shoulders inhibiting proper reach. A number of rears lacked correct angulation which resulted in little or no drive from the rear. Sickle hocks remain a constant problem and we need to breed for proper, tight feet; several dogs were down in pasterns which would inhibit their ability to work in the fields all day. Wheatens were bred as all around farm dogs — herding the sheep, dispatching the vermin. They need the structure and the bites to do their job. Having said that, however, a sound, well-moving dog with a proper bite is still just an all-around farm dog. It is the essence of type that we as breeders must fiercely preserve and protect in order for them to be Wheatens.

With the above in mind, my placements were as follows:

PUPPY DOGS 6-9 MOS.

2. Lismore Return of the King. Square outline. At just 6 months old, hopefully he will gain some length of head and a bit more bone for size. Nice topline; his fancy front movement cost him a higher placement.

PUPPY DOGS 9-12 MOS.
1. Kolohe It’s Raining Sunshine. Lovely length of head and neck, bigger ears; beautiful flowing coat and color — almost a bit more coat than needed. Square outline. Easy side gait but crossed in front. Narrow, lacking spring of rib which, hopefully, will come as he matures.

12-18 MO. DOGS
1. Vintage Braveheart. A very pleasing picture overall. A bit large but not overly so, with proper bone for his size. Square outline with dead level topline which he held on the move. Smooth blend of neck into shoulders. Bang-up tail with shelf behind. Proper length of head although his ears could be smaller. Sound, with matching angles front and rear and an easy side gait. His confident attitude, overall balance and correct breed type made it a pleasure to reward him Winners Dog.

WD: Vintage Braveheart
GCH Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising x CH Vintage Prairie Winds
Owner: Janese & Steve Nank & Brian J Ness & Michael Weiss
**BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOGS**


2. Doubloon’s Wicked Strong. A stallion of a dog, more exaggerated and extreme, with a very high opinion of himself. A bigger boy, with big ears, gorgeous length of head, level topline and lovely coat and color. His over-angulated, driving rear did not match his front movement.


**PUPPY BITCHES 6-9 MOS.**

1. Bradberry’s One Busy Little Bee. A very feminine, smaller package, whose head and smaller ear are in balance with her body. Lovely, interested expression. Beautifully coated. Low hocks and sound mover; she could use a better tail set, but overall, very appealing.

2. Lismore National Anthem. Square in outline and feminine package. Gray on her shoulder and too much lift in her front movement cost her a higher placement.

3. Bryr Rose Dominique. Lovely coat and color; square in outline; level topline. Could use a stronger muzzle, higher tailset with shelf behind the tail and tighter feet.


**PUPPY BITCHES 9-12 MOS.**

1. Bonney Antic Piece of My Heart. Square outline, moderate and feminine. Although not possessing great reach and drive, she exhibited balanced movement on the go-round. Could use a tad more neck but a very nice package overall. Her correct breed type made her my eventual Reserve Winners Bitch.

**PHOTO NEXT COLUMN**

2. Mackanne’s I’ll Be Around. Lovely breed type, very square. Would benefit from smaller ears. Pushed the first place bitch but bowed to her on front movement.

3. Kolohe’s Annie’s Song. Lovely coat and color, but big ears detracted from correct expression. Longer cast, she needs more neck to balance length of body.

**12-18 MOS. BITCHES**

1. Harbour Hill Christmas Cookie. Square bitch with plenty of bone and bang-up tail. Balanced, easy goer. Soft coat but not as silky perhaps due to guard hairs and coat change. Hopefully, she will not coarsen with age.

2. Starlight Keep Your Hat On. Moderate with a lovely coat and butt behind the tail. Could use smaller ears. Too much coat on her underline detracted and made her appear low on leg.

3. Vintage the Sound of Music. Correct length of head but big ears. In need of more leg, a longer cast bitch whose over-trimmed coat lacked flow.


**BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCHES** — one of the nicest classes despite the many big ears.

1. Burdigan’s Pop Pop Fizz Fizz. A typey, balanced bitch, moderate, with proper bone for size. Confident and feminine, with lovely expression who was allowed to show herself. Just square with level topline and correct tail set, plus proper flowing coat and color. Nice blend of neck into well layed back shoulders. A sound mover in all directions and well deserving of my Winners Bitch and Best of Winners.

**PHOTO NEXT COLUMN**

**RWB/BP: Bonney Antic Piece Of My Heart**

*GCH Saltnsea Runnin’ Down A Dream x CH Bonney Follow That Star*

*Owners: Barbara & Marshall Ostrom & Patricia Rutherford & Bonita F Snyder*

*Breeders: Patricia Rutherford & Bonita F Snyder*

**WB/BOW: Burdigan’s Pop Pop Fizz Fizz**

*CH Burdigan’s Color My World x CH Bryr Rose Pop Champagne*

*Owners: Julie & Josh Burdick*

*Breeders: Julie & Josh Burdick & Jeanne Ferris*
2. **Bonney Antic I Put a Spell on You.** A square package with correct substance for size and nice tight feet. Could use better layback. Bowed to the first place bitch on movement.

3. **Marquee’s Mint Julep.** Lovely coat and color. Proper layback with matching rear angles. A more substantial bitch with big ears, not quite as feminine as the other two.

4. **Harbour Hill Atas Fleur De Leash.** Bigger, more substantial bitch overall. Nice length of head, level topline and correct tailset with butt behind the tail. Nice tight feet but her wide front movement cost her a higher placement.

**AMERICAN BRED BITCHES**

1. **Harbour Hill the First Noel.** Littermate to the 12-18 months class winner. Square outline with nice, easy side gait. Her over-trimmed coat needs conditioning.

**OPEN BITCHES**

1. **Bendacht’s Everwill’s Sassafras.** A moderate bitch, slightly off-square with level topline, correct tailset, nicely angulated rear and well-let down hocks.

2. **Glenamon Loneloch Sidda Lee Treasure.** Correct size and somewhat off-square, she has a good tail set with shelf behind and nice tight feet. Needs training and ring experience.


**BEST OF BREED** — a quality Specials class with many deserving dogs.

**BOB:** **GCH Serendipity’s Urban Legend.** This beautiful bitch is the picture of moderation and exudes correct Wheaten type. Proper size, with matching bone. Feminine, alert, lovely eye and expression, balanced from head to well-set tail, with nice tight feet and perfectly presented flowing coat. A sound mover coming and going and around who holds her topline on the side gait. She was my Select Bitch at Morris and Essex and today moved gracefully and confidently around the ring now that the acorns weren’t falling all around her. Filled my eye and a pleasure to reward with Best of Breed from a very competitive entry.

**BOB/ GCH Serendipity’s Urban Legend (b)**

GCH Gleannagay Legend Of The Grolls x GCH Serendipity’s Mamma Mia

**OWNERS:** Richard & Camille Taylor

**BREEDER:** Ferol Stanford

**BEST OF SHOW:** **GCH Bryr Rose Matisse**

**GCH Greentree Keepsake Surfin’ USA x CH Bryr Rose French Kiss**

**OWNERS:** Marilyn Jacobs & E Koharik & J Koharik

**BREEDER:** Jeanne Ferris

**SELECT DOG:** **CH Rosheen All That And a Smile.** A square outline, solid dog with good bone, proper length of head with strong muzzle and correct planes. Lovely, small ears that contributed to correct Wheaten expression. Level topline and correct tail set, plus nice, tight feet. A promising dog, his overall breed type made it a pleasure to reward him.

**SELECT BITCH:** **CH Azydeo How Can U Surpass Perfection.** Ultra feminine, balanced, square bitch of moderate size with level topline and equal angles at both ends. She is sound and moves easily around the ring. Lovely breed type similar to the BOB bitch.

**PHOTO NEXT PAGE**
AWARDS OF MERIT:

**GCH Haldane Does Your Mother Know?** Another beautiful, feminine bitch, a bit off-square, but proper size, lovely expression and otherwise very typey. Her undocked tail is correctly set and carried, both on the stack and on the move. Beautifully coated and her presentation is perfection.

**CH Rosheen Oh Happy Day.** A square, substantial dog of good bone and correct coat. A bit larger but his overall outline, proper ear size and expression, bang-up tail and breed type plus tight feet carried him this day.

**GCH PitterPat Allons-Y!** Square in outline, good bone, a balanced masculine dog with proper layback, level topline, high tail set and tight feet. Very nice breed type.

It was such fun to have so many beautiful Wheatens to judge! My thanks to all the exhibitors for this wonderful, quality entry. I wish all of you and your Wheatens continued success!

**Sweepstakes Judges’ Critique: Kathleen McIndoe**

I would like to thank the members of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America for voting for me to judge Sweepstakes at the Roving National Specialty this year. I would also like to thank all the exhibitors who showed me their puppies and young dogs, with special thanks to those exhibitors who trusted me to be the first person to ever judge their dogs.

The entry this year was in many ways better than what I was expecting, but in other ways not as good as I was hoping for. There were quite a few more square dogs entered than I have been seeing in entries around the country the last few years and this is a huge improvement. Toplines and tailsets were consistently good. Almost all the dogs were in good condition and weight and the trimming was much better than I have seen recently. Overall, however, the breed still needs an enormous amount of improvement to get it back to where it was 20 years ago. The first thing that struck me as I was judging was that there seems to be a real problem with ears: huge, unattractive, hound ears that quite spoil a dog’s headpiece. Shoulders continue to be mostly upright, sometimes painfully so.
Another problem that I find very concerning are the necks that start in front of the shoulders rather than rising gradually from the thoracic vertebrae. This problem not only creates short necks, but lengthens the dog, thus ruining the silhouette that should be the hallmark of the breed. It is quite easy to feel the correct neck set in baby puppies and it’s something that I, as a breeder, could never tolerate in any puppy I planned to keep and show. Another problem that needs addressing is rears. When I started in Wheatens in the early 1980’s, rears were pretty bad, but over time with thought and effort from dedicated breeders, they improved dramatically. I was very disappointed that rears have regressed to where they were 30 or more years ago; there was some very bad rear movement, indeed.

6-9 Puppy Dogs: First place to Lismore Return Of The King. This little boy was barely over 6 months of age and both looked and acted the part, as I think all 6-9 month puppies should. He easily had the best shoulders and blend of neck in the entire entry. He is a moderate, square dog with nice leg underneath him and I think he’s got a lot of potential.

9-12 Puppy Dogs: The winner of this class was Doubloon’s Wicked Strong and he went on to be my Best of Opposite Sex. He makes a stunning picture, very masculine with deep color and pretty coat. He has lovely length of neck blending nicely into his topline. A bigger dog than I prefer and just slightly off square and his ears are never going to be his fortune.

6-9 Puppy Bitches: With only two puppies in this class, I gave first place to Bryr Rose Antoinette, a nice square little girl. I would like her to have more neck and a better trim, but all in all, she is a good, honest bitch. The second place bitch, Lismore National Anthem, is a very attractive puppy, as well, but has some issues with her front movement. We should have given her an award for most entertaining puppy, because everyone watching had a chuckle over her antics with the ring decorations.

9-12 Puppy Bitches: This was a difficult class to judge and on another day I could have easily placed these girls differently. Overall, I felt that the best was Mackanme I’ll Be Around, a square bitch that made a pretty picture.

12-18 Junior Dogs: This class produced my Best in Sweepstakes winner, Burdigan’s Pop Pop Fizz Fizz, and from the moment she walked into the ring, I knew she would be my winner. She is square and elegant, with a beautiful outline. Sound, showy, and typey, she puts it all together in one package and is everything a Wheaten should be.

12-18 Junior Bitches: First place to Vintage Braveheart. This is a nicely balanced dog. I would like a better shoulder on him and also a different trim. The other entry in this class, Harbour Hill A Christmas Story, clearly didn’t want to be in the show ring on that day, but in spite of that, I found him to be a very well-made dog. Hopefully with better conditioning and attitude, he will do well.

I would like to congratulate all the winners and wish everyone the best of luck with their puppies. And, once again, thank you to everyone who showed.
What an exciting Specialty weekend! First, the SCWTCNC was honored to hold the National Roving Specialty on Thursday, with our Club’s own Specialty held on Friday. Club members, friends and Wheaten Terriers from all around the country enjoyed a weekend of fun, hospitality and dog shows. Perfect California weather greeted our guests and set the stage for a weekend of showing and celebrating. Early each morning Susan Solsby provided delicious treats and hospitality for our members and friends to enjoy as they prepared for the day’s events. Judges for the Specialty weekend were: Thursday, Mrs. Sue Goldberg for the National Roving Specialty; Friday for our Club’s Specialty, Mr. Fredrick B. Stehpons; Saturday, Mr. Dennis McCoy; and on Sunday, Mr. Ed E. Biven.

The Specialty show ring was beautifully decorated in style by Michael Weiss and Ilze Barron. Grape vines, flowers, and a large poster featuring Wheatens cruising Northern California sites in a vintage car, set the stage for the show. Friday’s Specialty began with Puppy Sweepstakes judged by Mrs. Louise Bishoff. 21 adorable Wheaten puppies paraded in the ring vying for Best in Sweepstakes. Next, a bevy of 59 beautiful Wheatens paraded in the Breed ring for judge Mr. Fred Stephens. Specialty winners were presented with trophies depicting the Cruisin’ Northern California theme. The colorful trophies included framed artwork, tin signs, cheeseboards, sun catchers and tiles. Our puppy class winners were awarded soft, colorful toys. Pat Rutherford worked her magic again this year, finding sponsors for each of our trophies.

Our Specialty concluded with a dinner, raffle and auction. The dinner, planned by Tami Herzog, exceeded everyone’s expectations. The food was delicious, and the setting was relaxing and fun. Table decorations included clay Wheaten figurines riding in San Francisco cable cars or sports cars or enjoying wine in the Napa Valley. Our annual raffle was organized by Rose Rose, and with her expertise, she gathered and presented the raffle items beautifully. Our auctioneer for the evening was Richard Urquhart who, as always was able to entice our guests into friendly, entertaining bidding wars.

The SCWTCNC would like to thank our wonderful judges, exhibitors, and friends who contributed in so many ways to make our Specialty a success. A special thank you also to Cecily Skinner, SCWTCA president, and Pat Mullin, National Roving Specialty Chair, for their support and guidance as we planned for the National Roving Specialty. It was truly an amazing weekend. See you next year!

Judges’ Critique: Mr. Fredrick R. Stephens

What a beautiful entry of 60 Soft Coated Wheatens. I was glad to see some really good competition in a lot of the classes.

A long time ago someone said that in judging we start with perfection; apply the forgiveness; with the one we forgive the least being the winner. To go along with that, Ann Rodgers Clark once told the story of when she was judging in Australia and had 250 dogs to do. She ran really late when a friend approached her and said that she needed to speed up. Her reply was that she was going as fast as she could. Her friend then said “Annie, you have the picture of perfection in your head, judge to it.” The Wheaten entry of the this day gave me cause to judge like that. In a lot of cases there were some very close calls and the forgiveness factor was indeed a judgement call.

Whenever I judge the wheaten I try to follow the standard as close as I can. I like to see a long well balanced head with good proportion between head and muzzle and a good eye that is placed properly. As a downside there were some heads that I thought were a little short when compared to others in the class. There were also a few eyes that tended to be a little round. I didn’t find very many bites that could be called questionable. Next, I like to see the head set on a strong neck that is medium in length and compliments the overall balance of the dog. From here, the body of the dog and structure carries a lot of weight for me. For a lot of years now I have considered that the structure of the dog dictates type and balance of the dog that is spelled out by so many standards. For example, when you see and feel an upright shoulder so that there is nearly a straight line from the top of the shoulder to the ground, there are only two ways the dog
can take a step. He either bounces his body up in the air or he rolls his body off to one side so he can take a step. That is just one of the reasons why structure is so important and so many that don’t understand. So if you see me spending a lot of time going over fronts, I am trying to understand the structure of the dog. Also, I have come to believe that as the front goes, so goes the rear.

The name of the breed is Soft Coated Wheaten and as your standard states: “He is distinguished by a soft, silky, gently waving coat of warm wheaten color”. When I started judging the wheaten a very long time ago, it was made known to me that the coat should lay in a soft wave and not stand off from the body. It was also made known to me that as the dog grows from puppyhood to adulthood the coat will go through some color change. Back then I started looking for cotton and curls and that is reason I brushed back the coat on examination. I found the need to congratulate my exhibitors because the cotton and the curls were almost non-existent. There were however some coats that were overly heavy.

Previously, I mentioned symmetry and balance and that is where my breed winner excelled. She was well balanced, good coated, and moved very well. It was a pleasure going over her.
I thank the Soft Coated Wheaten club for the size and quality of the entry that made me work to find my winners. The competition was that close. Thank you all and I hope we all meet again.

**SCWTCNC Sweepstakes Judge’s Critique: Louise Bishoff**

On Friday, April 15, 2016 I had the privilege of judging The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Northern California specialty sweepstakes. I had a lovely entry of 6 dogs and 13 bitches. Overall I was very pleased with the entry. There were a lot of promising young dogs. I was thrilled with the balance, squareness and soundness of my entire entry. I was also pleased with the dark eyes, correct wheaten color without any grey and overall nice shoulders of the entry. My concerns were level to slightly undershot bites, close rears, and some paddling in the fronts.

When the first class entered the ring I obviously had one puppy that was just barely 6 months old, and the other exhibit was more mature. Both of these puppies were quite nice; the puppy that ultimately won the class, **Lismore Return of the King**, had the nicest blend and laid-back of shoulders I think I saw all day. He was still very young and immature and quite silly, but I see great promise in this young lad. My next class, the 9 to 12 month old puppy dog, gave me my Best of Opposite Sex in Sweepstakes winner. This class had three lovely dogs. All three dogs were very correct, but my winner, **Doubloon’s Wicked Strong**, had the truest movement. His side gate and reach and drive were lovely. This dog is very showy, had the best neck and shoulder blend and has a gorgeous coat.

What separated him from my Best in Sweepstakes came down to the size of his ears. He is a balanced and overall beautiful dog.

This particular class was quite hard to judge, and I could see any of these dogs being able to win on any given day. The final dog class was the 12 to 18 month old class, and they only had an entry of one. This dog was very square and moderate with very nice and correct movement. This dog, **Vintage Braveheart**, gave my Best of Opposite dog a run for his money.
Now it was time for the girls. My first class was the 6 to 9 month old puppy bitches and it had an entry of two. These girls were quite adorable, and they showed like dog show veterans. My winner, **Lismore National Anthem**, had nice movement coming and going and better substance than the other entry. The next class, 9 to 12 month old puppy bitches was my largest class of the day. There were 6 lovely young ladies in this class. This class was extremely difficult to judge as all these girls were very consistent. I could easily see any one of these girls winning on a different day. My ultimate winner, **Marquee's Mint Julip**, had a lovely coat and beautiful side gait. My second and third place girls in this class I found out later were littermates which helped explain why I was having such difficulty placing them. My final class, 12 to 18 month old bitches, is where I found my **Best in Sweepstakes winner, Burdigan's Pop Pop Fizz Fizz**. This young lady walked into the ring like she owned it. She was a beautiful example of the breed and had attitude too. She was not to be denied. She was properly balanced, had a nice lay back of shoulders, short backed with lovely movement. I never saw her let down the entire time in the ring.

I want to thank the club for inviting me to judge their sweepstakes. It was my honor and a privilege. I think our breed has been suffering from some loss of breed type, especially squareness and proper color, but I was very pleased to see the improvement in these young dogs. I am excited to see these dogs as they mature.

**WEEKEND AT A GLANCE**

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<th>4/14 Thu, SCWTCA Roving / No California Terrier Assoc</th>
<th>4/15 Fri, SCWTCA Roving / No California Terrier Assoc</th>
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<td>Judges: Sue Goldberg, Breed Kathy McIndoe, Sweeps</td>
<td>Judges: Fred Stephens, Breed Louise Bischoff, Sweeps</td>
<td>Judge: Dennis McCoy</td>
<td>Judge: Edd Bivin</td>
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**WD** Vintage Braveheart | Vintage Braveheart | Barbeau’s Brandau | Kolohe It’s Raining Sunshine |
**RWD** Burdigan’s Pop Pop Fizz Fizz | Koloho It’s Raining Sunshine | Koloho It’s Raining Sunshine | Marquee’s Southern Comfort |
**WB** Burdigan’s Pop Pop Fizz Fizz | Barba An Apple A Day | Fennis Passion Fruit Of Frolic | Harbour Hill Christmas Cookie |
**RWB** Bonney Antic Piece Of My Heart | Bry Rose Dominique | Harbour Hill Christmas Cookie | Marquee’s Mint Julip |
**BOB** GCH Serendipity’s Urban Legend (b) | GCH Serendipity’s Urban Legend (b) | GCH Bry Rose Matisse (d) and Group 4 | GCH Serendipity’s Urban Legend (b) and Group 4 |
**BW** Burdigan’s Pop Pop Fizz Fizz | Barba An Apple A Day | Barbeau’s Brandau | Kolohe It’s Raining Sunshine |
**BOS** GCH Bry Rose Matisse (d) | GCH Bry Rose Matisse | GCH Serendipity’s Urban Legend | GCH Bry Rose Matisse |
**SD** Ch Rosheen All That And a Smile | GCH Atas Graumans Gypsy Run Through CGC | GCH Saltnsea Commander-in-Chief | GCH PitterPat Allons-YI |
**SB** Ch Azydeco How Can U Surpass Perfection | Ch Serendipity October Quest | CH Serendipity October Quest | CH Lochlinear A Serendipitous Win |
**AOMs** GCH Haldane Does Your Mother Know? (b) | GCH PitterPat Allons-YI (d) | GCH PitterPat Allons-YI (d) | GCH PitterPat Allons-YI (d) |
**NOHS** GCH Azydeco How Can U Surpass Perfection | GCH Rotheen Oh Happy Day (d) | CH Gemstone And That’s The Truth (b) | GCH PitterPat Allons-YI (d) |
**BOB** Best in Sweeps - Burdigan’s Pop Pop Fizz Fizz (b) | Best in Sweeps - Burdigan’s Pop Pop Fizz Fizz (b) | Fennis Passion Fruit of Frolic and OHG4 | CH Bradberry’s Best Of My Love |

**Best in Sweeps: Burdigan’s Pop Pop Fizz Fizz (b)**
**CH Burdigan’s Color My World x CH Bry Rose Pop Champagne**
**Owners: Julie & Josh Burdick**
**Breeders: Julie & Josh Burdick & Jeanne Ferris**

**Sweeps** BOS Sweeps - Doubloon’s Wicked Strong (d) | Best in Sweeps - Burdigan’s Pop Pop Fizz Fizz (b) | BOS Sweeps - Doubloon’s Wicked Strong (d) | BOS Sweeps - Doubloon’s Wicked Strong (d) |
Friday was a cold and stormy day......but, we are terrier people and we Persevered! Neville Hodgkins judged an entry of 49... 11-21 (12-5) Unfortunately, because of the nasty weather and the cold, soggy exhibitors, the after-judging festivities were not held.

Saturday’s weather was a bit better. It started off cloudy and cold, but the sun did peak through the clouds every now and then. The dogs loved the weather, but, dare I say, their owners would have preferred that it was warmer.

This was the big day, our 45th anniversary! Our Sweepstakes Judge was Denise Daniel of Star Wheatens, who judged an entry of 19. Our breed Judge was Cindy Vogels, and there were 56 entered12-21 (13-9). After judging, the sun started to shine. As usual, club member Barry Ivler, manned the grill and turned out some delicious food. Our members brought side dishes and desserts to round out the meal.

Our guest “member” in charge of all things, Helen Fraguela, who wanted to make sure all was going smoothly, called out the numbers for the silent and Chinese auction winners. Kelly Wamsler, the Artist of the felted Wheaten, this year’s raffle item, pulled the winning ticket which was won by Susan Sakauye. The afternoon ended with Michael Brown managing our Leprechaun toss. Thanks to all who brought food, donated items and helped make this day a success.

Sunday was the final day of the weekend. The weather improved; finally no rain and some sun. Our judge was Dr. Scott Kellogg, the entry was 39 8-15(10-6).

The “Thanks for Coming” luncheon provided and hosted by Kevin and Bev McDonald was held immediately after judging. More good food, good friends and celebrating wins! A huge Thank You for all who worked so hard to make this weekend of shows fun and successful, and a big Congratulations to all of this weekend’s winners.

Specialty Judge’s Critique: Cindy Vogels

I would like to extend my thanks to the Del Val SCWTC for inviting me to judge your 45th anniversary show. Congratulations - but where have the years gone? I hate to admit that I still remember all your match shows! I enjoyed the judging and thank the committee for my lovely gifts. The handmade Denise Bendelewski basket is a particular treasure. To the exhibitors, my thanks for showing your lovely dogs.

In general, I found the dogs extremely sound, and movement ranged from decent to very good. I don’t find this to be the case in other parts of the country, so I commend you on that. In addition, eye color was uniformly good to excellent with only a couple of dogs with lighter eyes; eye shape and size was excellent. Bites were generally quite good. Toplines and tailsets were above average with many good to excellent. Coats were uniformly good and many were excellent. I would caution against the cottony coats I saw. They are soft, but lack the requisite silky texture. The dogs were uniformly well-presented and showed well.

So, that’s the good news...

Size was a major issue. Not only was a large percentage of the entry oversize, they were coarse, too. Many were long, and, many of correct height lacked leg. I found only one exhibit with a head I would consider excellent in structure, and she didn’t have great ears. Many heads were small, coarse, and lacked parallel planes - usually having too much stop resulting in tall foreheads and backskulls that fell away. Many muzzles were short. Ears were too often large and poorly set, pointing out to the sides rather than down.

One last general comment. This is a docked breed. Although the standard allows for an undocked tail, docked tails are preferred and that tradition and preference should be honored. The standard clearly states the correct set and carriage, so gay and/or curly tails must be penalized.
**6-9 PUPPY DOGS (4)**

1. **Whindancer’s Fireworks at Westwind** - Good balance. Undocked with good tail.
2. **Bradberry’s One Quintessential Love Story** - Good on his legs. Nice ears and expression. Good topline and tailset. A bit low on leg and long.
3. **Lismore Return of the King** - Didn’t use his legs as well as 1 and 2. Not enough head.
4. **Rioga Tell Tail Heart** - Large and coarse with an unacceptable, undocked tail.

**9-12 PUPPY DOGS (1)**

1. **Sundance Hogan’s Hero** - Balanced, but too big. Not as good in front as behind which threw off foot timing.

**12-18 MONTHS DOG (1)**

1. **Coventry Farm’s Blitzen of Wheaten Wag’n** - Beautiful coat, but too big and long. Excellent rear.

**BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOG (2)**

1. **Coventry Penny For Your Thought** - Nice balance. Decent head and good ears. Good on his legs. Could have used a bit less of him and better coat. My Winners Dog.

**OPEN DOG (2)**

2. **Dhowden Funny Business** - Compact. Not as good on his legs as #1. Needs more head.

**6-9 PUPPY BITCHES (5)**


2. **Bradberry’s Alexandra Philippa** - Good mover. Not enough leg.
3. **Whindancer The Heat is On** - Not enough leg.
4. **LoneStar Without Remorse** - Nice Irish type coat. Not as good on her legs as the others and needs more head.

**9-12 PUPPY BITCHES (2)**

1. **Spinner’s Thoroughly Modern Millie** - Nice size. A bit long. Used her legs well.
2. **Cuileann Wild At Heart** - Good coat. Larger and less feminine than #1. A bit straight in shoulder.

**BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCHES (4)**

1. **Bryr Rose Mademoiselle Emmanuelle** - Stunning puppy that uses every ounce of herself. I could improve her head planes and perhaps give her a bit more head.
and expression, is very feminine and commands attention. My Winners Bitch and Best of Winners.

2. Whindancer Wavy Gravy - Another pretty puppy. Not as up on leg or good headed as #1. Excellent topline and tailset and used her legs well.

3. Carrick’s Pollyanna CGC - A bit longer cast. Didn’t move out, perhaps because she was in season.

4. Trinity Champagne Par Ti - Lost out on front assembly and coat.

OPEN BITCHES (1)
1. Bradberry’s Mclaren Love, Love Me Do CGC - A very lovely, typey bitch. Probably the best head construction in the entry, although I would prefer a smaller, better placed and carried ear. She went no further in the competition due to her lack of condition.

VETERAN DOGS, 7 YEARS AND OLDER (1)
1. GCH Wheatens Pride Buxx Bogart - No stranger to me, Buxx, at 10 years of age, is still a solid, sound, well-balanced, pleasing dog.

BEST OF BREED – GCH Keepsake Timtara I’m a Rockstar
A lovely, feminine bitch that filled my eye and used herself beautifully. I could shorten her back up a bit and give her a bit more head, but she was in beautiful condition and moved flawlessly.

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX – GCH Bryr Rose Symbol of Paris
Proper sized and good make and shape, he could use a bit more head with better planes. He used himself well.

SELECT DOG – GCH Lismore McCormack’s Dragon Song
A nice sized dog. Would like to see less backskull and smaller ear. Lost out to the Opposite Sex dog in movement.

SELECT BITCH – CH. Frolic’s Caper To Coventry
A compact, balanced bitch that used herself well. Could sport a better coat.
AWARDS OF MERIT – in alphabetical order.

Ch Harbour Hill Double Dog Dare – Very balanced, proper sized, good-moving dog that didn’t want to use his ears on the day.

GCH Sundance My Beau’s a Roxstar – Very balanced, sound dog. Would like less of him all over and better coat.

GCH Whindancer’s Forget About the Boy – Proper sized, compact, feminine bitch.

Del Val Sweepstakes Judge’s Critique: Denise Daniels

I would like to thank the Del Val Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club for inviting me to judge Sweepstakes at the May 7, 2016 Bucks County show. It was an honor. Before I start with my Critique, let me say I really don’t like this part of judging. I much prefer the hands on, in the moment part. So, bear with me.

To get started, in general, most of the dogs were square or close to it which is great because our breed was really getting long and low. There were many with nice heads and nice fill under the eyes. Most had really nice ear sets with correct size which I like a lot. The necks on most were also laid-back which is great to see. Most had amazing coats with beautiful wave in a lot of them.

Now, as far as movement goes, there were some good moving dogs. On the go around, they looked pretty good. The reach, however, appeared better than the drive so some improvement in balance of motion is needed. The fronts had pretty shoulders and nice neck length but, in those rears, I saw just about everything! Sickle hocks showed up lots more than I care for with some very close hocks as well. Continuing on with the hindquarters, there were also some really good tailsets and also some really bad ones. Our tails on our dog should be on their back not where the butt hole is. :)

All in all, I really think I judged a new generation of puppies that hasn’t been seen. I think we have improved our breed. Can’t wait to see everyone in October with their grown up puppies!

Results follow:
6-9 PUPPY DOGS:
1. Bradberry’s One Quintessential Love Story - Square and balanced, moved well, short hocks, nice head, neck and ears.
2. Rioga Tell Tale Heart - little larger pup but still very pretty, nice headpiece with smaller ears and nice expression, fairly square with rear angulation, tailset was a bit low and carried over his back.

9-12 PUPPY DOGS:
1. O’Mannion’s Shattered - This boy caught my attention from the moment he walked in. He was confident and well-trained and, on this day, he became my Best in Sweeps winner. He is my type, square and balanced. He carried a lovely, wavy coat, balanced head and lovely shoulders, was nice standing and moving presenting a lovely outline, had his tail placed correctly and had “butt behind that tail”.

12-15 PUPPY DOGS:
1. Dhowden Funny Business - nice head and ears, good on the go around with nice short hocks, could have used more neck to balance his outline.

6-9 PUPPY BITCHES:
1. Bradberry’s Alexandra Philippa - Confident, nice layback, low hocks with good rear angulation, nice wavy coat.
2. Whindancer Wavy Gravy - gorgeous coat with great color, very solid bitch with great rear angulation, needed to be more cooperative on that day but should be a great show dog someday.
3. Lismore National Anthem - pretty head and ears with great expression, would have liked better angles both front and rear.

4. Whindancer The Heat Is On - This little bitch would have been right up there as she, too, had things going for her. She needed a better tailset and tail presentation.

9-12 PUPPY BITCHES:
1. Bryr Rose Mademoiselle Emmanuelle - A confident, well-groomed puppy who presented a beautiful package and later became my Best of Opposite Sex for that day. She was square, balanced, smooth shoulders, charming little ears, high tail set with that lovely “butt”, great coat with color.

12-15 PUPPY BITCHES:
1. Bryr Rose Mademoiselle Emmanuelle - A confident, well-groomed puppy who presented a beautiful package and later became my Best of Opposite Sex for that day. She was square, balanced, smooth shoulders, charming little ears, high tail set with that lovely “butt”, great coat with color.

2. Spinner’s Thoroughly Modern Millie - beautiful coat and well set ears, nice head leading to a smooth shoulder, would like to see a better tailset.
3. Cuileann Wild At Heart - pretty coat covering a pretty head and neck, cute puppy but needs more work on lead.

15-18 PUPPY BITCHES:
1. Whindancer’s Singing This Song For You - pretty head and little ears, nice coat, nice rear angulation, could have more neck and layback to be better balanced.
2. Greentree Quite A Spell - solid girl with pretty head and neck and ear set.
**WEEKEND AT A GLANCE**

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- Ch: Champions
- GCH: Group Champions
- BOS: Best of Show
- SD: Select Dog
- SB: Supporter's Bridge
- BOB/OH: Best of Breed/Owner Handler
- AOMs: American Obedience Masters

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