You may not see me, but I am there,
dancing on wind gusts that ruffle your hair.
"In Celebration of CH Bryr Rose Flower Power’s 9 champions"

CH Stratford Top Priority X CH Bryr Rose Petal Pusher

- GCHG Bryr Rose Phoenix Rising
- CH Bryr Rose MoonSong
- CH Bryr Rose Moonshadow
- CH Bryr Rose Shoot The Moon
- CH Bryr Rose Written In The Stars
- CH Bryr Rose Starry Starry Night
- CH Bryr Rose Heavenly Scent!
- CH Bryr Rose For Heaven’s Sake!
- CH Bryr Rose Good Heavens!

Bryr Rose Wheatens

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Benchmarks is available for viewing in color on our SCWTCA website, http://www.SCWTCA.org.

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About The Cover

This extraordinary ethereal photograph is of Sophisticated Wheaten Kiss Me I Am An Irish Boy, owned by Petra Husmann-Vogt. Photo taken by Jasmina Nuber in Attendorn, Germany. It was shot in B&W and converted to this stunning sepia. Photo provided by Anna Maria Kruger.
From the President

Dog show entries continue to decline in many areas of the country. Group and all-breed clubs struggle to find affordable show sites while trying to keep the price of entries from going up. This waning participation in showing dogs has not seemed to affect interest in purchasing purebred dogs. You need only to look at the popularity of the AKC’s new “Marketplace” on its website as the public seeks information on breeds and breeders. (Note: As discussed recently in SCWTCA’s online Yahoo group, we are continuing to work with AKC to give SCWTCA a more prominent position in the Soft Coated Wheaten section of the site.)

So how do we get these Wheaten owners interested in dog shows? The future of our sport and purebred dogs depends on encouraging a new generation of breeders and exhibitors. The AKC continues to develop programs that will generate interest in conformation. The 4-6 Beginner Puppy Competition was initiated several years ago and beginning in September, the AKC will introduce the Puppy of Achievement certificate program where puppies can earn a certificate through 4-6 Beginner Puppy or regular Puppy classes. This competition is for dogs 4-12 months of age. The hope is that this early success for puppies and their owners will encourage them to compete for an AKC Championship.

Local clubs are also finding creative ways to involve young people in our sport. As some of you may have read in “AKC Communicates,” the Somerset Hills Kennel Club will offer its first Juniors Apprentice Stewarding program at their all-breed show in September. The program will have Junior Handlers, age 13 and over, work side-by-side with an experienced ring steward. Ring stewarding offers a unique and very informative perspective on showing dogs. It’s also a great way to give back to your local club. I’d encourage everyone who exhibits dogs to give stewarding a try.

Despite the decline in dog show entries, competition in a variety of sports continues to show the versatility of our breed. Wheatens are now competing in Barn Hunt, Dock Diving, Herding, Fly Ball, Rally, Obedience, Agility and effective October 1st, Scent Work. In addition, our dogs continue to excel as therapy dogs in many venues. At our Annual Meeting in October, SCWT will be awarding the first “Working Wheaten Awards” to honor our members whose dogs who have earned titles in multiple sports. To find out more about the sports eligible for this award, visit the Awards section of the Policy Manual at scwtca.org.

No doubt, the AKC and our local clubs will continue to look for ways to encourage participation in all dog show events. This is a challenge we must meet to ensure the future of our sport. If you’re not a member of a local breed, group or all-breed club, please consider getting involved. Our local clubs need our support now more than ever!

Cecily Skinner

"It is amazing how much love and laughter dogs bring into our lives and even how much closer we become with each other because of them."

John Grogan (Author, Marley & Me)
From the Editors

Editing Benchmarks is a challenging and sometimes thankless effort, if you doubt that...try it...just once!

This issue has been particularly frustrating. Obtaining win photos has become more and more difficult. Many photographers are unwilling to release them unless all photos are purchased by winners. So, while we have done our best, our specialty reports are somewhat incomplete. Page 9 outlines exactly what we need from specialty chairs to make your local specialty coverage in Benchmarks as complete as possible.

SCWTCA has lost another dear friend, Rosemary Berg, who dedicated many, many years to our breed and club. Our 2018 National Specialty will be dedicated to her memory.

As breeders we all have to deal with the issue of spay/neuter as we place pets...early and recent studies show some interesting and sometimes serious effects that we should all be aware of when thinking of timing. See IQ and the article that follows for details.

Wheaten Health News covers information on hemangiosarcoma, rabies and an excellent article about the H3N2 influenza breakout that has seriously affected our shows in the SE this year. Another article on Degenerative Myelopathy will touch your heart and help educate.

This issue covers specialties from DelVal, St. Louis, and So. CA. Missing photos is a problem in each and we sincerely apologize if you do not find yours.

We invite your input, articles and welcome participation in our surveys that enable us to share ideas and encourage communication and education. These last two years have focused on Type (coat, head, structure, movement) and breeding/rearing. Tell us what topics you want to see next in Benchmarks.

Enjoy!

Helen Fraguela

Back in 2010 when the AKC added Grand Champion titles, I was rather cynical about the merits of a program I thought was just another AKC money maker. It didn’t help that the GCH point calculations seemed like an exercise in higher math, and many of the seasoned judges didn’t seem convinced either. But I’ve since decided there’s a huge benefit to the program with the numbers of champions being shown going up dramatically.

To illustrate my point, the following chart reflects SCWT entries at our National Specialty both before and after the GCH introduction. The trend of more exhibitors showing dogs past their championships is even more evident at local shows and specialties. As breeders we all hope to find that perfect “Mr. Right” to complement our girls. So what better way to evaluate dogs than to see them in the show ring as mature dogs, with adult coats, size, and conditioning.

So what are you waiting for? Load those champions in the van and bring them out to your next local show cluster. Before you know it you’ll have yourself a GCH. Or better yet, bring them to Montgomery so we can all admire them. Who knows, they might just be the exact Mr. Right one of your fellow breeders was hoping to find.

Deb Van De Ven
Celebrating Long Life

“Kona”
CH Raelyn Forever Yours
CH Paisley Forever Man X CH Raelyn Good N’ Plenty
3/13/03- 7/3/17

Kona was very loved by his owner, Jeff Verkon. He was his buddy and Jeff took him everywhere. Most breeders wouldn't sell to a single guy, but Ray and I took a chance on Jeff and couldn't have been happier with our decision. He let us show him, and did everything we suggested. Jeff's new wife loved Kona as well. He was a special boy and loved by all who met him.

Lynn Cone
Raelyn Wheatens

“Roxie”
CH Raelyn All That Jazz
CH Paisley Forever Man X CH Raelyn Good N’ Plenty
3/13/03- 6/10/17

Roxie was loved by all who met her. She lived with Ira for the last six years of her life, and he adored her. She was funny, happy and her tail was always wagging. Miss you sweet girl.

Lynn Cone
Raelyn Wheatens

Happy Birthday Seniors!

“Abbey”
Raelyn Sweet Time
CH Bradberry’s Wesley Van Buren X CH Raelyn Sweet Serenade
DOB: 11/21/02

Abbey lives with Chris and Beth Leavitt. She leads a quiet life in Jacksonville FL, though she is blind and hard of hearing but very loved.

Lynn Cone
Raelyn Wheatens

“Buddy”
CH Paisley Power Play X CH Lontree Cactus Cait
DOB: July 21, 2004

We’re celebrating Buddy’s 13th birthday. It’s been a wonderful run since he joined our multigenerational family with four masters vying to be the Alpha Dog. As you know, Wheatens are very smart and loyal. Buddy trained us at an early age. He knew who to go to depending on what he wanted and needed. There’s never been a time when our relationships didn’t exceed our expectations. His love and affection are as limitless as his tail wags. As he has matured, he’s slowing down a bit. One of his new best friends is his chiropractor for periodic tune ups that give him a renewed energy level.

It’s been a great 13 years. Looking forward to many more. (PS – He hates having his picture taken! And it shows...)  
Breeder –Joy Laylon, Lontree Wheatens, Gary Shapiro
“Tashi”
CH Lontree’s Lord Macintash of Fairhaven
CH Paisley Power Play X CH Lontree Desert Galaxy
DOB: May 18, 2002

Tashi turned 15 years “young” a few months ago.

When we first fell in love with the breed, little did we know that the sage advice we received from so many dog lovers before beginning our SCWT journey was to find an experienced, professional and reliable breeder. And we are so glad we did that with Tashi’s breeder, Joy Laylon. Through Joy’s counsel, advice, education and continuing communication over the years, we’ve enjoyed not only a wonderful SCWT pet relationship but also wise and sage instruction from her on how to help provide him with a great home and the clear longevity Tashi has and continues to enjoy.

Per our breeder’s wishes and agreement, we assured that Tashi became an AKC finished champion. And he did so quite rapidly in the hands of a local professional handler. What an interesting, educational and fascinating experience that was. Our breeder was right that Tashi’s purchase price was the LEAST expensive investment we’d ever make in Tashi over the years. Any serious SCWT potential owner should, by all means consider and take this into account, especially obtaining Pet Insurance when Tashi was a puppy (which fortunately we have used VERY LITTLE in 15 years).

The SCWT breed (including Tashi) needs constant, firm direction, needs to know who is the boss and that he doesn’t “rule the roost.” Joy continually informed and advised us of this. As a result, Tashi has had VERY FEW (if any) major behavior problems over the years. And yes, Tashi has clearly rewarded us with his continual “puppy-like” exuberance, unbridled spirit and unconditional love so characteristic of the Wheaten. He continues to be the “toast of the town,” our neighborhood’s “favorite” and a “beautiful dog” that everyone loves. Everyone from babies to senior citizens continues to be drawn to Tashi and his unconditional affection to all.

As he ages, we would not hesitate considering another SWCT in the future, but only with assurance and intentions of working closely with a wonderful, caring and professional breeder.

Joel & Judy Kettler

“Desi”
CH Lontree Desert Star
CH Paisley Power Play X CH Lontree Cactus Cait
DOB: July 21, 2004

I have had Wheatens since 1971 and have loved them all, but there are always a few who are extra-special. Desi is one of them. He became a champion easily and was Reserve Winner’s Dog at Montgomery in 2006 under breeder/judge, Cindy Vogels. He is my pretty boy who is always "under my feet," when it’s possible for him to be there. His favorite spot is under my desk when I’m working there. In the evenings, he’s next to the couch with me, and of course he sleeps in my bedroom. He always knows if I’m having M & Ms or ice cream and is Johnny-on-the-spot for a little treat. He loves to be hugged and petted, and in return, he gives me the best foot massages! He is quite spry for his age and keeps up with the girls in the house. The only thing I notice is that he’s not hearing as well, though he always hears me fixing their meals! As with all of my Wheatens, he is very much loved and gives unconditional love back.

Owner/Breeder – Joy Laylon
In Memoriam

We celebrate the life of our longtime member and friend, Rosemary Berg. Rosie served as the SCWTCA Treasurer from 1994-2004 and was the founder of the SCWTCA Endowment where she also served on the Board of Directors. For many years she was our Montgomery ring steward, always keeping our show running smoothly. Her energy was boundless and so was her dedication to our breed. She was loved and respected by everyone who knew her. In recognition of her countless contributions to the club and the breed, the SCWTCA will be dedicating Montgomery 2018 to Rosie.

New Titles Earned

August 2017

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| GCHB CH Rosheen Sufferin’ Succotash |

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**August 2017**

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Official publication of the SCWTCA, Inc, volume 45, number 3, Sept. 2017 pg 8
Make a Lasting Impression of your Specialty

We all love hearing about your local specialties, reading the judges critiques and seeing the win photos. Our goal is to produce a summary that includes; an intro from the show chair, judges’ critiques, win photos and “weekend at a glance.”

In order to make our *Benchmarks* report on your specialty as comprehensive as possible, we rely heavily on the show chair to arrange obtaining what we need;

1. A general write up (200-300 words) from the Specialty Coordinator (or assignee), describing the weekend activities, (themes and logos), trophies, attendance, etc…
2. A couple of good-quality candid photos of the ring, trophy table, spectators to give a general perspective of the overall show weekend.
3. A write up (critique) from both the Sweeps judge and breed judge, with an overall commentary of the entry- what’s good, what needs improvement, what was special about their winners.
4. High resolution photos of winners, preferably electronic copies sent to *Benchmarks* editor via email. Please arrange this with photographer.
5. Editor develops a chart showing “Weekend at a glance,” listing winners for all other shows on the same circuit.

With this information we are able to put together a nice thumbnail report on your specialty that you have worked so hard on to manage and coordinate.

All of us who read *Benchmarks* look forward to these summaries to find out what is happening in your area. It gives us all an opportunity to see some dogs we might not otherwise ever see.

Regretfully, we are having great difficulty obtaining win photos. Many photographers are unwilling to provide them, so unless there is an agreement up-front, don’t assume they will be available.

Several of the summaries in this issue are missing win photos, or we have used photos from other shows in an attempt to give readers as much detail as possible.

Our sincere apologies if your photo is missing from any of these summaries.

Helen

Meet The Breeds at the World Dog Expo

Members of the Del Val SCWTCA plus other NY area SCWTCA members volunteered to bring their wonderful Wheatens to Meet the Breeds at the first ever World Dog Expo. Held in Secaucus, New Jersey in June, it was a great event to showcase our beautiful breed and promote buying a purebred dog from a reputable breeder. A fun time was had by all and the Board and membership of SCWTCA extend a HUGE "Thank You! " to all participants.

Sue Goldberg, Coordinator
FINALLY we have a working tool in place that has the capability of not only helping current breeders but also those who choose this breed in the future. FINALLY we can give face to the dogs of the past and the present, we can also add verified health information and anecdotal information to help with those breeding decisions. It is wonderful that this tool is available while many of the major players from the early years are still able to participate. Now it is just a matter of using velvet gloves to push those who are starting to purge the pictures and memories from the past and to encourage current breeders to fill in the gaps of our knowledge by sharing pictures and as much data as possible.

The Wheaten Database was developed by Gary Galunas of the Berner-Garder Foundation, and author of this amazing research tool (http://www.bmdinfo.org/bernerpedia/About_Berner_Garde.php) for the Bernese Mountain Dog Club and adapted for many other clubs including the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. San Jeffries has donated her amazingly thorough database of Wheatens around the world to the project. Breeders, owners or other authorized persons, must supply their data by using the links on the database, which can be found at http://scwtdb.org/SubmitData.aspx, or by sending supporting documentation to comments@SCWTDB.org. Anecdotal data will be marked as such.

Yes, you have already submitted pictures for the Yearbook, the Stud Book and perhaps for other databases, but pictures and data must be submitted to this database for inclusion. Health information MUST be documented by a veterinarian or the source of the testing.

Up to four pictures can be posted, giving the dog a less one-dimensional perception. You are able to see the dog as a show dog, as a pet and doing a job. You also get to see several views of the dog and get a better idea if he is one you would like to know about for potential breeding.

Knowledge is power!

Please submit photos of your dogs and encourage others to do so!

Once you have done that, make sure that the health reports are accurate and complete and submit all additional information that will complete the dog’s profile.
Finally and perhaps most exciting is that this database allows one to search using a health marker or any of the health tests approved by SCWTCA. If you want a dog who has 0 variant alleles for PLN, you input the criteria and a list appears.

Imagine having this information available for every dog. There is no doubt that breeders could make more informed breeding decisions! Certainly health is not the only factor involved in breeding but breeding dogs involves trust with fellow breeders and knowing that health testing is done and shared helps to develop a trusting relationship.

VISIT scwtdb.org to see the results for yourself!

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**Survey Says...**

**QUESTIONS ON AKC JUDGES REQUIREMENTS**

*ShowSight Magazine ran this question in its July poll ...*

Should judges be required to pass PARENT CLUB APPROVED TESTS before judging a breed?

*If the AKC were to adopt this suggestion into their Breed Judging Application process, what three questions would you ask of those applying for Wheatens?*

**Gwen Arthur, Ltd. Edition Wheatens**

My questions would be:

1. How well do you pay attention to the dog’s down and back?
2. Do you understand that a dog, no matter how beautiful the coat, needs to move soundly?
3. Do you understand what sound movement means?

**Meg Ryan, Lismore Wheatens**

My three most important questions would be:

1. What does "moderate," as used in the breed standard mean to you, and what is your understanding as to why that is an important component of breed type?
2. Discuss the traits that together comprise a good Wheaten coat, as you understand them, as well as those variations in coat that are considered serious faults.
3. What, in your view makes for a "balanced" Wheaten and why is that, or is that not, important either to breed type or to you when judging the breed?

**Cherie Turner, Frolic Wheatens**

It is my understanding that AKC has a test for prospective judges in the Canine College. These questions were formatted by our National Club, and each judge is given this test before approval.

The three most important questions to me would be:

1. Can you explain the essence of Wheaten type?
2. When there is a structurally superior dog that has an inferior coat, and in the same class there are inferior dogs (structurally) with beautiful coats, how do you place the dogs?
3. When judging, how much emphasis should be given to the statement in the standard that a Wheaten is a moderate and square dog?
Movement depends on many things: structure, condition, attitude and muscle development. When we look at a dog, much of what we see is the result of the growth of the bones, muscles, joints, ligaments and tendons. The bones and muscles give the dog its general conformation or shape. In puppies we frequently use such terms as ‘leggy,’ meaning the legs appear longer than normal; or “squatty,” suggesting short legs. The puppy may appear roly-poly or round, or it may appear long and spindly. In any event, these non-scientific terms attempt to describe how the young animal’s bones and muscle tone have developed, or how they are developing.

A puppy is born with all the bones, joints, muscles, ligaments and tendons that it will ever have. All growth is due to an increase in size of these tissues, not to an increase in their number. Bones, muscles, ligaments and tendons compose the bulk of an animal’s body mass. Allowing for variations in tail length, there is an average of 319 bones in the dog skeleton.

**Bones** are complex, rigid, living organs that have their own supply of blood vessels and nerves. They are composed of minerals, primarily calcium and phosphorus. They provide both the framework for the body and protection for many delicate internal organs and structures. For example, the bones of the skull protect the brain and eyes while the breast plate (sternum) and ribs help protect the heart and lungs. Bones, such as those of the limbs, function to provide support and locomotion. The bones of the legs grow from areas of immature bone located near the ends. These are called the growth plates, epiphyseal plates or simply the epiphysis. Growth plates are soft areas of the young bone that grow and add length to the bones.

**Growth plates** provide growth to the bone until the puppy’s bone growth is complete, usually by one year of age. At this time, the growth plates become hard with calcium and minerals and no longer function as areas of growth. This mineralization is referred to as a closing of the growth plates and indicates the end of significant bone growth.

**Muscles** The primary function of muscles is to bring about movement to all or a part of the dog’s body.

**Tendons** Muscles are connected to the bones by tough fibrous bands called tendons. Tendons begin on a muscle and end on a bone.

**Ligaments and joints** Ligaments connect bone-to-bone and are generally found spanning across joints. Joints are places where two bones meet or articulate with their ends covered by a layer of smooth cartilage.

Bone and structure defects are generally congenital or hereditary, but can also be caused by traumatic injuries, nutritional or hormonal imbalances.

**Nutritional** defects are caused primarily by imbalances or deficiencies in minerals, particularly the trace minerals such as copper, zinc, and magnesium. Calcium and phosphorus concentrations must also be present in the correct ratio.

**Exercise/Injuries** Puppies need proper exercise as they grow and develop. The concern with puppies is all about growth plates. Injuries to these may not heal properly or not heal in time for the puppy to grow up straight and strong. Injury to a growth plate can result in a misshapen or shortened limb, affecting health and movement. Most commonly the forearm is affected and the ulna stops growing, but the radius continues to grow causing bowed legs.

**Hormones** Early spay/neuter is a controversial topic that calls into play the effects of hormones on growth and of strong fully developed bones.
Growth plates, affected by hormones, tend to generally close at 12 to 20 months, depending on breed and size, **but not all close at the same time**, so if a dog is still growing there is a potential for connecting or corresponding bones to end up different lengths after early neutering.

Chris Zinc DVM PhD DACVP explains, “…if the femur has achieved its genetically determined normal length at eight months when a dog is spayed or neutered, but the tibia, which normally stops growing at 12 to 14 months of age continues to grow, an abnormal angle may develop at the stifle. In addition, with the extra growth, the lower leg below the stifle likely becomes heavier (because it is longer), and may cause increased stresses on the cranial cruciate ligament.”

Some large dog breeds that are spayed/neutered before the age of six months have a 70% increased risk of developing hip dysplasia.

The authors of this study (Spain et al, JAVMA 2004), propose that “it is possible that the increase in bone length that results from early-age gonadectomy results in changes in joint conformation, which could lead to a diagnosis of hip dysplasia.”

There is more evidence that spay/neuter can increase the risk of hip dysplasia; Van Hagen et al (Am J Vet Res, Feb 2005), found that of the sample dogs diagnosed with hip dysplasia, those that were neutered six months prior to the diagnosis were nearly twice as likely to develop hip dysplasia.

We have spent a great deal of time discussing bone structure and its relationship to movement…. Now, test your bone structure knowledge and have some fun below with “The Bone Game.”
Long-Term Health Risks and Benefits Associated with Spay / Neuter in Dogs

By Dana Scott
Dogs Naturally Magazine

An objective reading of the veterinary medical literature reveals a complex situation with respect to the long-term health risks and benefits associated with spay/neuter in dogs. The evidence shows that spay/neuter correlates with both positive AND adverse health effects in dogs. It also suggests how much we really do not yet understand about this subject.

On balance, it appears that no compelling case can be made for neutering most male dogs, especially immature male dogs, in order to prevent future health problems. The number of health problems associated with neutering may exceed the associated health benefits in most cases.

On the positive side, neutering male dogs:
• eliminates the small risk (probably <1%) of dying from testicular cancer
• reduces the risk of non-cancerous prostate disorders
• reduces the risk of perianal fistulas
• may possibly reduce the risk of diabetes (data inconclusive)

On the negative side, neutering male dogs:
If done before 1 year of age, significantly increases the risk of osteosarcoma (bone cancer); this is a common cancer in medium/large and larger breeds with a poor prognosis.
• increases the risk of cardiac hemangiosarcoma by a factor of 1.6
• triples the risk of hypothyroidism
• increases the risk of obesity by a factor of 1.6-2, a common health problem in dogs with many associated health problems
• causes urinary "spay incontinence" in 4-20% of female dogs
• increases the risk of persistent or recurring urinary tract infections by a factor of 3-4
• increases the risk of persistent or recurring urinary tract infections by a factor of 3-4
• doubles the small risk (<1%) of urinary tract tumors
• increases the risk of orthopedic disorders
• increases the risk of adverse reactions to vaccinations

For female dogs, the situation is more complex. The number of health benefits associated with spaying may exceed the associated health problems in some (not all) cases. On balance, whether spaying improves the odds of overall good health or degrades them probably depends on the age of the female dog and the relative risk of various diseases in the different breeds.

On the positive side, spaying female dogs:
If done before 2.5 years of age, greatly reduces the risk of mammary tumors, the most common malignant tumors in female dogs
• Nearly eliminates the risk of pyometra, which otherwise would affect about 23% of intact female dogs; pyometra kills about 1% of intact female dogs
• reduces the risk of perianal fistulas
• removes the very small risk (≤0.5%) from uterine, cervical, and ovarian tumors

On the negative side, spaying female dogs:
If done before 1 year of age, significantly increases the risk of osteosarcoma (bone cancer); this is a common cancer in larger breeds with a poor prognosis.
• increases the risk of splenic hemangiosarcoma by a factor of 2.2 and cardiac hemangiosarcoma by a factor of >5; this is a common cancer and major cause of death in some breeds
• triples the risk of hypothyroidism
• increases the risk of obesity by a factor of 1.6-2, a common health problem in dogs with many associated health problems
• causes urinary "spay incontinence" in 4-20% of female dogs
• increases the risk of persistent or recurring urinary tract infections by a factor of 3-4
• increases the risk of recessed vulva, vaginal dermatitis, and vaginitis, especially for female dogs spayed before puberty
• doubles the small risk (<1%) of urinary tract tumors
• increases the risk of orthopedic disorders
• increases the risk of adverse reactions to vaccinations

The traditional spay/neuter age of six months as well as the modern practice of pediatric spay/neuter appear to predispose dogs to health risks that could otherwise be avoided by waiting until the dog is physically mature, or perhaps in the case of many male dogs, foregoing it altogether unless medically necessary.
FINDINGS FROM STUDIES

This section summarizes the diseases or conditions that have been studied with respect to spay/neuter in dogs.

Complications from Spay/Neuter Surgery

All surgery incurs some risk of complications, including adverse reactions to anesthesia, hemorrhage, inflammation, infection, etc. Complications include only immediate and near term impacts that are clearly linked to the surgery, not to longer term impacts that can only be assessed by research studies.

Serious complications such as infections, abscesses, rupture of the surgical wound, and chewed out sutures were reported at a 1-4% frequency, with spay and castration surgeries accounting for 90% and 10% of these complications, respectively.

Prostate Cancer

Much of the spay/neuter information available to the public asserts that neutering will reduce or eliminate the risk that male dogs develop prostate cancer.

Recently, two retrospective studies were conducted that utilized control populations. One of these studies involved a dog population in Europe and the other involved a dog population in America. Both studies found that neutered male dogs have a four times higher risk of prostate cancer than intact dogs.

Testicular Cancer

Since the testicles are removed with neutering, castration removes any risk of testicular cancer (assuming the castration is done before cancer develops). This needs to be compared to the risk of testicular cancer in intact dogs.

Testicular tumors are not uncommon in older intact dogs, with a reported incidence of 7%.

Osteosarcoma (Bone Cancer)

A multi-breed case-control study of the risk factors for osteosarcoma found that spay/neutered dogs (males or females) had twice the risk of developing osteosarcoma as did intact dogs.

This risk was further studied in Rottweilers, a breed with a relatively high risk of osteosarcoma. This retrospective cohort study broke the risk down by age at spay/neuter, and found that the elevated risk of osteosarcoma is associated with spay/neuter of young dogs. Rottweilers spayed/neutered before one year of age were 3.8 (males) or 3.1 (females) times more likely to develop osteosarcoma than intact dogs.

The risk of osteosarcoma increases with increasing breed size and especially height. It is a common cause of death in medium/large, large, and giant breeds. Osteosarcoma is the third most common cause of death in Golden Retrievers, and is even more common in larger breeds.

Given the poor prognosis of osteosarcoma and its frequency in many breeds, spay/neuter of immature dogs in the medium/large, large, and giant breeds is apparently associated with a significant and elevated risk of death due to osteosarcoma.

Mammary Cancer (Breast Cancer)

Mammary tumors are by far the most common tumors in intact females, constituting some 53% of all malignant tumors in female dogs.

Spaying female dogs significantly reduces the risk of mammary cancer (a common cancer), and the fewer estrus cycles experienced at least up to 30 months of age, the lower the risk will be.

Female Reproductive Tract Cancer (Uterine, Cervical, and Ovarian Cancers)

Uterine/cervical tumors are rare in dogs, constituting just 0.3% of tumors in dogs. Spaying will remove the risk of ovarian tumors, but the risk is only 0.5%.

While spaying will remove the risk of reproductive tract tumors, it is unlikely that surgery can be justified to prevent the risks of uterine, cervical, and ovarian cancers as the risks are so low.

Urinary Tract Cancer (Bladder and Urethra Cancers)

An age-matched retrospective study found that spay/neuter dogs were two times more likely to develop lower urinary tract tumors (bladder or urethra) compared to intact dogs. These tumors are nearly always malignant, but are infrequent, accounting for less than 1% of canine tumors. So this risk is unlikely to weigh heavily on spay/neuter decisions.

Hemangiosarcoma

Hemangiosarcoma is a common cancer in dogs. It is a major cause of death in some breeds, such as Salukis, French Bulldogs, Irish Water Spaniels, Flat Coated Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Boxers, Afghan Hounds, English Setters, Scottish Terriers, Boston Terriers, Bulldogs, and German Shepherd Dogs.

In an aged-matched case controlled study, spayed females were found to have a 2.2 times higher risk of splenic hemangiosarcoma compared to intact females.

A retrospective study of cardiac hemangiosarcoma risk factors found a >5 times greater risk in spayed female dogs compared to intact females and a 1.6 times higher risk in neutered male dogs compared to intact male dogs. The authors suggest a protective effect of sex hormones against hemangiosarcoma, especially in females.
**Hypothyroidism**

Spay/neuter in dogs was found to be correlated with a threefold increased risk of hypothyroidism compared to intact dogs.

**Obesity**

Owing to changes in metabolism, spay/neuter dogs are more likely to be overweight or obese than intact dogs. One study found a twofold increased risk of obesity in spayed females compared to intact females.

Obese dogs are more likely to be diagnosed with hypothyroidism, diabetes mellitus, pancreatitis, ruptured cruciate ligament, and neoplasia (tumors).

**Diabetes**

Some data indicate that neutering doubles the risk of diabetes in male dogs, but other data showed no significant change in diabetes risk with neutering.

**Adverse Vaccine Reactions**

A retrospective cohort study of adverse vaccine reactions in dogs was conducted, which included allergic reactions, hives, anaphylaxis, cardiac arrest, cardiovascular shock, and sudden death. Adverse reactions were 30% more likely in spayed females than intact females, and 27% more likely in neutered males than intact males.

**Urogenital Disorders**

Urinary incontinence is common in spayed female dogs, which can occur soon after spay surgery or after a delay of up to several years. The incidence rate in various studies is 4-20% for spayed females compared to only 0.3% in intact females. Urinary incontinence is so strongly linked to spaying that it is commonly called “spay incontinence” and is caused by urethral sphincter incompetence.

**Pyometra (Infection of the Uterus)**

Pet insurance data in Sweden (where spaying is very uncommon) found that 23% of all female dogs developed pyometra before 10 years of age. Bernese Mountain dogs, Rottweilers, rough-haired Collies, Cavalier King Charles Spaniels and Golden Retrievers were found to be high risk breeds. Female dogs that have not whelped puppies are at elevated risk for pyometra. Rarely, spayed female dogs can develop “stump pyometra” related to incomplete removal of the uterus.

Pyometra can usually be treated surgically or medically, but 4% of pyometra cases led to death.

**Orthopedic Disorders**

In a study of beagles, surgical removal of the ovaries (as in spaying) caused an increase in the rate of remodeling of the ilium (pelvic bone), suggesting an increased risk of hip dysplasia with spaying.

Spaying was also found to cause a net loss of bone mass in the spine.

Spay/neuter of immature dogs delays the closure of the growth plates in bones that are still growing, causing them to end up significantly longer than in intact dogs or those spay/neutered after maturity. Since the growth plates in various bones close at different times, spay/neuter that is done after some growth plates have closed but before other growth plates have closed might result in a dog with unnatural proportions, possibly impacting performance and long term durability of the joints.

Spay/neuter is associated with a twofold increased risk of cranial cruciate ligament rupture. Perhaps this is associated with the increased risk of obesity.

Spay/neuter before 5 ½ months of age is associated with a 70% increased aged-adjusted risk of hip dysplasia compared to dogs spayed/neutered after 5 ½ months of age, though there were some indications that the former may have had a lower severity manifestation of the disease. The researchers suggest “it is possible that the increase in bone length that results from early-age gonadectomy results in changes in joint conformation, which could lead to a diagnosis of hip dysplasia.”

In a breed health survey of Airedales, spay/neuter dogs were significantly more likely to suffer hip dysplasia and “any musculoskeletal disorder”, compared to intact dogs.

Compared to intact dogs, spayed/neutered dogs were found to have a 3.1 fold higher risk of patellar luxation.

*This article is an abridged version of the original: Long-Term Health Risks and Benefits Associated with Spay / Neuter in Dogs, which can be found with references and bibliography at http://www.dogsnaturallymagazine.com/long-term-health-risks-benefits-spay-neuter-dogs/*
Update on Hemangiosarcoma – compiled by Molly O’Connell

Hemangiosarcoma – the silent killer. While I test for and protect against hereditary disease in my Wheatens, I have lost more dogs to this disease than any other. Unfortunately, the first we know of the problem, we often have a dog in catastrophic failure from blood loss. And often a trip to the vet is to no avail. Hemangiosarcoma can strike at any age, but in my experience, it hits many dogs in a prime time of their lives, even as early as eight years old.

Current research is ongoing at the University of Minnesota. The first, by investigator, Dr. Jaime F. Modiano, VMD, PhD, is designed to improve outcomes for hemangiosarcoma patients that will involve effective methods for early detection and disease prevention. The AKC Canine Health Foundation supports the funding of this effort and will oversee administration of funds and scientific progress reports.

The second AKC-CHF supported research is titled A Novel Mechanism to Regulate the Growth of Canine Hemangiosarcoma and the principal investigator is Dr. Erin B. Dickerson, PhD, University of Minnesota. Dr. Dickerson is investigating the connection between the disease and tumor cell lipid metabolism.

Recently I joined a webinar whose presenter was Douglas H. Thamm, VMD DACVIM (oncology) from the Flint Cancer Animal Center of Colorado State University. His purpose was to update the audience on Canine Hemangiosarcoma. Dr. Thamm defined the disease and then went through a detailed description of multiple therapies that have had limited success. He emphasized that neither choice of food nor specialized water has an effect of preventing the disease. Neither does exposure to lawn care products.

The hope for surgery with a long-term prognosis does not exist as this time. The encouraging part of his presentation is that many veterinarians and laboratories are looking into early detecting and treatment of this disease as it has affected so many dogs.

As dog owners, we can educate ourselves about the disease. If your dog seems suddenly lethargic, has pale gums, or is unresponsive, hurry to your veterinarian. Early detection gives more hope for successful treatment. Following is an in-depth look at and definition of this disease.

What Is Hemangiosarcoma?

Cancer is an uncontrolled proliferation of cells that have the potential to spread throughout the body. We often think of cancer as arising from various organs in the body: breast cancer, colon cancer, skin cancer. Hemangiosarcoma is a malignancy originating in an organ system we don’t think much about: the circulatory system, and specifically, blood vessels. The name of this tumor comes from the Greek word for blood vessel, hemangio, and sarcoma, the word for a malignancy derived from connective tissues like blood vessels.

Where Does It Occur?

Hemangiosarcoma arises from the highly specialized delivery system for blood. Since blood vessels are located all over the body, this cancer can — and does — develop everywhere. Despite the widespread nature of blood vessels, there are specific sites in the body where this cancer is most likely to occur: spleen, liver, heart and skin. Because hemangiosarcoma is a malignancy, meaning that it can invade and destroy nearby tissue and metastasize to other sites, this cancer can rapidly spread diffusely throughout the body — often before we can detect the presence of the tumor. For this reason, it is not one of my favorite tumors.
Who Is at Risk?

Both dogs and cats can suffer from hemangiosarcoma but the disease is far more common in dogs than in cats. Estimates suggest greater than 50,000 cases occur in dogs annually in the United States. Labrador Retrievers, Golden Retrievers, Boxers, Portuguese Water Dogs and German Shepherds are at higher risk for developing this malignancy.

What Are the Signs?

Pets with hemangiosarcoma may look deceptively normal until one of the cancerous blood vessels in the tumor ruptures. Then, in a heartbeat, your pet can go from looking normal to being in a state of collapse and shock. Blood can build up in the abdomen if the tumor arises from the spleen or liver and around the heart if the tumor arises from that organ. In either case, massive hemorrhage from the tumor’s abnormal blood vessels makes life-saving emergency surgery to remove the bleeding tumor a necessity in many cases.

How Can Hemangiosarcoma Be Detected?

Recognizing hemangiosarcoma before it spreads is a tall order. Hemangiosarcoma of the skin may look and feel like a fatty tumor (which is not malignant). Fine needle aspiration, a procedure in which a thin needle is used to draw fluid or cells from a lump or mass under the skin, may just reveal blood, but to me, this situation would put me on alert for a diagnosis of cutaneous hemangiosarcoma. Early detection of this tumor is nearly impossible when it occurs in an internal organ like the heart or spleen, because its signs are very subtle. Your pet’s annual physical examination, where your veterinarian does a nose-to-tail evaluation, may allow a splenic mass to be detected during abdominal palpation, but only if it is large enough to be detected in this way. Blood tests obtained at the annual check-up may reveal an unexplained anemia, but they also may be completely normal. Diagnostic imaging, such as X-rays and ultrasound, may also lead to the discovery of hemangiosarcoma.

How Is It Treated?

The first steps in treating hemangiosarcoma involve surgery to remove the bleeding tumor and a biopsy of the excised tissue to confirm the diagnosis. Once your pet has recovered from surgery, a consultation with a veterinary oncologist (cancer specialist) will help define the role of chemotherapy in your pet’s treatment. Chemotherapy is often recommended to slow the spread of cancer throughout the body. Surgery as the sole treatment results in about a 3-month average survival; the addition of chemotherapy can double that expected survival time for many dogs with splenic hemangiosarcoma, the most common location for the tumor. Unfortunately, due to its subtle nature, hemangiosarcoma is sometimes detected so late that treatment options can be very limited.

Why Isn’t the Prognosis Better?

Current investigation into the DNA abnormalities underlying hemangiosarcoma indicates that this tumor has cells that are more resistant to cancer treatments than the average cancer cell. Another line of research suggests that the immune system of certain breeds, like the Golden Retriever, has a decreased ability to recognize and clear cancer cells from the body, leading to the breed’s increased risk for hemangiosarcoma. These facts now give veterinary researchers targets for potential therapies and pet owners hope for new treatments in the future.

Rabies Challenge Fund

In the past, SCWTCA, Inc. has been a financial supporter of the fund, so members should be delighted to hear that the research is nearly complete. As a point of interest, all 50 states now require the three-year vaccine; however, there are only 18 states that give a medical exemption for unhealthy dogs. Those states are:

AL, CA, CO, CT, FL, IL, MA, ME, MD, NH, NJ, NV, NY, PA, OR, VT, VA, WI
Here’s a shocker for you: the actual three-year Rabies shot contains the same drug and is given in the same amount as the one-year Rabies shot. The only difference is the label on the bottle indicating one-year vs. three-year.

It’s done that way purely to satisfy state laws. Some of the bureaucrats just haven’t caught on that research has shown one single Rabies vaccination can provide protection for a number of years. The Rabies Challenge Fund’s current research is being done to verify a dog’s protection from Rabies over periods as long as five to seven years.

**Rabies Vaccination Schedules**

For the purpose of convincing pet owners to return for a booster shot with young dogs, the first Rabies vaccination should take place at 4 to 6 months, followed by an annual Rabies booster. This will build up antibodies to protect the dog quickly. After that first shot, you can then move on to a three-year Rabies vaccination schedule.

Even though the Rabies shots are essentially the same, simply being labeled a one-year shot will place the animal in a noncompliant status as far as the state is concerned (when that year has passed). To again be considered protected (according to the state), your dog will need another Rabies vaccination, and then repeated Rabies vaccinations every three years thereafter. Young pups are given a first vaccination sometime in the first year and then a second is given a year after. The first is a one-year shot; the second should be a three-year shot.

**About the Fund**

Research has demonstrated that overvaccination can cause harmful adverse effects in dogs. Immunologically, the rabies vaccine is the most potent of the veterinary vaccines and is associated with significant adverse reactions such as polyneuropathy resulting in muscular atrophy, inhibition or interruption of neuronal control of tissue and organ function, incoordination, and weakness, auto-immune hemolytic anemia, autoimmune diseases affecting the thyroid, joints, blood, eyes, skin, kidney, liver, bowel and central nervous system; anaphylactic shock, aggression, seizures, epilepsy and fibrosarcomas at injection sites are all linked to the rabies vaccine. It is medically unsound for this vaccine to be given more often than is necessary to maintain immunity, yet scientific research strongly indicates that the 3-year booster interval required by state laws may be unnecessary.

French challenge study results published in 1992 showed that dogs were immune to rabies 5 years after vaccination and Dr. Ronald Schultz's serological studies proved that dogs have antibody titer counts at levels known to confer immunity to rabies 7 years after vaccination.

The goal of The Rabies Challenge Fund Charitable Trust is to extend the legally required interval for rabies boosters to 5 and then 7 years by financing the concurrent 5 and 7 year rabies challenge studies at the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine and being conducted according to the USDA’s vaccine licensing code, Title 9 Section 113.209 by Dr. Ronald Schultz.

**The Vision of a Dog Lover and the Dedication of Two Renowned Veterinarians**

In early 2004, Kris Christine's beloved six-year-old Labrador Retriever, Meadow, developed a cancerous mast cell tumor directly on the site of his most recent rabies vaccination. His cancer and subsequent death led to Kris founding The Rabies Challenge Fund and advocating for states to adopt a three-year rabies protocol.

Dr. W. Jean Dodds serves as Co-Trustee of the Fund and supervisor of the project. A world-renowned veterinary research scientist in the fields of hematology, immunology, endocrinology, as well as a practicing clinician, Dr. Dodds established Hemopet, the first nonprofit national blood bank, in 1986.

Dr. Ronald Schultz, one of the world's leading veterinary vaccine experts who is Chair of the Pathobiological Sciences Department and has been conducting vaccine challenge studies since the 1970's, is performing the research at the University Of Wisconsin School Of Veterinary Medicine.

**Rabies Challenge Fund Update - April 6, 2017**

We have recently received most, but not all, of the technical data from The Rabies Challenge Fund challenge studies and are reviewing it. We plan to have a summary for supporters soon, and Dr. Dodds will begin writing the scientific paper for publication and peer review as soon as her assessment of the data is complete.
When I picked up “Mikey” from the handler on that Monday in May I learned “there were dogs at the show sick with Canine Influenza Virus. Some dogs who were at shows in Perry, GA the week before became very sick over this weekend. There were sick dogs in the grooming area directly across the aisle from ours.” I had been in Deland, FL that weekend too, showing another of our Wheatens. Reluctant to board a recently hospitalized elderly dog, my husband and I had two others with us in the hotel. All of our dogs had been potentially exposed, from dogs at the show, or from contact with contaminated surfaces brought back to the hotel from the show. Over the next few days there were posts from friends on Facebook about dogs in critical care at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine, posts that dogs had died.

Then information came out from the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services giving the official report that they had 7 confirmed cases, more cultures pending, and all of the hospitalized dogs were improving. At that point no dogs had died from this outbreak, but laboratory tests had determined that this strain was different from the H3N8 Canine Influenza Virus that had been in Florida in years past. AKC also put out a communication and periodic updates from their chief medical officer, Dr. Jerry Klein, a veterinarian in the emergency room at Chicago’s largest veterinary emergency and specialty center, who was personally involved in treating hundreds of dogs sickened by the H3N2 virus during its initial outbreak in Chicago in spring of 2015. The recommendation is to minimize exposure through diligent sanitation practices, avoiding dog to dog contact, and vaccination.

Over the next month, as seemingly healthy dogs who had been at one or both of the Perry and Deland shows continued to travel to dog shows, influenza cases continued to occur through the southeast US within the dog show community, and the dogs they live with. Two dogs in North Carolina died. Others isolated their dogs at home, cancelling plans to show during the period their dogs could be shedding the virus; the 2 to 5 day incubation period and an additional 28 days in the event their dogs could have a sub-clinical infection that might cause virus shedding. Some events were cancelled, other event chairmen increased cleaning schedules, air exhaust, and awareness precautions at their shows to help prevent spread of the virus. There was a major impact on dog shows in Florida. Entries at two large Florida clusters in June were down 20-30% each day from the entries of the last two years. Where last year the Wheaten entry was 20 to 27, this year the entry was 1 to 2 for these clusters.

It is unclear how the dog show exposure began, it only takes one dog exposed elsewhere to expose a large group. The Initial outbreak of H3N2 CIV in 2015 involved shelter dogs around Chicago, and was not immediately identified as a new strain to the US. It spread into the general population with positive tests almost every month in Illinois and usually one to three other states, totaling over 20 states with positive tests within 2 years. In March 2017, dogs were shipped from China to a Los Angeles, CA shelter, some of whom tested positive for H3N2 CIV.
Dogs from this shipment were also received and distributed to various shelters in the Tampa, FL area. These are “rescue” dogs imported from other countries by shelters to meet the demand for popular breeds fueled by the “adopt don’t shop” movement. At the end of June 2017 shelters around Tampa began reporting positive H3N2 cases.

This H3N2 strain is highly contagious, and in its severe form causes hemorrhagic pneumonia, permanent lung damage, and even death. With a mild case though, symptoms might not be noticed while the contagious carrier still sheds the virus for up to 4 weeks after onset of the disease. Respiratory secretions from a cough, sneeze, or bark become airborne, carrying the virus up to 20 feet, and it survives on surfaces for as long as 2 days. Because it’s a new strain, our dogs lack natural immunity to it. Vaccination provides the best protection. While the vaccine may not be 100% effective, it does prevent morbidity and mortality, will lessen the severity of disease if contracted, and shorten the period of virus shedding.

I encourage you to discuss with your vet if vaccination for Canine Influenza Virus is advisable for your Wheaten. The H3N2 strain has spread to 30 states, our dogs have no natural immunity to it, and it strikes hard. H3N8 is in 42 states. I am very cautious about the vaccines my dogs receive, and do titers for the core vaccines to know if they already have adequate protection or need a vaccination. I immunized my dogs with the bivalent H3N2/H3N8 vaccine because their lifestyle puts them at risk for exposure to this very contagious disease. If your dog goes to dog parks, to a groomer, to training classes, to dog shows, is boarded, or greets other dogs on your walks in the neighborhood, your dog could be exposed. Some cases are mild, but the more severe form of H3N2 causes hemorrhagic pneumonia and permanent lung damage.

Please read the references used in this article:

hospitals.vetmed.ufl.edu/canine-influenza/
doginfluenza.com
akc.org/content/news/articles/canine-influenza-virus-notice/
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/InfluenzaCanineH3N2.htm
https://ahdc.vet.cornell.edu/news/CIVChicago.cfm

Don’t forget your SCWTCA 2018 Calendar
### Schedule of Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10/2 Mon</td>
<td>Montgomery Terrier Agility Cluster&lt;br&gt;Montgomery Terrier Barn Hunt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/3 Tue</td>
<td>Montgomery Terrier Agility Cluster&lt;br&gt;Montgomery Terrier Barn Hunt&lt;br&gt;Montgomery All Terrier Obedience &amp; Rally</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/4 Wed</td>
<td>Montgomery Terrier Agility Cluster&lt;br&gt;Coursing Ability Test</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/5 Thu</td>
<td>Montgomery Terrier Agility Cluster&lt;br&gt;Coursing Ability Test&lt;br&gt;Hatboro OC all breed show</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>Education, snacks &amp; cash bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/6 Fri</td>
<td>Hatboro OC/Del Val SCWTCA DS&lt;br&gt;Hatboro Obedience &amp; Rally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30</td>
<td>Wheaten Boutique &amp; cash bar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00</td>
<td>Banquet, annual meeting, awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10/7 Sat</td>
<td>Devon Dog Show Assn&lt;br&gt;SCWTCA Sweepstakes</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>SCWTCA Sweepstakes</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/8 Sun</td>
<td>SCWTCA National Specialty&lt;br&gt;Post show party</td>
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</tbody>
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### Everything Else You Need to Know

#### SCWTCA Host Hotel

**DoubleTree by Hilton – Philadelphia Valley Forge**

301 West Dekalb Pike – King of Prussia PA 19406 – 610.337.1200

[www.doubletree.hilton.com](http://www.doubletree.hilton.com)

Use group code SCW; special rate available until sold out or 9/11

#### PawPal Form – Due 9/9

Either pay online at www.scwtca.org or send just ONE check using the PawPal form included in your mailer for all your 2017 Specialty Weekend Orders & Reservations to: Mary Ann Curtis – pawpal@scwtca.org or 6206 Sheffield Lane East, Fife WA 98424-2268

#### Show Superintendents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Entries Close</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MCKC All Terrier Agility Cluster&lt;br&gt;Obedience/Rally</td>
<td>9/14</td>
<td>scores-n-more.scoresmore.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barn Hunt</td>
<td>9/12</td>
<td><a href="mailto:dgocoachkar@gmail.com">dgocoachkar@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coursing Ability Test</td>
<td>9/26</td>
<td><a href="mailto:rnfurries@gmail.com">rnfurries@gmail.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SCWTCA Sweepstakes &amp; Specialty</td>
<td>9/20</td>
<td>MFB infodog.com</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCKC, Devon Dog Show Association</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hatboro Dog Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>RAU raudogshows.com</td>
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Visit [www.scwtca.org](http://www.scwtca.org) for the latest details. For questions, contact: Karen Bilda or Jan Van Ness at specialty@scwtca.org

### SPECIALTY FUNDRAISER ITEMS

#### Plush Sonoma brand towels

Available in cream or black

- Bath towel: 53” x 29 3/4”
  - Price: $35 each or 2 for $60
  - Shipping: $13 for 1, $19 for 2

- Hand towel: 28” x 16 1/2”
  - Price: $25 each or 2 for $40
  - Shipping: $5 for 1, $6 for 2

#### Floor Mats

- Size: 24” x 36”
- Price: $65 each
- Shipping: $25 each

#### RAFFLE ITEM

This stunning hand-crafted copper and bronze running Wheaten weather vane showcases our beautiful breed. It is fully functional as a weather vane or as a decorative table top statement piece. It is complete with a free standing brass base.

- Size: 15” W x 24” H
- Ticket prices: $5 each, or 6 for $25

Capture the memories and moments from the 2017 specialty with a DVD of all of the classes, Price: $60

Watch SCWTCA Web site for additional information

Contact: specialty@scwtca.org
45th SCWTCA National Specialty
October 2-8, 2017
Montgomery County, PA

Treasure the Moments,

Cherish the Memories

Dedicated to the memory of our dear friend, Jody Sylvester
This beautiful 14K Gold Soft Coated Wheaten in Silhouette pendant contains 4 diamonds and 3 emeralds and is 1”x1-1/4” on an 18 inch 14K gold chain. Valued at $1,750.00

Donated to National Rescue by Hunting Horn

Tickets on sale now and during the Montgomery weekend
TICKETS PRICES:
$5.00 each
or 5 for $20.00

Winner will be announced at post Montgomery show party. WINNER DOES NOT NEED TO BE PRESENT.

Send to Mary Yourich
3291 Beech Lane
Avon, OH 44011-3720
MAKE CHECKS OUT TO “SCWTCA, Inc.”
Please mail by Sept 18
myourich@yahoo.com
Save the Date
Wheatens in Paradise

2018 Roving Specialty
January 20, 2018 – Brooksville Florida

Watch for further details.

www.sewtea.org

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So proud to present our...
39th, 40th and 41st Champions

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By: GCHG Lil’Town Fiddler’s Lullaby of Ardnacassa x GCH Bon Aquarel Nightingale Song At Lil’Town

Sincere thanks to Handler Allison Sunderman for her many years of Exquisite handling!
Special thanks to Jacki Stein for her Expert grooming of Katie!

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www.lil-townwheatens.com
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WINSTON

CH Lil'Town Sparkling Jewel of Ardnacassa

SAORISE

By: GCH Champion Raelyn Jewel Of The Nile x CH Lil'Town Mandi Flirt Of Ardnacassa
Piper's St. Louis Weekend

Azlough Firelight

GCH Mackanme One Love One Heart X CH Azlough Eringlo Firefly

WB St. Louis Specialty (5 pts) Judge Pat Trotter

BOW Missouri Rhineland KC (4 pts) Judge Charlotte Patterson

Breeders: Elaine and Bob Azerolo, Cindy Shea
Owners: Cheri Buettmann, Elaine and Bob Azerolo

Elaine and Bob Azerolo
eazerolo@centurytel.net
NEW ROM*
GCH Mackanme One Love One Heart
CH Bradberry’s Schnitzel MaGuire x CH Mackanme Dutch Design V. Bodasca

* Pending SCWTCA approval

Marley
Sire of 16
Champions and
Grand Champions

Thank you to all the breeders who recognized
Marley’s quality, both in the ring and as a producer

Owned and loved by Joe Maguadog & family
Co-owned and presented by Deb Van De Ven

Deb Van De Ven
deb@bradberryswheatens.com    702-308-9542
The first and only
PLATINUM
GRAND CHAMPION WHEATEN*

Thank you Judges
Mrs. Rhonda M. Davis • Best of Breed • No. Cal. Terrier Assoc., SCWTC of No. Cal.
Ms. Kathi Brown • Best of Breed and Group Placement
Northern California Terrier Association
Mr. Ken J. Murray • Group Placement
Sacramento Kennel Club

MULTIPLE RESERVE BESTS IN SHOW • MULTIPLE GROUP SPECIALTY WINNER
MULTIPLE SPECIALTY WINNER • MULTIPLE GROUP WINNER

GCHP BRYR ROSE MATISSE

Owned by Edward J. & Janet E. Koharik, Jr.
Bred & Co-Owned by Jeanne Pedersen Ferris
A true work of art

America’s Number ONE

SOFT-COATED WHEATEN TERRIER ALL-SYSTEMS*

ON STATS 06.30.17

Our appreciation to Judge Mrs. Patricia Trotter for this SPECIALTY BEST OF BREED and Judges Mr. David Kirkland, Mrs. Diane Fenton and Mr. Darrin Bowey and Mr. Michael Shoreman for these Group Placements.

Matisse

MULTIPLE RESERVE BESTS IN SHOW • MULTIPLE GROUP SPECIALTY WINNER
MULTIPLE SPECIALTY WINNER • MULTIPLE GROUP WINNER

GCHP BRYR ROSE MATISSE

Owned by Edward J. & Janet E. Koharik, Jr.
Bred & Co-Owned by Jeanne Pedersen Ferris
NEW CHAMPION!

CH Wheaten Lane's Best Chance

GCHG CH Sundance Second Chance x CH Wheaten Lane's Heart And Soul

"Cooper"

Cooper: The Best Chance in the ring

Owners: Nancy Griffin, Keith & Risa Brand, Helen Fraguela
Bred by: Nancy Griffin
Expertly handled by: Sandy Russo and Donna Hills

Wheaten Lane

Nancy Griffin
941-928-1045
wheaten@tampabay.rr.com
Introducing…
Inishkeen Wheatens 3rd generation

MIKEY
Bred by Ann & James McCormick
Owned by Ann & James McCormick, and Susan Elfers
Presented by Renee Rosamilla, PHA

CH Inishkeen's Captn Miguel D'Lima
GCH Templar's Fly Away Home x GCH Inishkeen's Pillow Full O'Petals CGC

AOIFE
Bred and owned by Ann & James McCormick
Presented by Renee Rosamilla, PHA

Inishkeen's Buxxom Lady
GCH Wheatens Pride Buxx Bogart CGC x GCH Inishkeen's Pillow Full O'Petals CGC

Ann and James McCormick
inishkeen@hotmail.com
Bogie

A Great Start to the Summer...

22 Breed Wins, Including a SCWT Specialty, 5 Group Placements, and 3 Group Wins

Our appreciation to Judges Mr. Don L. Evans, Mr. James G. Reynolds, and Mr. Thomas L. Yates for the Group Wins Pictured Above.

Reserve Best in Show; Multiple Best in Specialty Show
Multiple Group Wins and AKC National Championship Breed Winner

GCHG AINLE SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT

#2 Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier (All Breed)*

* as of June 30, 2017

Owned by Linda Robison
Bred by Kathi Elliot
Presented by Brian Tuel, PHA
"It's All About Me"

CH Marquee's A Fool and His Money x CH Marquee's Birthday Celebration

"MeMe"

CH Marquee's Party Girl is out partying again!

Owner: Rose Rose, Asheville NC.

Breeders: Sonya and Richard Urquhart
CELEBRATING NEW CHAMPION; CH LISMORE ONCE IN A LIFE TIME

CH Tara I Get Around x GCH Lismore Catching Fire

“ROONEY”

NEWS FLASH...
Rooney takes back to back BOBs at Greater Denver SCWTC Specialties...

Thanks to Mrs. Connie Clark for this recognition.

Best In Sweepstakes and RWD, Delaware Valley SCWTC

Thank you Angela Lloyd and Shari Boyd, and co-owners Albert Baker Knoll and Fred Mitzner, for your assistance.
AND MULTIPLE GROUP-WINNING/PLACING
GCHS LISMORE MCCORMACK’S DRAGON SONG

CH Aran What Happens In Vegas x GCH Lismore The World According To Me

“JOHN MAC”

Our appreciation to the judges
for recognizing this young dog

Presented by Angela L. Lloyd, assisted by Tyler Mills
Owned by Meg Ryan and Maureen Long
You were the heat in our family's heart, and without you we are not the same. Rest peacefully, sweet Doogan, until we meet again.


Bill & Michelle Space

"Image by GreatDanePhotos ©2012. Used with permission."
Degenerative Myelopathy And Our Wheatens

In June, 2005, our family brought home an eight-week old bouncing Wheaten puppy and named him Doogan. This initial welcome home was preceded by a careful search for the right breed of dog for our family, straight out of the AKC website suggestions for how to find a puppy. We checked off the entire search criteria and focused on a SCWT. After meeting several SCWTs, visiting SCWT breeders, and getting past the initial sticker shock of buying a purebred dog, we took the plunge and selected Vermilion Doogan’s Irish Cream – our Doogan.

His breeder, Barb Peterson, inquired of us as much as we inquired of her. We completed a five-page Puppy Application and were thrilled when we were approved to raise one of her puppies. We executed a Contract for Sale of Companion Dog that set out the rights and responsibilities of both the buyer and seller. We visited Barb and the litter four times before the eight-week mark, a four hour roundtrip each time. Each visit we were educated about different aspects of the SCWT breed, including a scary awareness of PLN/PLE and RD in the breed. We visited the SCWTCA website regularly, although we were not yet members. We were reminded by multiple sources that buying from a breeder will help ensure that we were buying a healthy dog.

And so, we were off and running. We had raised a Brittany previously, so we had an idea of what to expect when raising Doogan. He was a wonderful puppy/dog. We took puppy obedience classes and had him neutered, both required by the contract. We had annual Wheaten health checkups and testing at the University of MN, and we provided the results to the breeder. Doogan was healthy, happy, and a very sociable dog.

We attempted advanced obedience and we failed miserably. You see, Doogan was a social gadfly and Bill was an inexperienced handler, not a good combination in the obedience ring. The very kind obedience instructor asked us if we had ever considered agility as an activity. We took the hint. In 2010, at age five, Doogan entered his first AKC Agility trial. By the time he was retired in 2016 at age 11, he was officially recognized as MACH7 Vermilion Doogan’s Irish Cream MX53 MJC3 T2B2. In the agility world, MACH is the acronym for Master Agility Champion, the highest title in AKC agility. In Doogan’s case, he was a seven-time Master Agility Champion, maybe loosely comparable to a Platinum Grand Champion in the conformation world.

Doogan is the highest titled male AKC agility Wheaten in breed history. He was an exceptional agility Wheaten. He competed in agility shows across the country including three AKC Nationals, three AKC Agility Invitationals (qualified five times), and three all-terrier trials, including Palmyra, PA, as part of the national specialty. He was twice named SCWTCA Agility Dog of the year, and four times by the AKC. Most of all, Doogan was a great ambassador of the SCWT breed, both inside and outside of the ring.

But in 2016, something began to change in Doogan’s gait. It was very subtle at first: noticeable only in the weave poles at times. And then it progressed to where there was certain “looseness” in his rear legs. Doogan was retired from agility in July, 2016 after he lost his rear-end step on the up-ramp of the dog walk while training. We consulted with our regular vet and the focus was on a possible spinal malady. We tried x-rays, rehab, acupuncture, strengthening, walking, exercises, etc. but the rear-end infirmities only got worse. We consulted with Barb, who has always been there for us when we
had any issues or questions. That was the first time we ever heard of the term DM – degenerative myelopathy. DM is a progressive disease of the spinal cord causing paralysis. It generally takes 6 – 12 months from onset until the dog becomes paraplegic. Further progression results in urinary and fecal incontinence. From that point the disease will move to the forward limbs. Presently, there is no cure or treatment.

It is somewhere along this timeline that the difficult end of life decision needs to be made. The only good thing that we know about DM is that the dog does not suffer any pain. That is also the most insidious thing about DM, because it forced us to make the difficult decision while Doogan was as happy, alert, and spunky as ever, save and except that he could no longer walk without supervision and assistance.

There is a genetic test for DM available from several sources including OFA and CGD Network, to name a few. Doogan tested homozygous A/A, with two mutated copies of the gene - in layman’s terms, “at-risk” for DM. We transferred Doogan’s care to a neurological veterinarian, experienced with DM, at the University of MN, who reviewed his treatment to-date and prescribed a course of steroids to rule out disk involvement, as presumptive DM is diagnosis by process of elimination. No luck. The disease progressed and the specialist made the diagnosis of presumptive DM. We cared for and comforted Doogan for the next five months. In May, 2017, at 12 years of age, with broken hearts and rivers of tears, we had to let our Doogan go. The subsequent necropsy definitively diagnosed canine degenerative myelopathy.

Since our journey down this dark road began, we learned that Doogan is not the only Wheaten to have suffered DM. In the March, 2017, Benchmarks magazine, Ron Bedford and Fran Roushar shared their experience with DM and its effects on their agility Wheaten, Martha (CH Geragold Maximum Joy NA NAJ AXP AJP). These recent cases cannot be dismissed as “an old dog that went down in the rear.” Doogan and Martha didn’t “go down in the rear.” Age isn’t the issue. They were Wheatens afflicted with DM. We have learned that DM has been around for some time now, as in decades.

We have learned that DM has a history of being misdiagnosed as an orthopedic/disk problem. Some dogs are never properly diagnosed. Inexpensive cheek swab genetic testing is a good start. It’s important for all of us to understand and track the DM genetic defect within our beloved SCWT breed.

And what is it that we want breeders to take away from our family’s experience? That the Wheatens that breeders sell to us are our family’s companion dog, integrated into the very fiber and essence of our family. All we ask for is a healthy Wheaten with a good temperament that has been properly socialized. Testing breeding stock for DM, as well as PLN, may be the direction to go. Maybe the SCWTCA can consider adding DM genetic testing to the Code of Ethics, or some other way to account for DM at the time of breeding. DM testing is inexpensive and the information generated can be used by breeders in their breeding decisions for the benefit of everyone, especially the dog. And what have we as Wheaten buyers learned through this experience?

That DM is fatal for the dog and devastating to the family. There is no overstating the difficulties that Doogan faced in his courageous battle with DM. And there is nothing that can lessen the pain that our family went through watching Doogan’s demise:

We as prospective buyers need to be advised of the existence of DM in the breed, much like we were advised of the other genetic health challenges of SCWTs so that we can make an informed decision before purchasing a puppy and investing our life in the dog:

Barb Peterson deserves all of the credit in the world for breeding a remarkable and otherwise healthy dog in Doogan. We will be forever grateful to her for the gift of Doogan and being allowed to care for and raise him. His story deserved to turn out better;

That there are so many wonderful Wheaten people and agility people who were so kind to us when they learned of Doogan’s challenge, struggles, and his passing. We can never thank them enough; and

We know that we have learned a lot from these trying times and the impact of DM on Doogan and the SCWT breed. It is a tragedy that such an accomplished Wheaten like Doogan is now a poster-dog for the horrors of DM.

Please refer back to our March 2017 Benchmarks issue, Wheaten Health News, pages 45-47 for more in-depth information on degenerative myelopathy.
Social media and dog exhibitors…a match made in Heaven. A place to brag and complain, whine and cheer, posture and commiserate. What fun!

Today’s social media topic is judges: Specifically the various sites where exhibitors rate judges. It doesn’t take much reading to realize a couple of things: First, if a judge wants a good review, he or she needs to be nice at all costs…tolerate exhibitors setting up their dog toenail by toenail, always smile, provide extended answers to questions and never, ever, ever say a bad word about a dog or person. A second criteria for a good review is to always put up owner handlers. Doesn’t matter if they walk in the wrong direction or their dog has never been trimmed or trained…put up a pro and clearly, you’re judging the wrong end of the lead.

In your first minutes, you will encounter the “DNS List.” That’s a person’s “Do Not Show” list. Some people’s lists are so long, it’s amazing they ever enter.

You’ve got a DNS list, right? Most exhibitors do. I suspect many of us include judges for reasons that won’t stand up to scrutiny.

So today, I want to talk about “Judge Smith.” They…yes, I’m disguising gender…are a real AKC judge NOT named “Smith.” Based on my observations, Judge Smith is on a number of Wheaten DNS lists.

Judge Smith is a former professional handler, surrounded their entire life by pros and long time dog people. While Judge Smith had a separate career, it’s safe to say dogs are his/her life. They go to shows when they aren’t judging, and they seem to know everyone.

That alone places Judge Smith on some DNS lists. After all, they are friends with handlers, and exhibitors. Of course they are going to favor their friends. And look…Judge Smith just proved it by putting up that professional handler showing the highly advertised dog.

My entire judging experience consists of two sweepstakes and a few match shows. The first sweepstakes I judged, I learned what every exhibitor should learn: stand in the middle of the ring and showing dogs will never be the same. You’ll find yourself looking at the best presented dogs. You’ll forget who is on the other end of the lead… unless it’s a friend and you’ll sweat more than you can imagine. You’ll wish there was a pro to make that pretty but recalcitrant puppy do better. But most of all, you’ll be looking at and thinking about dogs in a way you never have before…and doing it in about 2 minutes per dog. So before you decide a judge putting up a handler is taking the dummy’s way out…judge a couple of classes.

Back to Judge Smith…as I mentioned, they know a lot of people. They talk to them about dogs…ones from the past, ones currently being shown, ones they’ve judged and ones they’ve only heard about. They watch breeds and groups at shows.

Aaagh! Judge Smith isn’t a monk. They must be pre-judging their entry based on what someone told them or an ad in Dog News or who won when they stood at ringside. DNS for Judge Smith!

Or perhaps Judge Smith considers it part of his/her job to continue learning. It so happens I’m someone Judge Smith has talked to about Wheatens. It’s been casual…they’ve seen a particular dog and asked about its coat or size or just a general impression. Sometimes Judge Smith and I agree, sometimes not. It’s always been about the dog, not about its wins or its owners.

Of course, Judge Smith isn’t a paragon of virtue. There are a lot of times their mouth opens too much or the wrong thing comes out…or maybe the right thing at the wrong time.

Well, good grief, this is serious! After all, you’re paying an entry fee. They should respect what a dog show is about. If they don’t, well, why should you show to them? And really, being rude or dismissive of exhibitors? DNS for sure!

I’m going to soften on this a bit. The judge picking the best dog in the class is the most important thing. For me, it’s about 15 minutes out of my life I have to put up with a personality I don’t like…I can tolerate that. Your fee buys an opinion, not a new BFF. But if someone has been outright rude to you…which doesn’t include just beating your dog…I can understand not wanting to show to them again. But you never know…
I once had a judge, in my then 4 years’ experience, who I thought was rude and dismissive. Then Judge Awful came up on a panel for a big show. A week of bad weather resulted in soft grounds on a beautiful, breezy day…and the show tent collapsing on exhibitors and dogs. No one was hurt but a lot of dogs were freaked out. As everyone regrouped, I saw Judge Awful directing the ring stewards to move the ring entrance so skittish dogs could get into the ring as far from the tent as possible. He came off my novice DNS list that day, and I both won and lost under him in subsequent years.

Back to Judge Smith…they have some definite traits in Wheatens they prefer. So they’re on your DNS list for that reason, right?

That sounds like a legitimate reason to avoid a judge. I think it’s hard to know what a judge likes in Wheatens. Most Wheaten entries are small. Classes of 2 or 3 dogs don’t tell you much about a judge’s preferences.

They’re picking the best one in a class which may bear no resemblance to what they think Wheatens should be.

Even if you do “know,” it’s always the dog on the day. As I said, I’ve talked to Judge Smith and probably have a good idea what they prefer. I’ve also experienced their doing exactly the opposite…and for good reasons.

I think exhibitors are better served by a “NSN List”…Never Say Never. That’s where your Judge Smith and Judge Awful belong. One day, she’ll pop up in the middle of a cluster or you need just one *&^% point or you’ve gotten over being mad at him…and you may like the result.

But you still want to know…do I have a DNS list? Yes, a tiny one. It has a single criterion: if the judge were to do MCKC, would I refuse to enter?

Seems as good a reason as any.

Support The Open Registry

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 was to publish information on confirmed cases of genetic diseases in Wheatens and to maintain health and genetic records for SCWTCA-sponsored research.

The Open Registry lists dogs affected with Protein-losing Enteropathy/Nephropathy, Addison’s Disease, Renal Dysplasia or Irritable Bowel Disease.

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.

Please remember to support Wheaten Health with your tax free donations. Checks payable to SCWTCA Endowment. Keep in mind the Open Registry is an important tool in our tool box as breeders. We need your continued support and participation.
The 46th Specialty weekend for Delaware Valley SCWT was kicked off at Garden State All Terrier on Friday, and the weather gods were not shining down on us.

Exhibitors and spectators once again proved that we are terriers and we persevered. John Boozer III judged an entry of 49. The weather was so unpleasant that the after judging, wine and cheese party was not held.

Saturday’s weather was perfect weather for the dogs. Sweepstakes Judge Sally Sotirovich of McLaren Wheatens, had an entry of 18. Our breed Judge was Candy Way, Bantry Bay, and she judged 63 Wheatens. After judging, a wonderful meal, topped off by side dishes from our members, as well as raffle, silent auction and Chinese auction, enjoyed by all.

Sunday, at Trenton Kennel Club, a supported entry, the weather improved again; our judge was Connie Clark. She had an entry of 48. After judging we had a delicious farewell lunch hosted by Bev and Kevin McDonald.

Thank you to all the members that made the weekend successful, and to all the exhibitors that joined us.

**Judge’s critique DVSCWTC Sweeps: Sally Sotirovich**

A few observations about the entry as a whole: “The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier is SQUARE” and we are still working on that. Puppies change over time; coats mature and parts mature (and puppies grow into ears that may at the time be too big or tails that are too long), but a square outline should be there from the start. A few entries were carrying coat under their chests that was too long and may have hidden squareness by shortening leg and making the back disproportionally long. I would have liked to see more “butt” behind the tail on several of the entries – another part of squareness. Coats mature in time and there were several entries that shined and shimmered and promised lovely coats in adulthood. Without exception they were all happy, curious and confident as Wheaten puppies should be.

When the class winners were assembled for BIS class there were some strong contenders but the BIS and BOSBIS both stood out – square and typy.

Best in Sweeps – a very square, well-proportioned moderate dog. His back was in proportion to his legs with a lovely blend of neck. In outline, his front dropped straight, enhancing his squareness. I think he will mature into a spectacular adult.

Best of Opposite to Best in Sweeps - very square with a nice butt behind her. A pretty coat and I loved her dainty ears.
Judge’s critique DVSCWTC Breed: Candace Way

Despite a rainy Friday, Saturday was mostly dry for the Wheaten specialty. Our huge corner ring had good footing and plenty of room for our beautiful entry of 63 to move and show off. It was an honor to be asked to judge at “my club.” There were many old friends and new ones to meet. My ring stewards kept everything moving right along; the trophies were unique and all 63 entries were there.

BOB to #67 CH Adako Little Red Robin Hood. Beautifully presented in gorgeous coat with moderate trimming. He moved well at the proper speed, held his topline and outline with a ‘tails-up’ attitude. A young dog, he has a lot of promise.

WD/BOW was #39 Marquee’s Storm Warning, a young dog of proper size, outline and carrying a lovely coat. Good head piece and ears. Moved with ease and carried outline well.

BOB: CH ADAKO LITTLE RED ROBIN HOOD
GCH Villanova Blame It On The Bossanova x CH Marquees It Ain’t No Trick
Owners: Melissa Deanne Pickett & Phillip Ray Pickett Jr.
Breeders: Brittany Phelps & Sonya Urquhart

WB was #66 Greentree Kokomo. A very cute package with proper size, head piece and ears and a sassy attitude. Good tailset and backline. Another promising youngster.

WB: GREENTREE KOKOMO
GCH Wheaten Rebel’s Take A Ticket To Greentree x Greentree Mombo In Aruba
Owners/Breeders: Beverly McDonald & Kevin McDonald

BOS to #58 GCH Frolic’s Caper To Coventry. Proudly presented by owner Cherrie Turner who was also best owner handler for the day. This is a lovely bitch with good outline, nice reach and drive and maintains topline. Pretty coat of proper length and proper size.

BOS: GCH FROLIC’S CAPER TO COVENTRY
CH Harbour Hill R U Nuts x CH Waterford Coventry Caper
Owner: Cheryl Turner
Breeders: E. & J. Heckman & M C Shoemaker

RWD #65 Lismore Once In A Lifetime

NO PHOTO AVAILABLE
RWB #56 Frolic Sit Down And Look Pretty At Coventry.

RWB: FROLIC SIT DOWN AND LOOK PRETTY AT COVENTRY
Ch Bryr Rose Nouvelle Vague x CH Waterford Coventry Caper
Owner: Cheryl Turner & Erma Heckman

SELECT DOG #59 CH Bradberry's The One I Love

SD: CH BRADBERRY’S THE ONE I LOVE
GCH Mackanme One Love One Heart x CH Bradberry's Summer Fiona Lilly
Owners: Sarah & Allen Berry & Deb Van De Ven
Breeder: Deborah Van De Ven

The basic problem remains with lack of shoulder layback resulting in short upper arms and lack of reach. This is however a universal problem in most dog breeds...hard to correct.

It was a lovely entry, all of the breeders are doing a very good job and the dogs had a “head up - tails up” attitude which is important in the show ring. Keep up the good work as we all love our Wheatens and are so proud of them.

Hugs...... Candy Way

AOM: GCH GREENTREE MOONSTRUCK MOMBO MAN (d)
Ch Greentree Skellig’s Samba Par Ti x CH Greentree Moonstruck Fairy Tale
Owners: Beverly & Kevin McDonald
Breeders: Helen Fraguela & Beverly & Kevin McDonald

SEVERAL PHOTOS UNAVAILABLE FROM THIS SHOW
The 2017 St. Louis Specialty weekend featured five shows with major entries and two social evenings. All events were held at the same comfortable location, the Purina Event Center in Grey Summit, MO.

Mrs. Patricia Trotter judged the SCWTC of Greater St. Louis Specialty held on Friday, June 2. She selected GCHP Bryr Rose Matisse as Best of Breed. Mr. Michael Shoreman awarded him a Terrier Group 4 later that day. The breed win by Matisse was his third consecutive win which retired the CH Acacia’s Moonshine Challenge Trophy offered by Acacia Wheatens.

Patrice Chevalier, Heirloom Wheatens, judged puppy sweepstakes, selecting Saddlebrook’s Pocket Full of Posies as her Best in Sweepstakes winner.

The Specialty dinner, planned by Susan McGee, and silent auction, organized by Bonnie Kanter, were held Friday evening at the Checkerboard Cafe in the Event Center. Cindy Shea designed centerpieces featuring hand-crafted pottery water bowls, which were won by lucky guests. Cindy also coordinated the snack-filled welcome bags for Wheaten exhibitors.

Sweepstakes winners received canvas tote bags embroidered with a Wheaten design. The St. Louis Club supported the entry on Saturday, offering embroidered bath towel trophies. Jinx Moore chaired the trophy committee. SCWT Club of America supported the entry on Sunday, offering medallions for the winners.

On Saturday evening the Club hosted a complimentary barbecue organized by Jeannine Salivate for all Wheaten fanciers on the covered patio outside the Purina Center. Guests enjoyed Super Smokers’ smoked meat and a variety of side dishes while visiting with friends.

Thank you to the St. Louis Club members and to all the Wheaten exhibitors who made the weekend a success.

Judge’s critique SCWTC Greater St. Louis Sweeps: Patrice Chevalier

Thank you SCWTC of Greater St Louis for providing me the experience of wearing the visor of a judge for your 2017 Puppy Sweepstakes. It provided me a whole new level of education, which I deeply appreciate.

St Louis had a very respectable Sweepstakes entry of 17 – 6 dogs and 11 bitches. The St Louis SCWTC Specialty is held at a supremely comfortable and one-of-a-kind show site of Purina Farms. It is the only show site that I have experienced that truly caters to our dog world. To top that, the SCWTC of Greater St Louis, is an extremely outgoing, friendly, and hospitable group.

Needless to say I looked forward to this year’s specialty and in anticipation of my assignment, I decided to study up. I re-examined our Breed Standard and a number of the Benchmarks Wheaten IQ articles. Upon completing my self-imposed studies and being overwhelmed by the details, I realized that our Breed Standard is the core of breed description and what a judge has time to evaluate in a show. (Note: all items in quotes below are excerpts from our Breed Standard).

Coat, including presentation and color, provides the major descriptor of our breed. Every single exhibit had appropriate puppy coat texture, which of course can be widely variable. There were some wavy, some straight, some thick or heavy and a couple more sparse Irish coats. All were soft and will display proper adult Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier coat texture.

Distinction between entries came in presentation and color. There were entries that were “severely trimmed” and a couple others that had too much coat, each of which diminished my impression of these entries. These extremes in presentation can be adjusted during the show career of an exhibit – as opposed to having to breed something out or in when breeding. So, this you can moderate.

A tendency that I saw in coat color concerned me. The wide variations in acceptable colors of wheaten may blur the understanding of coat color in our breed. I observed from center ring the tendency to grey, beyond the black tipping allowed in puppies. There were entries with a
grey cast on the body. This will take careful breeding to avoid.

The next longest Breed Standard description is head. I found this to be the strong point with the majority of Sweepstake entries. Heads were in proportion with the dog or bitch, moderate and rectangular in length, dark eye color, strong scissor bites and lovely distinctive big black noses. Ear size and ear set were very uniform and pleasantly framed heads. I applaud this consistency.

Gait is one of the shortest descriptions in our Standard. “Free, graceful and lively” are the qualities beyond the mechanics of movement that help to define SCWT movement. Not all entries had graceful, lively gaits. Words that come to my mind are heavy-footed and non-agile movement. This observation emphasizes to me the special attention we must all pay to breeding for proper height to bone and neck set and carriage of a sporting terrier.

I felt the bitches were the stronger entry. I awarded Best in Sweepstakes to Saddlebrook’s Pocket Full of Posies (Puppy 9-12) (B). She caught my eye as soon as I saw the class line up. She presented a feminine square SCWT outline with a lovely head, and a strong topline ending in a well-placed tail. Her coat color was clear, the texture appropriate and her owner/handler had her well-presented and groomed. Her movement was sound and had grace and fluidity.

Opposite to Best in Sweepstakes was Whindancer Too Cool To Be Forgotten (9 – 12) (D). This was definitely an “alert and happy animal.” He was interested in having fun, which tested his handler at times. He was a balanced, well-built adolescent boy with a gorgeous coat of wonderful texture and color. Alert and confident are the perfect adjectives for this boy. His movement was well coordinated, lively and effortless.

SCWTC Greater St. Louis Specialty Judge : Mrs. Patricia Trotter

It was truly a pleasure to judge your amazing breed at the recent Greater St. Louis Specialty at Purina Farms. Both the dogs and their two-legged friends were easy to be with and most enjoyable.

My first experience with your breed was in the 1970s when my friends Everett and Freddie Keller invited me to help evaluate a litter of SCWT puppies. This educational experience piqued my interest in the breed, and I started studying them at ringside for years. The breed is structured very much like my own breed—the Norwegian Elkhound—aside from the coat, head and tail.

Seeing the breed exercising its farm skills a few years later in the Irish countryside was an unforgettable experience, proving that show ring beauty and functionality can and do go hand-in-hand. A very meaningful educational experience for me to aid my understanding of the coat occurred in NYC at the Dog Judges of America seminars. Shari Carusi compared the SCWT to the Irish Terrier and in depth explained the traits of the unique coat. Although trimming has changed over the years, coat texture is somewhat more consistent.

Your square-appearing breed with nice reach of neck that blends into smooth shoulders, a hard firm back complimented by the correct croup with both correct set and carriage of the tail provides the desired SCWT outline.
When this proper profile looks the same both standing and moving, it truly makes a sight to behold. Add all the other elements that make up the breed such as the rectangular head and single coat and one views a stunning canine of great quality. And there were indeed many specimens that were outstanding representatives of the breed showcased at Purina that day. My winner was well up on leg with all the right components of the breed and beautifully displayed those moving parts as he gaited effortlessly around the ring. He was in superb condition and was truly worthy of the win. However, that takes nothing away from those who gave him a good run for the money. Selects and Awards of Merit also went to outstanding exhibits.

My overall impression of the breed since judging them several years ago at Montgomery County is as follows: Many of the exhibits were shorter in loin than in the past when the Irish dogs were reintroduced in the US for positive health purposes. Coats are more consistent than they were then. Tail sets have improved and carriage was usually good in St. Louis. Toplines were strong and carried well on the move. Each dog belonged in the ring and there were no “filler” types. Temperaments were all fine in spite of the many distractions around the ring.

Areas of concern include the following: Some dogs were shorter in rib cage and longer in loin than desired. Although these dogs are square in outline, the breeder has two anatomical features to correct. In my own square breed and in evaluating my own breeding stock, I favor one slightly off square with a long rib cage and a short loin over such a dog.

When the rectangular head is compromised by chubby cheeks presenting a blocky picture, the correct make, shape and balance of the head is compromised. Another area of concern is associated with the head and that is teeth that do not properly conform to the standard requiring a scissors or level bite. A few dogs disappointed in that area with marginal bites and misaligned teeth, and it is hoped breeders will not overlook this vital trait. Each exhibit had many virtues and each of you know to dismiss these remarks if they don’t apply to your stock.

SCWT breeders are a delight to interact with, and I truly thank all of you for allowing me to judge such a nice entry. Too few shows have many of the breed entered, so it was all the more pleasurable. Your hospitality and good will are much appreciated.

Good luck with your breeding programs and keep up the good work.
RWB: BRYR ROSE GOOD HEAVEN’S!
CH Bryr Rose Nouvelle Vague x CH Bryr Rose Flower Power
Owner/Breeder: Carolyn Garrett

BOB: GCHP BRYR ROSE MATISSE
GCH Greentree Keepsake Surfin USA x CH Bryr Rose French Kiss
Owners: Edward J Koharik & Janet E Koharik Breeder: Jeanne Ferris

BOS: CH REYM’S IF SHE HOLLERS LET HER GO (b)
GCH Reyem’s Red Rover Come Over x CH Geragold Paparazzi of Reyem
Owner: Kathy Clarke Breeder: Meggan Abboud & Gwen Meyer

SB: CH ERINGLO WANNABE FAST
CH Bradberry’s Schnitzel Maguire x GCH Eringlo Alwaz Luk’N To Race
Owners/Breeders: Cindy Shea and Dennis M. Shea

AOM: GCH FROLIC’S CAPER TO COVENTRY (b)
CH Harbour Hill R U Nuts? x CH Waterford Coventry Caper
Owner: Cheryl Turner Breeders: Erma Heckman & Marjorie C. Shoemaker & James Heckman

AOM: GCH ORLA GERAGOLD LAKE ISLE OF INNISFREE (d)
CH Mil Mear Geragold Cowboy Up x Orla Fire Of The Hearth
Owners: Nancy Draper & Gerard Thompson & Dr. Neil O’Sullivan Breeders: Nancy Draper & Melisa Lopez & Barbara Smith

ANSWERS TO BONE QUIZ
# WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

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Best in Sweeps - Whindancer Too Cool to be Forgotten (d)
Top of the mornin’ to you!
The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Southern California invited Wheatens from all around the country to come to its “Green Isle” June 23rd, 24th & 25th for a weekend of adventure at Santa Fe Recreational Park. We were honored and delighted to have the largest entry at Great Western Terrier Association’s show this year.

Because our theme was “When Irish Eyes Are Smiling,” our ring was decorated in an Irish theme by the amazing and talented design crew of Laura Virant, Joan Johnson & Carolyn Filling. The detail was incredible; the shamrocks and Wheatens that surrounded the ring were painstakingly painted to match our actual logo drawn by Beth Babos. Even the Wheaten ring markers were dressed in Irish Derbys and costumes sewn by Laura Virant. The trophy table was darling with a collection of Irish hats and the trophies that were all handmade pottery and glassware crafted by club member, Merrillee Ford.

An army of wonderful volunteers helped make the ring and club hospitality tent shipshape—a special thank you to those who lent a hand: Paul Van Wig, Conrad Virant, Jim Cohen and Lauren Smith. Our hospitality table was heavily laden with delicious sweets and savories cooked up by club members and organized by Debbie Bowen and Paula Radin. Those two women are incredible!

Our boutique was chaired by the wonderful Miriam Kahan, and we had seven different artists who sold their wares. Miriam also found time to ring steward! Lauren Smith was in charge of advertising. Ann Leigh had a fabulous array of embroidered items for sale at the club table with the theme of the weekend. Our awesome raffle was chaired by the amazing Jeanine Flavell and had an unbelievable collection of Wheaten artwork, jewelry and grooming aids – something for everyone! The lucky winners were awarded their treasure on Saturday afternoon.

Later in the evening our annual “Dinner on the Green” was held in the park and it was dazzling. Paula Radin and her husband Jim had arranged a fabulous dinner of ceviche, lobster, white fish and steak tacos with homemade tortillas and a beautiful lemon cake for dessert. It was a wonderful, happy evening. Richard Urqhart was the evening’s auctioneer and he successfully raised monies through the sale of the Wheaten centerpieces.

That’s what our weekend was all about...dogs, friends, competition, eating extravagantly, having fun making memories- A temporary retreat from everyday living that slows the world down just long enough to give those ever-elusive moments of happiness ample opportunity to occur.

Our club would like to take a moment to thank our exhibitors, our judges, our volunteers, our friends and family...your involvement made us feel luckier than a leprechaun with a four leaf clover!

Karla Baer Cohen & Sue Banas – Specialty Chairs

Judge’s critique SCWTCSC Breed: Jan Thackray

Oh my word! I cannot describe what an absolute honor it was for me to be invited to judge at your show! I must thank Ann Leigh for having the confidence to nominate me, having watched me judge on several occasions here in the UK. My thanks also go to the committee that elected me to this most prestigious of appointments. My stewards Lynne Aguirre & Janice McClary were total stars who put me at ease and guided me through the more intricate parts of your judging system with calmness and support. But most of all, thank you to you, the exhibitors, for showing your dogs to me and for being so welcoming. Once I got over my nerves, I thoroughly enjoyed myself!

What a beautifully presented ring for me to judge in too, with a fantastic Wheaten logo and giant four leafed clovers adorning one corner and adorable Wheaten Leprechauns to welcome each placed dog along one side. Congratulations to Laura Vincent Virant and her team for putting this together.
It was a joy to be able to look at and go over such beautifully presented dogs. I was looking for impact – dogs that caught my eye almost immediately – dogs with breed type. I like a moderate, square dog that is within the size stated in the breed standard. The required coat is described within the name of the dog and thus must feature as one of its major attributes, although this can only ever be the deal breaker between similar dogs of sound construction – it cannot be a stand alone element of winning. Equally, a sound dog, without breed type just isn’t a Wheaten by my reckoning, so a judge can face quite a conundrum if they don’t have a picture of their “perfect” Wheaten in mind to work to. On the whole, I believe that my main winners fit my personal picture – hence, I fear that my notes on each of seem somewhat repetitive!

**WD Heirloom One Stroke Over the Line** It was his square outline that attracted me to this dog. His coat, whilst trimmed short was showing good prospects, having colour coming through from his head, and down the back of his neck onto his shoulders, and it had a nice sheen to it – I hope that it fulfils its potential. He moved well enough, but requires more ring experience to get the best out of him.

**WB & BOW Escapade By The Light of The Moon** She took my eye the moment she entered the ring: she moved around with an air of confidence and a “look at me!” attitude – which she retained to take BOW over the male. A moderate head and neck, short level back and nicely angulated front and rear which gave her a square outline and lovely flowing gait. To be critical, I would have liked her to be slightly smaller, but I felt she was within standard and that her positive attributes had to be rewarded.

**RWD Lochlinear Riddle Wrapped in an Enigma** A young dog with a future I think. His coat is developing nicely, but was trimmed shorter than I would have preferred, presumably to deal with the transition from puppy to adult. He possesses a good head and has a strong enough neck for his level of maturity. He was slightly longer cast than the WD.

**RWB Bryr Rose Good Heaven’s!** A pretty little girl and at just over a year old has some developing to do. Very feminine head, moderate neck, level topline and tail set well on top. Her coat, whilst being soft and developing in color, did not have the required wave, but no doubt this will come with maturity. Steady movement with good reach and drive.
**BOB Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go**  An exceptional example of the breed who was beautifully presented. Her head is feminine and supported by a strongly arched neck leading into good lay of shoulder. Her topline is level and remained so when she moved. Tail bang on top and great rear quarters – presenting the required square outline. All of this was packaged in a soft silky coat of the correct colour and with a lovely wave to it. Quality throughout – I just loved her!

**SB GCh Atas Dim Sum Lights**  The quality of this bitch’s coat had to be rewarded, silky with a rich Wheaten colour, of good length with lovely waves and it flowed when she moved. Feminine head, would have liked slightly smaller ears for perfection. Correct lay of shoulder, level topline, short-coupled and great tailset.

**BOS GCh Pitter Pat Allons-Y**  A wonderful BOS to compliment my BOB – fabulous colour and wave in his coat. Masculine head on a strong neck, good shoulders and nice spring of rib – perfect topline and tailset and very nicely angulated at rear to give him drive when moving. His presentation was first class.

**SD Ch Kolohe It’s Raining Sunshine**  Loved his personality! A strong head as befits a male dog and with just enough neck, short coupled - he presented a great square outline. Good lay of shoulder and spring of rib, nice deep chest. Being picky, I would have liked more defined rear.
SCWTCSC Specialty at Great Western

June 25, 2017

Judge’s Critique SCWTCSC @ Great Western: Sweepstakes: Jim Herzog

I would like to thank the Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Southern California for giving me the opportunity to judge their Specialty Puppy Sweepstakes. I have always appreciated the members of this club for being such wonderful hosts. This has made your specialty, held during Great Western Terrier Association, one of my all-time favorite dog shows to attend.

I want to give a special thanks to all the exhibitors for bringing their puppies out on a very hot day for me to judge. I really do appreciate all your hard work and dedication to this breed. It became very clear upon my initial impression this was a very nice overall entry. Beginning with the side movement of every dog going around the ring made for great competition. I was very well pleased with their ability to cover ground with ease, good reach and drive. The physical evaluation confirmed what I was seeing in the ring. Every dog was very well put together. I was also well pleased with the smooth necks to shoulders transitions, along with very nice toplines and good tail sets. There were some very nice coats, every puppy had nice scissor bites, and well-bent stifles. The tough judging choices that I had to make were based on small

Soft-Coated Wheaten Terriers Sweepstakes. Puppy 12 and under 18 months Dog:

1-(7) HEIRLOOM ONE STROKE OVER THE LINE. Covered ground with ease, good reach and drive. I liked the way this boy felt in my hands. He was very clean, smooth and moderate in nearly every area. Even though he was very wiggly, I enjoyed his sweet and happy attitude. He had clean movement going in both directions on the down and back. He was going through the adolescent coat change and I could see some very silky shine coming through his coat. I would really like see how it matures into adulthood. He would be my Best of Opposite Sex and if he was a little shorter coupled in the body, he could have really pushed to win it all.

Soft-Coated Wheaten Terriers Sweepstakes. Puppy 6 and under 9 months Bitches:

1-(6) ESCAPADE BONNEY KOLOHELANI. This is a very lovely bitch who displayed the essence of breed type. She held it all together from the beginning to the very end. She covered ground with ease, good reach and drive. She had a nice feminine head, using her ears that well gave that distinct terrier impression. She was very clean, smooth and moderate in the physical evaluation. She had clean movement going in both directions on the down and back. Her coat was soft, silky and very rich in color. Her attitude was happy, steady displaying nothing but self confidence in the show ring. This puppy had a beautiful silhouette outline and was so alert up on her toes which kept drawing my eye to her. She would be my Sweepstakes Winner

2-(10) KILRONAN LEAP OF FAITH. A very nice puppy with a whole lot of attitude from the beginning to the end despite the heat. She used everything she had in the show ring. She was very steady on her toes and she was very alert to all her surroundings. She covered ground with ease, good reach and drive. She was also very clean and smooth in the physical evaluation. She had clean movement going in both directions.
3-(8) LEGACY KALHOE ESCAPADE CLICQUIT. Another very beautiful puppy that entered the ring. She covered ground with good reach and drive. She was very clean and smooth in the physical evaluation. She was slightly narrow in the rear on the down movement, but clean on her way back. This was overall a very nice-structured puppy, with a nice coat. The lack of overall composure due to the possibility of the hot environment did not help her place higher today.

Soft-Coated Wheaten Terrier Sweepstakes. Puppy 9 and under 12 month bitches.

1-(14) ATAS RIDDLER ON THE ROOF. A very lovely bitch with a solid structure along with a nice coat. She covered ground with ease, good reac, and drive. She was very clean, smooth and moderate in the physical evaluation. Slightly narrow in the rear on her down movement and clean coming back. In the final line up, she had faded and was no longer up on her toes or using her ears. The hot environment may have done her in.

Overall, this was a very nice entry of puppies. It was a real joy judging this entry even though it was hot. I had a great experience seeing my winning puppy eventually rise to the top. I could not fault any of these puppies because of their high quality of overall physical structure, and having no major flaws. I was well pleased being pushed on to make my decisions with such a nice entry. I had to take a more holistic approach in my final decision judging this entry. The essence of breed type would be the defining factor for my choice of today’s winner. The four essentials of breed type are about coat, silhouette, head and attitude. The winner had it all today, setting herself apart from the rest of the competition.

Great Western Breed: Louise Leone

WD & BOW: LOCHLINEAR RIDDLE WRAPPED IN AN ENIGMA
CH Star Kaler Lord Nelson x CH Lochinear Atas Enigma
Owner/Breeder: Pat Mullin

BOB: CH REYM’S IF SHE HOLLERS LET HER GO (b)
GCH Reyem’s Red Rover Come Over x CH Geragold Paparazzi of Reyem
Owner: Kathy Clarke       Breeder: Meggan Abboud & Gwen Meyer

BOB Sweeps: ESCAPADE BONNEY KOLOHELANI (b)
GCHB Bonney Bushel And A Peck CGC x GCH Legacy Escapade Kolohe Coille
Owner/Breeder: Bonita F Snyder

BOB Sweeps: HEIRLOOM ONE STROKE OVER THE LINE (d)
GCHS Greentree MoonStruck Momba Man x CH Heirloom Odds Favorite
Owners: M Plank and M. Bumgardner & R. Bergman & P. Chevalier
Breeders: John Unruh, Patrice Chevalier & Bob Bergman

BOS Sweeps: HEIRLOOM ONE STROKE OVER THE LINE (d)
GCHS Greentree MoonStruck Momba Man x CH Heirloom Odds Favorite
Owners: M Plank and M. Bumgardner & R. Bergman & P. Chevalier
Breeders: John Unruh, Patrice Chevalier & Bob Bergman

Several Photos Unavailable from this show
SD: CH KOLOHE IT’S RAINING SUNSHINE
CH Legacy Wildwest Wildflower x CH Avalon Noblesse Oblige
Owner: Paula Radin     Breeders: M. Brown & S. Amorosia & G. Amorosia

SB: GCHB SERENDIPITY OCTOBER QUEST
GCH Lochlinear Gleanngay Cha Ching x GCH Serendipity’s Urban Legend
Owner: Susan Solsby   Breeder: Richard Taylor & Camille Taylor & Patricia Mullin

AOM: GCH SALTNSEA RUNNING DOWN A DREAM (d)
GCH Andover Mayhem Magic x CH Saltsea California Dreamin’
Owner: Susan Jacobsen and Eric Taylor   Breeder: Susan Jacobsen & Eric Taylor

AOM: GCH SALTNSEA MAGIC OVER ANDOVER (b)
GCH Stratford Top Brass x GCH Saltsea Weaving Magic
Owners: Susan Jacobsen and Eric Taylor   Breeders: Susan Jacobsen & Joy Sikorski

AOM: CH ATAS DIM SUM LIGHTS (b)
CH Mackanme Bradberry High Flyer x CH Harbour Hill 30 Minute Meals
Owners: Jeanine Flavell & Susan Sakauye & Riley Capton
Breeders: Jeanine Flavell & Susan Sakauye

AOM: CH CLADDAGH’S SOME KIND OF WONDERFUL (b)
CH Mackanme Flanagan Fearless Leader x CH Tara Good Vibrations For Claddagh
Owners: Debbie Bowen & Karla Baer Cohen   Breeders: Karla Baer Cohen & Cecily Skinner

WB: BRYR ROSE GOOD HEAVEN’S!
CH Bryr Rose Nouvelle Vogue x CH Bryr Rose Flower Power
Owner/Breeder: Carolyn Garrett

BOS: GCH BONNEY BUSHEL AND A PECK (d)
CH Mackanme Foreign Affair V Bodasca x CH Bonney Apple Of My Eye
Owner: Bonnie Snyder   Breeder: Owner & Victoria and Dave Gosnell
### WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

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Miss Laney
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GCH Reyem's Red Rover Come Over x CH Geragold Paparazzi of Reyem

- BOW 6-1-17 Gateway Terrier St Louis Weekend... finishing her Championship
- BOS the other 4 days in St. Louis
- BOB 6-23-17 SCWTC of Southern California: Judge Jan Thackray of England
- BOS 6-24-17 Great Western Terrier Association: Judge Richard Urquhart
- BOB 6-25-17 Great Western Terrier Association: Judge Louise Leone

Bred by: Meggan Abboud & Gwen Meyer
 Owned & Loved by: Kathy Clarke
 Shown beautifully by: Kent & Gwen Meyer

KATHY CLARKE
kilonanwheatens@gmail.com
Despite the scorching heat, Tosh took a cool BOB at the SCWTCA Supported entry at Great Western Terrier and BOS the next day at the SCWTSCSC Specialty.