Believe in the Magic of the Holidays!
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Table of Contents

From the President/From the Editors  4-5
Happy Birthday Seniors 6
New Titles Earned 7-8
Ensure a brighter future for the SCWT by understanding and preserving the past! Emily Holden 10
Survey Says...About Judges and Type, Deb Van De Ven 11
Why The Stand-Out Best Dog Can Be A Loser, E. Katie Gammill 13-15
The Devil’s Advocate, Pam Mandeville 16-17
Not your grandpa’s gene pool, Bo Bengston 17-18

Wheaten Health News (WHN), Molly O’Connell 19-23

Update on PLN
Canine Degenerative Myelopathy Test Moves Toward Trial
Early Detection of Bladder Cancer Possible With New Screening Tool

Avidog - National Specialty Education Seminar, Susan McGee 24
30th Annual SCWTCA Summer Specialty, Karen Bilda 41-44
Greater Denver Independent Specialties, #1 and #2, Patrice Chevalier 45-48
2017 SCWTCA National Specialty, Karen Bilda 49-61
Judges critiques, Winners, Awards, Performance events, Sweeps
Advertising, Deadline, Subscription, Donations, Publication Information 62

About The Cover

Design created by Helen Fraguela with an image from the Illustrated Standard, drawn by Jody Sylvester.
This year’s National Specialty was dedicated in memoriam to Jody for her amazing contribution to the club and our breed. And...After all, a Wheaten is a “working” terrier!
From the President

Each year I look forward to traveling to Pennsylvania for our National Specialty. There is nothing better than visiting with old friends, making new ones and watching our beautiful breed in the ring. This year was no exception, and the week’s activities were terrific from start to finish.

The enthusiasm and positive attitude of our Specialty Chairs, Karen Bilda and Jan Van Ness, was contagious. Karen and Jan, along with their committees, did a wonderful job at making sure the weekend exceeded expectations . . . and they succeeded. Nancy Butler and her “apron-adorned” grounds crew kept the hotel exits and the exercise area spotless and “odor free”! Thank you to the entire crew and to the Wheaten owners who made sure the hotel remained a “pee-free zone.” I received so many compliments on our dogs and the Wheaten club guests each time I spoke with those at the front desk. I also have to extend compliments to the hotel staff. They expressed a warm and helpful attitude that made dining in the restaurant or attending an event a real pleasure.

I was so pleased to meet a number of new members this year, and several of them jumped right in to help Karen and Jan wherever an extra set of hands or two was needed. Many new members also attended our annual meeting and dinner on Friday night. This year the ballroom was nearly overflowing with club members and guests sharing laughter, conversation and a delicious dinner. Our awards presentation is always the highlight of the evening. The awards presentation is posted on the SCWTCA website, and Wavelengths will feature the complete list of winners. The December Benchmarks will showcase our Jan Linscheid Award winner and fabulous Benchmarks Editor, Helen Fraguela; our AKC Sportsmanship Award winner, Mary Yourich, an invaluable part of the SCWTCA Rescue team and this year’s Lifetime Achievement Award winner, Carol Carlson. We had a bit of a glitch with Carol’s wonderful tribute video but thanks to Denise Daniel, we were able to show it at our post-show party! Everyone there enjoyed the video and gave Carol a big round of applause!

Sunday morning brought a few warm showers but nothing dampened the spirit of the exhibitors or those sitting ringside. Our ring was once again, the most beautiful ring on the show grounds! Our long time Trophy Co-Chair, Bill Behan, decided to make a few additions to our ring this year, and they were the perfect finishing touches to an already gorgeous setting. Colorful mums, pumpkins and small bales of straw hid each tent rope, offering a beautiful splash of fall décor everywhere you looked. This year’s morning hospitality moved to a special tent space across from our ring. Our new location kept the people and the goodies warm and dry!

Entries in both Sweepstakes and the Specialty were up this year. I hope this is a trend that will continue. My heartfelt congratulations go out to all of this year’s winners. A win at a national specialty is something every breeder and owner dreams of and should be treasured. For the very first time, this year’s National Specialty Reserve Winners Dog and Reserve Winners Bitch qualified to receive a 3 point major, based on the large number of Wheaten class entries. This is a relatively new offering from the AKC and details are highlighted in specialty section of the December Benchmarks.

The post-show dinner Sunday night was the perfect ending to an outstanding week of events! The Motor City Club once again surprised us with their amazing raffle. Beautiful stained glass Wheaten art was won by many attending, including me! The darling Wheatens, draped in beaded necklaces that peeked out from the treasure chest centerpieces on every table were also raffled off to the great delight of the crowd.

Thank you to all of the club members who gave of their time and talents to make this week such a success. It is your dedication, hard work and love of the breed that make our specialty celebration truly special! I hope you all enjoyed it as much as I did and will “Treasure the Moments, Cherish the Memories.”

Cecily Skinner

“Treasure the Moments, Cherish the Memories.”
From the Editors

Another great Montgomery Weekend, thanks to Karen Bilda, Jan Van Ness, Julie Burdick, and so many others who worked tirelessly to make us all feel welcome and comfortable. The weather was fairly cooperative, and I actually made it to PA sans hurricane interference!

How exciting to see all the all the dogs and such dear friends. I was especially surprised and honored to receive the Jan Linscheid Fellowship Award. This award in particular is all about “human qualities,” something near and dear to my heart. There is a quote on my website that I really “try” to live my life by...

“I strive to be the person my dogs think I am.”

I believe if we all aspired to meet that very high bar, this world would be a significantly better, kinder place.

In this issue, the fundamental focus is on “Breed Type” and how easily it can escape both breeders as well as judges. If Benchmarks has done just one thing these last few years, we hope it has brought a greater awareness and education to understanding breed type. Expanding our gene pool is critical, and it becomes a challenging balancing act to accomplish this and maintain type. There are some interesting thoughts and ideas expressed here by many of you on this topic.

Of course this is our National Specialty issue, and through some lovely write ups, photos and ads, we hope we have captured the essence of it. Also included are results from the Greater Milwaukee Specialty as well as Greater Denver.

And please read about and get involved in the new Wheaten Database!!!!

Our Wheaten Health News includes an update on PLN, a new Degenerative Myelopathy Test, a screening tool for bladder cancer, and thyroid issues.

As Deb outlines below, next issue will cover some tips on ring etiquette, dos and don’ts and hopefully some “fun” stories we can share a laugh at...me included! Don’t be shy about sharing, and if you must be anonymous...that’s fine too, but don’t hold back!

P.S. Note my change of address

Helen Fraguela

We often refer to showing dogs as a Sport. That title would imply that participants would display courtesy, professionalism, and good sportsmanship. Yet in the last few weeks I’ve encountered three situations which completely discredit this thinking.

The first scenario was when one professional handler in our breed felt bullied and belittled by a second professional handler who screamed at the other in the ring.

The second scenario occurred when an owner handler was so caught up in getting their own dog to be “up and showy” for the judge, they completely distracted and even bumped into another exhibitor and their dog in the ring.

The third scenario came out of a conversation with a judge who felt compelled to lay out a list of rules for exhibitors. These rules included things you would think would be common sense to anyone in the “sport” of dogs. Things like watching the ring procedure ahead of your class, rather than expecting the judge to repeat the same instructions to every exhibitor all day long. Or being prepared to bring a dog back in the ring for Reserve Winners, rather than holding up the ring because the armband is missing and the dog is in its crate.

Next quarter we plan to focus on Conformation showing … including topics such as ring etiquette, dos and don’ts and more. We’d like to include articles on training your dog to show like a superstar, handling tips and tricks from the pro’s, dressing to impress, not distract, and your most embarrassing moments in the ring. So get your ideas flowing … we’d love to include your advice and expertise to help us all to become better “sports.”

Deb Van De Ven
Happy Birthday Seniors!

“LOVEY”
CH Wheaten Rebel’s Wolfe Tone X CH Lontree Cactus Cait
DOB: 10/27/2003

Lovey recently celebrated her 14th birthday on October 27, 2017 and has led a very active life. Her life journey began in San Francisco, CA where she enjoyed hiking with family and friends throughout the Bay Area and Northern CA. She especially liked exploring Pebble Beach, dining on Kobe Beef Roll outside by the fire at The Inn at Spanish Bay, and listening to the bag piper play at sunset! She has also enjoyed summer hikes in Lake Tahoe. Lots of physical activity throughout the years and the addition two years ago of a Wheaten puppy to her family has kept her busy, happy and healthy!!

“LIBBY”
CH Woodland’s Rhapsody n’ Love
DOB: 8/24/2004

Libby is 13 today; she came into our lives as “the little red girl,” the smallest of the 10 puppies born that day that lived. My special girl came home to live with her mother, Tara, Woodlands Loganberry’s Love and her grandfather: Winston II; Woodlands WP Callinan’s Secret.

Libby finished her championship with Laura King, and became a much loved and doted on member of the household. She’d go to the barn to see the horses when I went; she always loves walks and leads the way even at 13! She loves to chase the Roomba and bite the vacuum cleaner, watch diligently as anyone cooks in the kitchen, hoping for green beans and carrots—her fav!

Now as a senior she’s slowing down, a little arthritic but alert, a constant companion to Haley, CH Diamonds and Gold at Exeter who she keeps in her place as a 2 ½ yr. old. It’s sad to see the years pass so quickly, but we cherish every day with her!

She lovingly lives with me; Cyndi Stokvis, co-owner, co-breeder, and adopted sisters; Mekayle and Haley. Kathy Eichman is co-owner, co-breeder.
## New Titles Earned

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOG</th>
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<th>DAM</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CH Acacia Rosheen Lil Redridinghood</td>
<td>CH Acacia's Friar Tuck</td>
<td>CH Acacia Rosheen Naya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Acacia's Touched By An Angel</td>
<td>GCHB CH Rosheen Sufferin’ Succotash</td>
<td>CH Acacia's Rosheen Grattan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Bonney Antic I Put A Spell On You</td>
<td>GCH CH Saltnsea Runnin' Down A Dream</td>
<td>CH Bonney Follow That Star</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Bradberry's Divine Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>CH Bradberry's Schnitzel Maguire</td>
<td>CH Bradberry's Born For Love</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Bradberry's Paisley Park</td>
<td>CH Star Kaler Lord Nelson</td>
<td>CH Bradberry's Hottie Biscotti Brie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Coventry Farm's Blitz Of Wheaten Wag'N</td>
<td>CH Coventry's Say It With A Kiss</td>
<td>Kennally Coventry Pride Of Hobel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Culuiinn The Kingmaker</td>
<td>CH Culuiinn Caislean Dundrum</td>
<td>Culuiinn Gelt She's All In</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Greentree Serena's Song</td>
<td>GCH CH Wheaten Rebel's Take A Ticket To Greentree</td>
<td>GCH CH Greentree Rachael Alexandra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Jendu The Skyes The Limit</td>
<td>CH Tara I Get Around</td>
<td>CH Candance Sunny Skyes At Jendu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Mackanme Patriotic Justice</td>
<td>CH Mackanme Quest For Glory</td>
<td>CH Mackanme Dutch Design V. Bodasca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Reyem's Reality Check</td>
<td>GCHB CH Reyem's Red Rover Come Over</td>
<td>CH Geragold Paparazzi Of Reyem</td>
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<td>CH Reyem's Reality Show</td>
<td>GCHB CH Reyem's Red Rover Come Over</td>
<td>CH Geragold Paparazzi Of Reyem</td>
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<td>CH Rosheen Fall Is In The Air</td>
<td>CH Honeyeely's Bye My Fair Whind</td>
<td>GCH CH Rosheen Espressione Supremma</td>
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<td>CH Stratford More Bang For Your Buck</td>
<td>CH Tara I Get Around</td>
<td>CH Stratford Fly Me To A Paper Moon</td>
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<td>CH Stratford Please Remember Me</td>
<td>CH Tara I Get Around</td>
<td>CH Stratford Charge It Please</td>
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<td>CH Stratford The Eyre Affair</td>
<td>GCH CH Saltnsea Runnin' Down A Dream</td>
<td>CH Stratford Bestseller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Vintage Button Button Who's Got The Button</td>
<td>GCHB CH Reyem's Red Rover Come Over</td>
<td>CH Vintage Prairie Winds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Azlough Firelight</td>
<td>GCH CH Mackanme One Love One Heart</td>
<td>CH Azlough Eringlo Firefly</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Bradberry's Lore Of Bogart</td>
<td>CH Atas Mackanme Colcannon Rogue</td>
<td>CH Bradberry's Alexandria Jillian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Cell's Sister Of Fire NA OAJ</td>
<td>CH Whindancer Little Ball Of Fire CD</td>
<td>GCH CH Cell's Shiny And Bright AX AXJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Lismore National Anthem</td>
<td>CH Tara I Get Around</td>
<td>GCH CH Lismore Catching Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Mother's Finest Lucky Looks For Jolly Jumper</td>
<td>CH Mother's Finest Don'T Challenge Me</td>
<td>Mother's Finest Bite Me Sexy Buffy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Rioga Hakuna Moscato</td>
<td>GCHG CH Lismore Mccormack's Dragon Song</td>
<td>CH Edgewood Rush</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Sundance's Kajun Ball Of Fire</td>
<td>GCH CH Mackanme One Love One Heart</td>
<td>CH Sundance Seamrog Wearin' O' The Green&quot;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCH CH Atas Harbour Hill Take A Bao</td>
<td>CH Mackanme Bradberry High Flyer</td>
<td>CH Harbour Hill 30 Minute Meals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCH CH Jendu Joyful Spirit</td>
<td>GCHG CH Sundance Second Chance</td>
<td>CH Jendu Free Spirit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCH CH Li'lTown Magnificent Jewel Of Ardnacassa</td>
<td>GCH CH Raelyn Jewel Of The Nile</td>
<td>CH Li'lTown Mandi Flirt Of Ardnacassa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCH CH Whindancer's Fireworks At Westwind</td>
<td>GCH CH Wheaten Rebel's Take A Ticket To Greentree</td>
<td>CH Whindancer's This Girl Is On Fire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCH CH Greentree Quite A Spell</td>
<td>GCHS CH Greentree Moonstruck Mombo Man</td>
<td>CH Wheaten Rebel's Quite A Storm At Greentree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCHB CH Haldane You Fill Up My Senses</td>
<td>CH Haldane Clouds In My Coffee</td>
<td>CH Haldane Tailblazer</td>
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<tr>
<td>GCHB CH Greentree Luellen Unbridled Song</td>
<td>GCH CH Wheaten Rebel's Take A Ticket To Greentree</td>
<td>GCH CH Greentree Rachael Alexandra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCHB CH Orla Geragold Lake Isle Of Innisfree</td>
<td>CH Mil Mear Geragold Cowboy Up</td>
<td>Orla Fire Of The Hearth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCHS CH Bonney Bushel And A Peck CGC</td>
<td>CH Mackanme Foreign Affair V. Bodasca</td>
<td>CH Bonney Apple Of My Eye</td>
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<td>Kilronan Ziggy Stardust AX AXJ NF RATM CGC</td>
<td>CH Cameron Hunnicut</td>
<td>CH Edgewood Steel Magnolia</td>
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<td>Yogi MX MXB AXJ</td>
<td>Unknown</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eringlo Riverdance MX MXS MXJ MJS CGC</td>
<td>CH Eringlo Rise Above The Mist</td>
<td>CH MACH Eringlo Playing With Fire VCD2 RE TDX MXS MJG NF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCH CH Orion Trebol Breaking Bad RN TD NA RATN</td>
<td>CH Cameron Hunnicut</td>
<td>GCH CH Orion Trebol Hot Like Me RN TD RATN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Whindancer Mockingbird Paws CD NA NAJ ACT1 CGC</td>
<td>GCHB CH O'Lorcan's Mystery Writer</td>
<td>GCH CH Whindancer's Sweet Dreams Are Made Of This</td>
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<td>Rory Red King Of The Links NA OAJ THDN</td>
<td>CGCA</td>
<td>Missi Liberty Wigglebut</td>
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<td>Kaler's Stormin' Norman NA OAJ</td>
<td>CH Cheshire Bodacious Lad</td>
<td>Bon Aquarel Kiss Of Kaler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Caraway Southern Night Music NAJ OAP</td>
<td>CH Melandee's High Wire Act</td>
<td>CH Caraway Going For Baroque</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AJP CGC</td>
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<td>CH Waterford Adare Anew</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adare's Driving Miss Daisy NA OAJ OAP AJP NF</td>
<td>GCHS CH Greentree Moonstruck Mombo Man</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Eringo Dancing Through Life VCD2 BN RE</td>
<td>CH Eringo Rise Above The Mist</td>
<td>CH MACH Eringo Playing With Fire VCD2 RE TDX MXS MUG NF</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belfast Rose Calfe Gaelach RN ACT1</td>
<td>Ranger Rick Country Bumpkin</td>
<td>Justen's Make A Latte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acacia Rosheen Dash O'Cajun THDN CGC TKA</td>
<td>CH Acacia's Friar Tuck</td>
<td>CH Acacia Rosheen 'Lil Bit Of Spice</td>
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<td>MM Irish Doodle Dandy BN RA TKA</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Doubloons Razzmataz CGC TKI</td>
<td>CH Tara I Get Around</td>
<td>GCHG CH Doubloon's Extreme Play</td>
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<td>Kaler I Put A Spell On You OA AXJ TKI</td>
<td>CH Cheshire Bodacious Lad</td>
<td>Bon Aquarel Kiss Of Kaler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheaten Lane We'll Sing In The Sunshine RN CGC TKI</td>
<td>CH Greentree Trinity Heart Break Kid</td>
<td>CH Monstruck Rhumba Rhythm AX OAJ CGC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bendacht Adventure Runs High CD PCD BN RA NAP NJP NFP CGCA TKN</td>
<td>CH Westridge High Adventure CDX PCD GN RAE NAP NJP CGCA TKN</td>
<td>CH Bendacht Desire</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doubloons Razzmataz CGC TKN</td>
<td>CH Tara I Get Around</td>
<td>GCHG CH Doubloon's Extreme Play</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geragold Shadow Boxing TKN</td>
<td>CH Mili Mear Geragold Cowboy Up</td>
<td>CH Rolfelan I'Ll Tell Me Ma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaler I Put A Spell On You OA AXJ TKN</td>
<td>CH Cheshire Bodacious Lad</td>
<td>Bon Aquarel Kiss Of Kaler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kaler's Weezie And The Moonpies CGC TKN</td>
<td>CH Cheshire Mopping Up</td>
<td>Bon Aquarel Kiss Of Kaler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teagan III CGC TKN</td>
<td>Ranger Leo Kin</td>
<td>Westwind's Mckenzie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehnappellon Iam Finska TKN</td>
<td>Geragold Jameson</td>
<td>Whindancer Gold N Shine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Westridge High Adventure CDX PCD GN RAE NAP NJP CGCA TKN</td>
<td>CH Heartstring's Toast To Tara</td>
<td>CH Westridge Champagne Punch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheaten Lane We'll Sing In The Sunshine RN CGC TKI</td>
<td>CH Greentree Trinity Heart Break Kid</td>
<td>CH Monstruck Rhumba Rhythm AX OAJ CGC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceili's Soul On Fire OA OAJ OF CGC TKN</td>
<td>CH Whindancer Little Ball Of Fire CD</td>
<td>GCH CH Ceili's Shiny And Bright AX AXJ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GCH CH Oromara's Huggable Quinn RN THDA CGCA CGCU TKP</td>
<td>CH Bon Aquarel Bittersweet For Almar</td>
<td>CH Ballinwouing Pure Joy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holweit's Red Grenadine RN THDA RATN DJ CGCA CGCU TKP</td>
<td>CH Lakkas Ulmus</td>
<td>Holweit's Mexican Martini</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Heirloom Let It Ride ACT1</td>
<td>GCH CH Saltinsea Runnin' Down A Dream</td>
<td>CH Heirloom Odds On Favorite OA AXJ</td>
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<tr>
<td>Atticus Peck AXP AJP</td>
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<tr>
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<td>CH Acacia's Friar Tuck</td>
<td>CH Acacia Rosheen 'Lil Bit Of Spice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eリングド リヴァンダン MX MXJ MJB CGC</td>
<td>CH Eリングド Rise Above The Mist</td>
<td>CH MACH Eリングド Playing With Fire VCD2 RE TDX MXS MUG NF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tucker Gersick CGC</td>
<td>Wiggly Woods Barker</td>
<td>M&amp;D Sally</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Atas Cruisin In The Fast Lane CGC</td>
<td>CH Ata's Chariot Of Fire</td>
<td>GCH CH Atas Dim Sum Lights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobbie Wilcox CGC</td>
<td>Bark N Woofs Irish Macgarrett</td>
<td>Bark N Woofs Celtic Lu Layla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Canopy Road's Luck Of The Noles BN RN CGC</td>
<td>GCHB CH Rosheen Sufferin' Succotash</td>
<td>GCH CH Canopy Road's A Star Is Bjom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunfrae's Live In The Moment MX MXJ CGC TKA</td>
<td>Ellilieah Star Of David</td>
<td>Dunfrae's Sweet Sweet Spirit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver Winston Krebs CGC</td>
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<td>Sadie Rupe CGC</td>
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</tbody>
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Official publication of the SCWTCA, Inc, volume 45, number 4, Dec. 2017 pg 8
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.
Ensure a brighter future for the SCWT
by understanding and preserving the past!

Studying pedigrees is a prerequisite for being a good breeder, and it is something that a serious breeder never stops doing. New breeders should start by learning as much about their own dog and its heritage as possible. I liken enthusiastic new people to sponges, learning about all of the dogs in the pedigree and learning from a variety of sources. They want to be able to differentiate between the “all is rosie” breeder talk and the truth. Many breeders have only bred perfect, healthy dogs descended from equally perfect, healthy dogs. Since the truth behind a statement like that is highly clouded, it would do the “newbie” well to talk to breeders of other dogs in the pedigree and to trusted outside sources. Trusted outside sources are hard to find since they need to be unprejudiced. Checking the health registry and keeping track of the results for each dog is also suggested. Diehards keep notebooks and files on the information gleaned from research, both print and oral. Starting with a valid, preferably verified by the AKC pedigree, one seeks out pictures of the dogs in the background and as much information about the health of the dogs and their get.

Many bags of chips and bottles of wine were consumed at Marjorie Shoemaker’s kitchen table, Gay Dunlap’s dining table and later at my table as groups of us researched as much as possible so that we were able to really know the dogs in our pedigrees, and in those of potential stud dogs. Naturally, health research was young and we had much to learn, but we had a pretty strong grip on the phenotype of the dogs we were breeding, enough so that the dogs in the ring in the 1990s looked as cookie cutter as the breed has looked in its history in the USA. We studied the pedigrees enough to have memorized most of them and while we could see the traits they produced, it was not until the early 80s that we realized that health issues were not as easy to predict.

Pictures used in the yearbooks are helpful, but they are one moment in time. The SCWT data base allows for four pictures so a puppy picture, a picture showing personality and perhaps two show pictures can be imported to give us a much better overview of the dog. Pictures should be original since Photoshop will not improve breed type. The pedigree allows one to click on any dog, showing the pedigree back as many generations as wanted. Health records, certifications, and litter information are all available on this new database, but we need pictures and verified test results to fill in the gaps.

Consider participation... an unselfish gift to the future of the breed, along with sharing data with current breeders and helping them to make responsible decisions. Those who boycott this project in loyalty to someone else’s beliefs, only hurt the breed and future breeders. Scanning those pictures is work. I have only submitted my 1973 -1999 champions and I know the time it takes, but again, it is a gift to the breed. Many of my dogs don’t appear in pedigrees today but they are siblings to dogs who do, and their pictures help create a better idea of what a particular dog offered.

We need to protect the breeds’ history before it is lost!

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<td>Accurate pedigrees with live links to historical and anecdotal data</td>
<td>Make better breeding decisions with a view into the history of each line</td>
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<td>Four color pictures for each dog</td>
<td>Offers a variety of views which add new dimensions to evaluating a dog</td>
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<td>Health reports in one place</td>
<td>Saves time and energy providing health info through easy access</td>
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<td>Endless search options to save history before it is lost!</td>
<td>Provides information not available elsewhere</td>
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If you are uncomfortable uploading your dogs pictures, email them to comments@SCWTCDB.org. Send all verified testing info and any anecdotal info to that address also.
Survey Says...

For this quarter’s survey we used an article posted by Cheri Turner on Facebook as our inspiration. The full text of the article is reprinted for your reading pleasure on pages 13-15. The article asked ... if “current type” in show rings doesn’t epitomize the standard for the breed, then does the “stand-out” dog become the loser? The subject apparently hit a nerve among the Wheaten community because many of you commented on Facebook. Below we share just a few thoughts on the subject from several of our breeders.

Cherie Turner, Frolic Wheatens

There is very little consistency in our breed. We have many different coats, colors, body lengths, head shapes and grooming styles. We have dogs in the ring that are no longer square and heads that are no longer shaped like a brick. Many judges get lost in finding a dog that is closest to our breed standard. When a dog enters a ring that doesn’t look like the others competing, many judges assume that it is incorrect. Whether it’s closer to the breed standard or not, the other dogs in the ring become the preferred type.

If the dogs that exemplify the breed standard are not being shown, judges can only reward what is in the ring. Again, they are the preferred type. When evaluating litters, choosing stud dogs and brood bitches, keep the breed’s blueprint at the forefront. Choose to show and breed dogs that exude Breed type. It is up to Breeders to strive to keep the Breed standard in mind. The more dogs that are shown with correct breed type, the greater the chance that we as breeders should know and uphold it even if it means not winning. I have had numerous other similar comments about coat (Irish) from judges over the past couple years. I am aware that the judges committee does address Irish coats since I have contributed dogs in the past for evaluating, but unfortunately with fewer dogs with Irish coats in the show rings it can become an issue.

Sally Sotirovich, McLaren Wheatens

We are all familiar with the phenomenon of an entry made of one or two exhibits that demonstrate the standard while the bulk of the entry do not. Because the proper exhibits look different from the majority, all too often the majority rules and the judge puts up what may in fact be the worst of the worst instead of the best of the best. What do we do?

Judges – we are being flooded with judges who have little or no experience in the breed or the terrier group. As shows shrink and show giving club’s budgets get smaller, the judging panels get smaller too. So instead of getting judges who know a few breeds or one group very well, clubs are looking for judges who can judge as many breeds and groups as possible and all too often lack the depth and knowledge to judge most of them. Judges who want to stay competitive in the judge market have to be licensed for as many breeds as possible. All too often these judges fundamentally lack the knowledge and confidence and when faced with an entry of mediocre dogs (and one or two who don’t look like the others) put up the most mediocre. After all, if the majority of the entry looks like THAT, THAT is what they should look like.

How can we improve judging? Most importantly, it’s the responsibility of breeders to put only the best examples of the breed in the ring. If it’s not a good example, it doesn’t belong in the ring. We have all undertaken to bring the SCWT to perfection as described by our Standard. Read the Standard and remember that we have one standard and one breed.

What can we do to help judges evaluate our breed? Encourage the AKC to give judges an objective tool for judging – allowing and encouraging judges to wicket breeds for which size is not a disqualifying fault. We continue to see entries where the majority are inches over standard and proper size becomes almost impossible to determine. Yes, size does matter. As a club, we can investigate putting videos on YouTube of past specialties, and encourage judges to see the great and typey dogs of 20 – 30 years.
Wheatens shown are oversized, they become the "preferred type," and your dog may be at a disadvantage by looking like the incorrect one.

Per the SCWT standard: COAT: A distinguishing characteristic of the breed ... Texture soft and silky with a gentle wave. **MAJOR FAULTS**: Wooly or harsh, crisp or cottony, frizzy, kinky or stand-away coat; in the adult, a straight coat is also objectionable. PRESENTATION: For show purposes, the Wheaten is presented to show a terrier outline, but coat must be of sufficient length to flow when the dog is in motion. The coat must never be clipped ... Sharp contrasts or stylizations must be avoided. Sufficient coat must be left on the skull, cheeks, neck and tail to balance the proper length of body coat. **DOGS THAT ARE OVERLY TRIMMED SHALL BE SEVERELY PENALIZED.**

Have you noticed dogs shown with clippered throats and cheeks? How about coats blown out completely straight? And tails trimmed so tightly they look disproportionate to the rest of the dog? So once again we leave the judges to wonder what is the proper coat & presentation? Do these stylized dogs become the preferred type?

**Pam Mandeville, Banner Wheatens**

See Devil’s Advocate

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**Deb Van De Ven, Bradberry Wheatens**

Per the SCWT standard: **SIZE**: A dog shall be 18 to 19 inches at the withers, the ideal being 18½. A bitch shall be 17 to 18 inches at the withers, the ideal being 17½. **MAJOR FAULTS**: Dogs under 18 inches or over 19; bitches under 17 inches or over 18 inches. Any deviation must be penalized according to the degree of its severity. Have you shown an 18” dog or 17” bitch in the last several years? If you have, you might have had the distinct impression the judge wondered why you were showing such an undersized animal. Even worse if you showed your within-standard entry in the Specials ring, versus the classes. Of course since our size requirements are not disqualifications, there will never be a SCWT wicketed in the ring. So like the article states, if the majority of Wheatens shown are oversized, they become the "preferred type," and your dog may be at a disadvantage by looking like the incorrect one.

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See Devil’s Advocate

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**When was the last time you studied the “Breed Standard”**

**Do you understand the “Essence of Breed Type?”**

**ESSENCE OF TYPE**

- **COAT**: Soft, Silky, Waving, Flowing Warm Wheaten Color
- **SILHOUETTE**: Square, medium-sized Tail set well up on back Neck ... Medium in length
- **HEAD**: Rectangular, moderately long, in proportion to body Ears ... Small to medium, level with skull, held close to head, point to ground
- **ATTITUDE**: Happy, steady, shows himself gaily
- **MOVEMENT**: Must be able to cover ground in an efficient/graceful fashion, indicating strength and endurance. A properly structured, well conditioned dog has reach and drive, and maintains a strong, level topline when moving”
The Best of the Best or one that looks like the rest? Something called “preferred type” is flooding show rings today and in many breeds, it has little to do with the Breed Standard.

“The best dog you’ll ever breed may be the hardest dog you ever finish!”

When “current type” does not equal correctness, the best dog can lose because in many rings, the fatal flaw is being a stand-out. A dog show friend, absent from the sport for several years, attended some local shows with me. Welcoming the opportunity to view dogs in general after her sabbatical, she became visually distressed. Her despair increased when a “less than average” class dog received BOB. The waning quality in her beautiful breed breaks her heart. She stated it would be wasted effort to show a dog correct to the standard today, as some judges feel compelled to award dogs conforming to the majority of the entries.

Observing other breeds, she remarks on the lack of neck, restricted front movement and the lack of rear follow through; we discuss “gay tails” and breed type variances. We watch faulty movement and see coats dragging the ground. Weak pasterns and sickle hocks complete the picture. She wonders what causes this to happen to functional dogs in such a short time. It seems the correct dogs have fallen victim to what one may refer to as the “Perfection of Mediocrity.”

Today, many breeders and owners turn to performance, choosing not to participate in a “crap shoot” where such variety in type confuses both judges and ringside. I make this statement at the expense of being tarred and feathered but increasingly, the best dog you’ll ever breed may be the hardest dog you will ever finish. It will be the “odd man out” and look different from the majority of dogs represented in the ring. Why? Some judges, insecure in a breed and therefore lacking courage, choose to leave out “different” dogs rather than stick their neck out. Understandable, but should those lacking confidence be passing judgment on another’s dog?

My old mentor said, “The pendulum of type swings to and fro but those remaining true to the standard triumph in the end.” Those dedicated breeders have the knowledge to restore a breed to its initial form once it hits bottom. Should a judge reward a dog to suggest it could possibly assist in correcting breed faults?

NO! It is a breeder’s responsibility to incorporate such animals into their programs, regardless of success in the show ring. Judges are to judge to the written standard, fairly and efficiently. They avoid awarding “drags of a breed” when possible but judges have little insight into the Pandora’s Box of breeding.

A respected dog person of long standing approached me with this statement while at a seminar. “A judge CAN NOT GO WRONG by putting up winners conforming to the majority of the type of dogs in the ring on a given day.” My response was “Surely not!” Well, I believe it now! After observing an all breed judge from ringside, I watched two outstanding individuals “walk out” because they looked different from the rest of the short neck, sickle hock, smaller than average dogs lacking side gait that toddled around the ring like fuzzy little caricatures of the breed.

This strange “look alike” perspective takes over in many breed rings and not just among judges. Asking a breeder what their standard said about head planes, the response was: “What are parallel planes?” We discussed the occipital bone, short and medium muzzles, balanced heads, etc. Reading a standard and applying it can be two different things.

Judges should have the ability to articulate why one dog wins over another. So is that why they make terminology common among standards - to make it easier for judges? If anyone can describe a bulldog and an afghan using the same language, please step forward. Removing the “point system” from the old standards has had a negative affect. In a final decision between two comparable individuals, one has an idea where to hang their hat regarding prioritizing.

It is a "Judas Kiss" to any breed when a judge puts up a dog simply because it looks like the majority in the ring. It encourages people to breed to “winners” rather than to a breed standard. In judge’s education, they address soundness but type takes priority. Educators assume that new applicants understand structure and corresponding movement. Type without soundness is as detrimental to
a breed as soundness without type. A bad front and bad rear working in sequence produces “balance”. Do two wrongs make a right? The goal is “a balance between type and soundness”. A breed must be able to walk to the water bowl without falling over its own feet!

Should we just BREED TO WIN or should we BREED TO THE STANDARD and expect judges to judge to the Standard?

This brings us to the next question. Are not judges “protectors of the breed standards?” Judges education is NOT at fault. Perhaps the problem is what some judging applicants do NOT bring to the table! It is a privilege to pass judgment on a breed but one has the responsibility of understanding “Basic Dog 101”. The AKC’s required anatomy test neither assures someone’s knowledge nor is it any guarantee a judge has the ability to analyze structure and movement.

Some breeder judges today send dogs with a handler giving little thought as to their quality or future effect on a breed. Shouldn’t breeder judges be especially careful to send correct dogs for public observation? Breeders have a responsibility to put out “the best of the best” rather than a dog that wins simply because it “looks like the rest.” By so doing, they are sending false signals to both ringside and new judges.

When judges say, “This must be what the breeders want as the ring is flooded with this type” it is detrimental to any breed. It IS NOT about “what breeders want.” Breeders and judges have a responsibility to breed and judge to standard.

Should handlers show dogs for clients when they KNOW the dog or bitch is not a good representative of the breed? Breeders and exhibitors have a responsibility to promote only dogs that DO represent their breed standard and to sell as pets those who do not! A good handler should make every effort to finish a dog but they too are responsible and should be more selective regarding client dogs. Handlers who read the standard and who have the courage to turn down an inferior dog are to be admired.

Advertisement does not always mean a dog represents “breed excellence”. Handlers do not always present “good dogs”. Advertising carries some influence and if a judge selects winners on advertising alone, they do a disservice to the breed and it reflects on their ability as a judge. “Priority judging” can be detrimental to breeds as

Judges become caught up in selecting for individual virtues be it eye, ear set, feet, or coat color. That is why some specialty judges “put up pieces” rather than the whole package. Virtues are important, but a dog should “fill the eye”. A single virtue cannot take precedence over a plethora of faults! Priority judging explains why many judges take so long to judge a class.

Dismayed exhibitors approach me with serious concerns regarding the direction of our sport. Time and effort is required to understand what makes a breed “breed specific”, and what constitutes “breed excellence”. There is no short cut. Everyone is entitled to his/her opinion. However, it should be a knowledgeable opinion.

Personal preference only enters in when two dogs are equal according to the breed standard.

Another issue is “spot entering”. Granted, today people enter under specific judges where they feel there is a chance of winning. However, why on a four-day weekend, do we see one point on Thursday, a major on Friday, one point on Saturday, and a major on Sunday? Should not one support the person who supports them by entering all four days? If there is a major, don’t break it by not attending. Don’t bump up a bitch or dog to BOB without first asking the other exhibitors their preference. Many people drive miles only to find someone failed to show up ringside or “bumped up” a new champion and broke the major. This co-operation is something we used to be able to count on. Today it is “iffy” at best. This is “sportsmanship”!

Watch dogs go around the ring. Some are structurally inefficient. Some shoulders do not open up, the dog reaches from the elbow. Ask yourself why one dog out-moves another. Go analyze short coated dogs. Take this knowledge to your own breed ring and “look beneath the coat”. Understand top lines, body shape, breed specific movement and toy/moderate/ giant. Do some study and then some soul searching. Ringside observers and breed enthusiasts look on in dismay today, wondering where the functional dogs of the past have gone. Sadly, some faults are so prevalent today they are viewed as “virtues”.

“Winning because of an exceptional breeding program takes the breed and breeders toward breed excellence. That should always be the goal yesterday and today.”

Requested to address this issue, I decided to take time to
sit back and see the “big picture.” The “big picture” is upon us, folks, and it is not pretty! My reason to become a judge was the challenge to select the best of the best according to a written standard. I love dogs! I love SOUND dogs with BREED TYPE! Both virtues, believe it or not, can be present in the same animal! Through combined efforts and a willingness to call “a spade a spade”, our breeds WILL survive. Breeding for the sake of winning is a downhill slide. This alone assures the future of our breeds. Turning things around will take dedicated breeders and judges, critical handler selection, and educated exhibitors. Our sport deserves nothing less than the best of our intentions.

Putting a breed back on track requires ETHICAL HANDLERS, DEDICATED BREEDERS, AN UNDERSTANDING OF BREED STANDARDS and KNOWLEDGEABLE JUDGES WITH THE COURAGE TO MAKE RESPONSIBLE SELECTIONS. Being a judge is not for the faint of heart. Sending the best dog to the next level and being a part of its journey to the pinnacle of success is a thrill of a lifetime.

**ASK YOURSELF THESE QUESTIONS:**

Why do breeder judges “put dogs” with handlers when they know the animal does not represent breed excellence?

Why do handlers accept such dogs knowing once they finish, they will be “petted out”?

Are you kennel blind and do you breed to standard?

Should breeders and newcomers read the standard prior to stud and bitch selection?

When will more mentors open up to newcomers?

And lastly, are “gas money” and “filler” dogs destroying our sport?

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**Recommended Reading**

**THE NICHOLAS GUIDE TO DOG JUDGING**  
by Nicholas, Anna Katherine

**DOG SHOW JUDGING: THE GOOD, THE BAD AND THE UGLY**  
by Chris Walkowicz

**AN EYE FOR A DOG: ILLUSTRATED GUIDE TO JUDGING PUREBRED DOGS**  
by Robert W Cole

**THE WINNING EDGE: SHOW RING SECRETS**  
by George Alston

“A judge must understand not only size, shape, substance, and furnishings, but also the finer distinctive nuances that individualize a breed. He must then seek the elusive essence of type particular to the breed.”

Dorothy MacDonald, AKC Gazette, May 16, 2015.
Hand Wringing

When I was asked to comment on the “Preferred Breed Type” article, I found I couldn’t limit myself to just a couple of paragraphs...to the surprise of absolutely no one. So I’m taking advantage of my exalted status as a columnist to pontificate at length. There are many good points and many that set my teeth on edge but overall, the article paints with too broad a brush for me to fully endorse.

The starting point of the article is that a correct dog often loses because the “preferred type” seen in some breed rings doesn’t always conform to the standard: “When “current type” does not equal correctness, the best dog can lose because in many rings, the fatal flaw is being a stand-out.”

We’ve all certainly seen correct dogs that don’t look like the rest of the ring fail to win. When this article was discussed on Facebook, I mentioned an experience I’d had when showing another breeder’s bitch. To be sure, she was one of the “different” ones, and it was feast or famine showing her. We appreciated our wins...especially the big one when the well-respected judge said he didn’t understand why she wasn’t finished...and both the breeder and I understood that there were good reasons for some of those losses.

Exhibitors and especially breeders need to guard against seeing “different” as an easy excuse. Blaming losses on having the only dog of correct size or an Irish coat or a long tail or a proper head or any other feature is excuse-making. Have you ignored your dog’s flaws? Perhaps combined with missing competitors’ virtues? Or failed to remember that judging is a subjective enterprise and perhaps your dog’s virtues were less critical to the judge than your competitors? These are often the reasons for winning and losing... being “different, not so much.”

One place the author lost me was her last sentence: "Breeders, judges and exhibitors have a responsibility to protect their breed standards." Judges must follow the standard...protection is the responsibility of breeders and parent clubs. Parent clubs protect the standard with strong, robust breeder education. Breeders protect it by breeding and showing "correct" dogs.

If your dog is correct, it belongs in the ring. Period. Not showing it because it “doesn’t look like everyone else” is whining. My experience is most judges want to do the right thing; if they don’t have a correct dog to select, they can’t. Our responsibility to the breed is to give judges the opportunity to reward the right dogs.

Another point that made me grind my teeth was the general “dogs were better in the past” tone. I doubt it as a universal proposition. I asked a good friend, a former all-breed professional handler and now a judge, what he thought. In a long career, he’d handled, among other very good ones, a Westminster BIS dog. He thought that dog was a “once-in-a-lifetime dog” and hasn’t seen anything that approached him since then. But, looking at that breed as a whole...and he’s judged plenty of big, prestigious entries...they are better overall today than they were 40 years ago.

My guess is that’s the case with most breeds. We remember the great ones and forget there are always average ones. You can’t limit a conversation about breed quality to the great ones...it’s like saying golfers today aren’t that good because they aren’t Tiger Woods.

It’s tempting to say some of our past great Wheatens wouldn’t win today. First, I doubt it and second, that’s not really the right comparison. Those who can think back to the days of Billy, Harry, Jack, Brett...ask yourselves a different question: is the average dog you saw in the ring in those days better or worse than the average dog you see today? Not sure you remember? Go back and look at your yearbooks.

We need to recognize the impact of health problems on our US breed quality. It didn’t start yesterday or since the DNA test was introduced, no matter what some want to think. Two things happened in the ’90s when the health issues got ugly...first, some good dogs were eliminated from breeding programs and second, some breeders imported dogs. Now...let’s be clear what I’m saying here: I’m NOT saying all ex-US dogs are bad dogs. They are bred to a different standard and ex-US breeders may have had a different view on “correct.”

Not everyone went down these paths but everyone was impacted by them.

So, let’s acknowledge that our breed changed significantly in the 90s. The breed took such a big detour in its development in the US it was like starting from scratch. For me, that means the comparison between past and present is different. The comparison should be what our breed is like today, 20 years post PLE/PLN crisis, versus what it was like in the ‘80s, 20 years after entering Miscellaneous.
Let’s also acknowledge that we have ALWAYS had capable breeders and less skilled ones. Let’s also remember that 20 years is a long time in the dog world and many current breeders have no working memory of what came before...and let’s stop blaming them for not having been around then. How in heaven’s name can someone who got their first Wheaten in 2005 have a real appreciation of the Wildflower dogs, for example? Having beaten up on the author, let me now say I fully endorse this statement: "My old mentor said, “The pendulum of type swings to and fro but those remaining true to the standard triumph in the end.” Those dedicated breeders have the knowledge to restore a breed to its initial form once it hits bottom.”

Personally, I think we’re rebounding from hitting bottom but it happened as a matter of sheer luck. It’s time for those “dedicated breeders...[with] knowledge” to do more than wring their hands. It’s time to step up, say that breeder education is important and offer it...with or without SCWTCA’s imprimatur.

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"Not your grandpa’s gene pool…"

As long as dog shows, stud books and pedigree records have existed successful breeders of purebred dogs have mostly followed the same formula: line- or inbreed to the best individuals, concentrate the bloodlines, outcross only when it’s necessary. (And even those "outcrosses" are generally, if you look further back in the pedigrees, based on the same foundation dogs many times over.) When you look at old pedigrees it’s amazing how closely those early breeders dared to go: half brother to half sister, even full siblings bred together; sire to daughter, grandsire to granddaughter with an uncle thrown in on the "unrelated" side, etc. etc. It says a lot for the basic soundness of the foundation stock of most breeds that there were seldom visible ill effects of all this close breeding. These dogs’ backgrounds usually varied considerably; in many breeds their pedigrees were sometimes unknown well into the 20th century, and close inbreeding was necessary to "set" the breed type.

Of course breeders in the past believed strongly in the "survival of the fittest" theory; they were a lot less emotional than we are today about the odd puppy that was not doing well. We don’t discard a single puppy if we can help it — and with modern veterinary care we usually CAN help it; in those days they would just, to use a blunt but very descriptive term, "bucket" such a puppy. If it wasn’t strong and thriving it wasn’t worth fussing over, and it did not grow up to propagate the species.

Of course, breeders in the past believed strongly in the "survival of the fittest" theory; they were a lot less emotional than we are today about the odd puppy that was not doing well. We don’t discard a single puppy if we can help it — and with modern veterinary care we usually CAN help it; in those days they would just, to use a blunt but very descriptive term, "bucket" such a puppy. If it wasn’t strong and thriving it wasn’t worth fussing over, and it did not grow up to propagate the species.

In the early days there was also in many breeds a silently accepted, but almost never openly discussed, habit of breeding to "outside" dogs — meaning dogs of a similar but not identical breed in order to introduce some desirable trait that was previously absent in the foundation stock. The first generation’s offspring of such an outcross might look a little "foreign" in type, but you bred the best of them — those that were blessed with the "new" characteristic — back into the "old," closely related line to improve type ... Who knows,
extra, very necessary dose of strength and vitality. How long can you keep in- and linebreeding within a closed gene pool without ill effects? A dozen generations?

Twenty or thirty? I am not a geneticist, but it’s clear even to me that when you’re breeding closely related dogs in an attempt to “set” some desirable characteristic you may inadvertently also double up on a few things that you don’t want and that may not be immediately visible to the naked eye.

Modern science tells us that most genetic disorders in dogs are caused by a single gene that was somehow damaged but remains hidden and has no ill effects as long as the animal also has a copy of the normal gene. Things get serious when this damaged gene becomes common enough in a breed that two apparently healthy animals, both with a copy of the damaged gene, are bred together and their offspring has to suffer the consequences.

Apparently genetic disorders in dogs caused by these recessive mutations usually appear suddenly: "I've never seen this before," you say, genuinely surprised when encountering a "new" problem in a litter or an adult dog. The problem may in fact have lurked around unseen, beneath the surface, for years, but it has turned up so seldom that it's not seen as a real breed problem ... until it is virtually too late and such a high percentage of the breed population is a carrier that it's almost unavoidable that, sooner or later, two of them are bred together.

It's anathema to most breeders, but the fact is that modern geneticists in general agree that we ought to widen the gene pool ... not narrow it. Instead of breeding three litters out of the best bitch, they say, we ought to breed one litter out of the best bitch and a couple more out of her sisters. Instead of the top sire producing 100 litters — or 200 litters, in some breeds — it would be much better if there were hundreds of stud dogs who all sired one or two litters each.

Much of the scientific language used by modern geneticists will remain incomprehensible to a majority of dog fanciers. What is recommended, it seems to me, is a completely different approach to breeding than we have been used to consider in the past. Is it necessary? Will there be unforeseen consequences if we don’t listen? There is no question that things have changed a lot over the past few decades that many of us have been involved in purebred dogs. As Carol Beuchat, Ph.D. says, "This is not your grandpa’s gene pool" — meaning, of course, that the genetic material we are dealing with in today’s dogs — in most breeds, at least — is very different from what it was a few decades ago. If we care as much about health and happiness in our show dogs as we care about conformation, the very least we can do is listen ... and think ... and perhaps change the way we plan our breeding programs.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR: Bo Bengtson started going to dog shows in the late 1950s and never stopped. Although never having a "real kennel," he has owned or bred more than 130 champions, including at least 30 BIS/SBIS winners, primarily Whippets but also Greyhounds, a few Afghan Hounds long ago and a single, co-owned Papillon. In 1997 Bo and his partner Paul Lepiane started Dogs in Review, now published by Lumina Media. Bo has written several dog books, including the monumental "Best in Show - the World of Show Dogs and Dog Shows" (2008), which won several awards. Since 2014 Bo publishes Sighthound Review and therefore no longer judges AKC shows. However, he officiates overseas on occasion and is approved by FCI for more than 40 breeds in seven Groups. He has awarded Best in Show on several continents and judged multiple times at the FCI World Show, Crufts and Westminster. Bo is a lifetime member of the American Whippet Club, a member of Santa Barbara KC and Morris & Essex KC.
The Health Committee wants to address rumors concerning mistakes with the DNA test for PLN-Associated Variant Genes. It is important for the health of our dogs and the breed that we all proceed on the basis of facts and not third-hand comments or opinions.

A recording error resulted in a dog’s results being reported incorrectly to the owner. Only the recording of the results was inaccurate - the test results themselves were accurate. The Lab at Penn has reviewed other results to determine if there were other errors; none were found. Some additional steps have been added to Penn’s processes to avoid a similar clerical error in the future.

To understand what occurred, compare it to OFA…your dog’s hip x-rays are sent to OFA. They correctly grade the hips as Good. However, when the results are entered into the OFA database, the person incorrectly enters Excellent for the result. Such a mistake wouldn’t change the dog’s hips, the grading or the value of doing hip x-rays to reduce the incidence of canine hip dysplasia.

Some of the rumors have suggested there was sample contamination or that the results themselves were not reliable. Penn has confirmed neither is true.

While it is unfortunate that this occurred, please be reassured that nothing has changed concerning the reliability and validity of the DNA test. Please read Dr. Henthorn’s remarks about the success of the test that follows.

PLN/PLE Update from “Penn”  By Paula Henthorn

The following table summarizes the PLN-Associated Variant Alleles testing since it was first offered. The good news is two-fold. The frequency of the disease-associated marker (which we call “2”) has dropped from 41% to 28%. The data also suggests that SCWT breeders have been avoiding breedings between carriers (1-2 by our terminology, aka “1” dogs, that carry one normal marker and one disease associated marker). This is indicated by the lower number of 2-2 dogs (aka “2” dogs) than is expected based on the 28% 2 allele frequency. In summary, this suggests that SCWT breeders collectively are reducing the 2 allele frequency over time while avoiding matings that will produce 2-2/”2” dogs that are at highest risk of developing PLN. Congratulations on your good work!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCWTCA terminology</th>
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<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>0</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>freq 1</th>
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<td>No. 1-2</td>
<td>No. 2-2</td>
<td>tot.</td>
<td>% 1-1</td>
<td>% 1-2</td>
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<td>460</td>
<td>181</td>
<td>995</td>
<td>35.6</td>
<td>46.2</td>
<td>18.2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>997</td>
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<td>341</td>
<td>49</td>
<td>772</td>
<td>49.5</td>
<td>44.2</td>
<td>6.3</td>
<td>0.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are continuing with the PLE/PLE research, and are fortunate to welcome Dr. Victor Stora, DVM, to the research team. Dr. Stora is an AKC/AKC CHF/ & Theriogenology Foundation grant recipient for the Small Animal Reproduction and Genetics Residency at the University of Pennsylvania. We are continuing the PLN research with a follow-up survey to examine the health status of dogs that have been tested for the PLN-associated variant alleles, with several goals, including exploring the genetic differences between healthy and PLN-affected geriatric dogs that carry both two alleles. A second goal of the survey is to identify and recruit additional healthy geriatric dogs AND dogs that suffer from PLE into our study, to give us a better chance of finding gene variants that are associated with PLE. In addition to identifying additional dogs for our studies, the survey will be used to obtain permission and information to contact the veterinarians who can provide the necessary information to confirm the health status of each of these dogs. Thank you in advance for continued support and cooperation. You are an amazing group of people.
Researchers from the University of Missouri are looking for dogs for the clinical trial. By

Similarities between dogs and people are well studied, so it’s unsurprising that researchers discovered a test used to diagnose amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) in people is applicable to identifying degenerative myelopathy (DM) in dogs.

The genetic link between the diseases was established in 2009 by Joan Coates, DVM, Dipl. ACVIM, a professor at the University of Missouri (MU) Department of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery, and other researchers at the Broad Institute at MIT and Harvard.

While the current genetic test for DM can identify risk for the disease, it’s limited in its ability to diagnose it. Therein lies the problem, because as of now, a proper DM diagnosis is time-consuming and expensive, requiring procedures such as MRIs of the spinal cord, according to Dr. Coates.

“DM is a diagnosis of exclusion, meaning that veterinarians must rule out all other diseases that mimic it before coming to a final diagnosis,” Coates said. “Now that we know that DM and ALS are related, we are studying ways to diagnose and measure disease progression with similar diagnostic modalities used in ALS patients.”

Coates and her MU colleagues have developed a simple DM diagnostic test based on a similar one used to diagnose ALS in humans. Specifically, they found elevated levels of phosphorylated neurofilament heavy proteins (pNF-H) in the cerebrospinal fluid and blood samples—the same biomarkers appear in humans with ALS—of dogs with DM compared to dogs without it.

“These results will enable us to ‘scale up’ the test to make it more accessible to [the] veterinary community,” Coates said. “pNF-H may serve as a diagnostic tool for diagnosis of DM.” With the link between ALS and DM established and a new test making diagnosis easier, now Coates and her team are seeking pets to take part in a clinical research trial into treatments for DM that slow its progression and improve the patient’s quality of life.

The MU research team is collaborating with other ALS scientists, and the studies are being funded by the ALS Association and National Institutes of Health.

“Dogs suffer from more than 350 genetic disorders, many of which resemble human conditions,” said Ewen Kirkness, Ph.D., a molecular biologist at the Institute for Genomic Research, now the J. Craig Venter Institute, in Rockville, Md. “The genes responsible for these are probably constant to humans and dogs.” The research by Coates and others shows that benefits can be derived by taking a closer look at these links.

“I was very excited by the idea that there could be another model that might have more strength than the existing models,” said Michael Garcia, Ph.D., an assistant biology professor and principal investigator at the MU Bond Life Sciences Center, who is working with Coates on the research, about the new DM diagnostic test.

The DM treatment trial will occur at the MU Veterinary Health Center Small Animal Hospital; dog owners interested in their pet participating can email coatesj@missouri.edu
Early Detection of Bladder Cancer Possible With New Screening Tool

Penny Leigh | July 05, 2017

A phone call from a puppy buyer delivered news to Darlene Stewart that no breeder wants to receive. Their beloved family pet had been ill. The Beagle male was having recurring urinary tract infections that did not respond to antibiotics.

Stewart’s thoughts immediately went to the dog’s grandmother that she had lost to bladder cancer, a difficult disease to pinpoint in the early stages. She advised the family to pursue more testing to determine if there was something more serious going on with their pet.

“Multiple trips to the vets, multiple rounds of antibiotics, multiple catheterizations, multiple ultrasounds, and we could not get a definitive diagnosis. The entire time I was concerned that it was bladder cancer due to family history,” Stewart said. “The ultrasounds did show some generalized thickening of the bladder wall, but they could not identify a mass.”

Months went by without a diagnosis, and the veterinarians started an oral treatment for the type of bladder cancer known as canine transitional cell carcinoma/urothelial carcinoma (TCC/UC). But it proved to be too late.

“After one really bad period of urinating almost pure blood and the dog being in tremendous pain, the owners were faced with the decision to euthanize,” Stewart said.

This sad story, which occurred many years ago, has been typical for many canines with bladder cancer. But today, there is a new way to detect emerging tumors in the bladder in the very early stages of disease.

The CADET™ BRAF Mutation Detection Assay is the first early detection system for TCC/UC, and it only requires non-invasive collection of a urine sample.

“A single mutation in the canine BRAF gene is present in 85 percent of confirmed TCC/UC cases. The test identifies tumor cells carrying this mutation that are shed into the urine. The test can detect as few as 10 abnormal cells in a urine sample, which allows the cancer to be detected much earlier than traditional methods, and often several months before the dog has any symptoms,” said the test’s creator, Dr. Matthew Breen, N.C. State University Distinguished Professor of Comparative Oncology Genetics and co-founder of Sentinel Biomedical.

Since the test can alert to the presence of tumor cells up to four months before any clinical signs become evident, veterinarians have the opportunity to screen high-risk dog breeds for very early signs of the disease. The test enables owners of dogs that test positive to follow up with their veterinarian and seek the most appropriate treatment very early.

Stewart, a longtime Beagle breeder, is the chairperson of the National Beagle Club Health and Genetics Committee, and she has worked with the researchers on improving early detection of bladder cancer in the breed. If this test had been available sooner, there could have been a different outcome for her dogs, she said.

“It would have allowed a much quicker diagnosis for us. Not only would we have saved money, but we could have treated the dog sooner and more specifically,” Stewart said. “Maybe we could have saved the dog, or at least given him more time with his family in greater comfort.”
Breen and Sentinel Biomedical have teamed with the American Kennel Club to offer the early detection/screening version of the test to owners on a subscription basis and make them part of the ongoing research into TCC/UC. Owners are encouraged to start screening, especially in high-risk breeds, starting at age 5 to 6 years.

The most at-risk breeds, in addition to Beagles, are the Scottish Terrier, West Highland White Terrier, and Shetland Sheepdog. Other breeds with an elevated risk are: American Eskimo Dog, Australian Cattle Dog, Australian Shepherd, Bichon Frise, Border Collie, Russell Terrier, Lhasa Apso, Rat Terrier, and Wire Fox Terrier.

“The American Kennel Club is excited to team with Sentinel Biomedical to make this test available to our breeders and dog owners. We know it will improve the health of our dogs and give breeders valuable information,” said Mark Dunn, senior vice president of AKC registration and customer development.

Purchase of a CADET SM BRAF Mutation Detection annual subscription provides owners with a kit that allows three tests to be performed for the same dog over the course of a year. Owners collect urine from their dogs and ship it to the Sentinel laboratory once every four months.

There also are breeder packs available that enable one-time testing of multiple dogs at a reduced rate. The kits are available in the AKC store.

For both the annual subscription and breeder pack options, owners receive the test results back within two weeks. Since Sentinel requires the owners' veterinarians to be involved in the process, a copy of the report is also sent to them. If the BRAF mutation is detected, the owner should schedule an appointment with her veterinarian as soon as possible.

“It is very important to follow up with a veterinarian to perform a thorough physical exam of the dog to confirm diagnosis and determine a treatment plan. Use of the screening test expedites time to diagnosis, leading to the best possible outcome for the dog,” Breen said.

The tests are easy to use. Owners collect urine from their dog in a clean container, transfer the urine to the provided collection pot, and then ship the sample back to the testing laboratory. All packing materials and prepaid shipping labels are included with the kit.

Along with the test kit there is a questionnaire that owners submit with each sample. The questionnaire answers are being used as part of a nationwide study aimed at finding the cause of TCC/UC and determining any link between genetic and environmental factors. Questions cover topics such as the major source of drinking water for your dog; whether lawn care products are used on your yard; and if your dog is exposed to second-hand smoke.

A major issue with TCC/UC is that, as with Stewart’s Beagles, many dogs first have urinary tract symptoms, including frequent urination and straining to urinate, that are also true for other common conditions. This can result in several cycles of antibiotics, along with repeated urine cultures, that can last several months. By the time a conventional diagnosis is made, the cancer often has had time to become more advanced and spread.

“I think any dog owner who is dealing with chronic or recurrent UTI in their dog, no matter the breed, should consider asking their veterinarian to use this test. Considering the complete scope of diagnosis and treatment, this test is less expensive, provides diagnostic confirmation or elimination, and allows an early treatment protocol to be formulated,” Stewart said. “It is just a simple urine sample and easy to obtain. While there are certain breeds, like Beagles, that have a higher risk for TCC, this test is for all dogs.”

In addition to the annual subscription available from AKC, Sentinel Biomedical also offers the CADET SM BRAF Mutation Detection Assay for diagnosis of TCC/UC in dogs that already have developed urinary symptoms. This version of the test is available to veterinary professionals from the Sentinel Biomedical online store or by e-mailing orders@sentinelbiomedical.com. Results are sent to the veterinarian within two days of receipt of the specimen by the laboratory.
Hypothyroidism is the number one endocrine disease in dogs! And yet, you may not even know what to look for as symptoms of this condition. According to Dr. Jean Dodds, a veterinarian for the last 50 years and award-winning author of *The Canine Thyroid Epidemic*, your vet may not be testing or interpreting the tests in a way that gives clear or accurate results.

First off, I would like to say that the thyroid gland plays a very important and complicated role in regulating the body’s metabolism and health. Following a stimulus that activates the pituitary-thyroid gland axis in the brain, the thyroid then controls everything else from cognition to behavior, protein synthesis and much more!

**What is normal?**

In researching and testing the thyroid health of an increasingly large number of dogs, Dr. Dodds has accumulated an extensive age- and breed-specific data base to set ranges for their expected normal thyroid function. This is a huge breakthrough, which is now used for more definitive diagnostic purposes. Think about it, do a Chihuahua and St. Bernard have the same degree of metabolic function? Of course not! Before these Hemopet Case Specific ranges were discovered and established, the treatment for thyroid issues were the same across the board, no matter the age or size of your pet.

**Medication:**

Thyroid medication is prescribed by a veterinarian. The bottle often may say to give just one rather than the preferred two half doses per day, and may even mention giving the medication with the pet’s food.

But, Dr. Dodds wants to clarify this situation and make sure that dog owners know the following important information regarding thyroid medication for dogs:

- Give the medication in two doses. Divide the prescribed total daily dose in half and give half in the morning and half in the evening to keep a consistent steady state amount in the body of the dog over 24 hours. This is because the half-life of thyroxine in dogs is only 12-16 hours.

- Thyroid medication should not be given with food or treats, especially those containing calcium or soy. These bind the medication and make it poorly available to the dog. Give this medication an hour before the meal or 3 hours after a meal.

**Additional Facts for Dog Owners:**

- Use a soft nylon collar. This will help avoid injury to the thyroid and salivary glands in the neck that can occur with use of metal or prong collars.

**What to ask for when you go to your vet:**

- Complete thyroid antibody profile, not just a T4 or free T4 and TSH. Those include Total T4, Total T3, Free T3 and TgAA.

- If you would like, you can then send your results to Dr. Dodds who will interpret the results for you according to the age and breed ranges she has established for your dog through her research.

Classic signs of hypothyroidism do not appear until 70% of the thyroid gland is destroyed.

61% of dogs demonstrated significant behavioral improvement with thyroid replacement therapy.

**Behavior changes:**

Withdrawn

Submissive

Aggressive

Depression

Sensitivity to noises or objects

*Laboratory diagnostic tests for thyroid should be compared to other dogs of similar breed, size, age and sex.*
For those of you that missed the Specialty education seminar presented by Gayle L. Watkins, Ph.D, MBA, COL (US Army Retired) and Marcy Burke of Avidog, you missed out on an excellent program. From the Avidog website (Avidog.com): “Avidog is in the business of inspiring, educating and empowering people around the world to raise every puppy to be as healthy and stable as possible, and matched to the right home. Avidog’s dog breeding and puppy raising has been designed from conception to placement to bring out the best in every puppy. It mixes science, nature and experience in a balanced blend of mental, physical, and social development opportunities with nutritional support. Avidog looks at "research, taking a technique or a concept and applying it to dog breeding. Then we turn around, break it down, and teach it step-by-step, so that anyone can learn, no matter where they are on their journey." Gayle Watkins spoke and we all listened! She was informative, knowledgeable and easy to understand. Can she return next year?

Several attendees shared their thoughts on the presentation:

Janet Snoddy - I appreciate that the Club provides educational seminars for the members. The presentation covered a huge amount of information in a two-hour time frame. The quality of the slides and information was superior. I found the pre-natal epigenetic influences on developing puppies very interesting. The data on long telomeres resulting in longer lives is an area to be further explored as to having longer, healthier lives for our dogs.

Susan Ratliffe - We want to offer a confident, rock solid temperament to our families when we place puppies. This should set us apart from back yard breeders and puppy mills. The nutrition information was interesting. Logically good nutrition for the mothers and puppies should contribute to happy, healthy, well adjusted puppies. I would have liked to have seen more on behavior shaping through activities done with puppies at their appropriate development stages after birth going into placing the puppies with families. Also I think more should have been said about genetic contributions of the parents and how that shapes the temperaments of our puppies. Although nutrition helps, I feel strongly genetics and Head Start Programs contribute more to temperaments. We owe it to our dogs to give them every opportunity to develop into the confident, loving, intelligent animals they can be. Good topic for our club! Good information presented.

San Jeffries - I enjoyed the whole presentation but found most interesting the epigenetics*. I agree totally about a parent, especially the dam, being 'bomb proof’. Indeed I was told by a top behaviorist over 20 years ago about the studies undertaken showing that nervous dams, often produced nervous pups. Also, one only has to compare a badly reared pup with that of a well raised one to see the differences, especially in confidence and to a degree illness.

The epigenetics part of the seminar was fascinating and where I learned more, the switching on/off of genes. How the parents health at the time of mating influences how or whether genes are activated or not in the pups. I learned a new word, Telomeres** and how these influence longevity.

Elena Landa - I liked the seminar and thought it was very interesting and feel everyone can learn a lot from it.

Longtime breeder - I thought the information was presented well and liked the discussion on supplements including probiotics. It was one of the best SCWTCA Education Seminars I’ve been to.

Tim Smith - I loved the C-section stuff especially about saving the amniotic fluids so the pups and mom bond better.

*Origin of Epigenetics - 1942; coined by Conrad H. Waddington, 1905-75, British biologist; blend of epigenesis and genetics.

The study of the process by which genetic information is translated into the substance and behavior of an organism: specifically, the study of the way in which the expression of heritable traits is modified by environmental influences or other mechanisms without a change to the DNA sequence.

** Telomeres - the segment of DNA that occurs at the ends of chromosomes.
Celebrating my 25 years in Wheatens

2017 MCKC: WB BOW BOS
CH Star NEET

“Jameson”

And it all started with...
CH Briarlyn Starburst
1993
Hatboro WB BOW
Devon BOB from the classes
MCKC RWB

“Libby”
And my best

2016
CH Star Shut Up and Dance
WB BOW BOS
“Wren”

2015
CH Star On Cloud 9
Select Dog
“Louie”

2014
CH Star Just Sayin
WB BOW
“Marnie”

2014
CH Star Give it all you Got
RWB
“Zoe”

Denise Daniel
734-558-8442
Montgomerys

2014
CH Star Mystic Last Dance
First Veteran
“Willow”

2012
CH Kaler Star ICE ICE Baby
RWB
“Poppy”

2011
CH Star Living The Dream
WB and BOW
“Olive”

2010
CH Star Shadowland of Aslan
AOM
“Louisa”

ddddddstar@comcast.net
THE HARBOUR HILL "A CHRISTMAS STORY" KIDS
WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS!!!

A Christmas Story
starring
Noel, Toffee, Kalea, Cash, Guinness, Holly, Utley & Cookie

CH Harbour Hill Toy Story "Buzz" x CH Harbour Hill Atas EVOO "Olive"

CH Harbour Hill Toy Story "Buzz"

Proud Aunt Dory

CH Harbour Hill Finding Nemo? "Dory"
owned by Sandra Lightner

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL

Susan Sakauye
ssakauye@aol.com
805.967.0953
HARBOUR HILL WHEATENS
"A CHRISTMAS STORY" ONE YEAR LATER.....

GCH Harbour Hill A Christmas Story "GUINNESS"
owned by Alla & Ed Bezkrovny

GCH Harbour Hill Double Dog Dare "MISTER UTLEY"
- 29 Best of Breeds
- Multiple Group Placements
- BOW at Eukanuba Natl. Ch. Show
- AOM at Del Val, multiple Select Awards
owned by Dave & Sherrie Wight

CH Harbour Hill Deck the Halls "HOLLY"
owned by Richard & Susan Traister

"Bumper" Says...
BAH HUMBUG!

AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT!
“Strider”  
Ch Lismore Return of the King  
GCHG Lismore McCormack’s Dragon Song x GCH Lismore World Without End  

New Champion  

WD Greater Denver  
SCWT Specialty  

WD/BOW and Best in Sweepstakes GWTA, 2016
“Rooney”
CH Lismore Once In A Life Time
CH Tara I Get Around x GCH Lismore Catching Fire
coowned by Fred Mitzner & Albert Baker Knoll

Multiple Best In Specialty Shows

AOM at Montgomery County KC

Meg Ryan * 703-855-9150 * ndlaw951@aol.com
Save the Date

Wheatens in Paradise

2018 Roving Specialty
January 20, 2018 – Brooksville Florida
Watch for further details.

www.scwteca.org
Hosted by SCWTCGTB

Entries close Jan 3, 2018
GCH Clover’s Mr. Blue Sky
INT CH Wheaten Rebel’s Nelson for Navy x CH Greentree Clover OohLaLa

AOM MCKC National Specialty 2017

BOB Westminster Dog Show 2016

AOM MCKC National Specialty 2015

Many thanks to Terrier judges Candy Way and Peggy Beisel-McIlwaine, and John Walsh, Jr. for recognizing our boy.

Breeder/Owner: Liz and Mike Jamiolkowski
Co-Breeders: Beverly and Kevin McDonald

Clover Wheatens
Our first Specialty in 1993 took place in a very windy and rainy storm. But our friends and fellow exhibitors still come back! You had to be there...or at least get the t-shirt!

Save the Date:
April 13, 2018
Sacramento, California

Help us celebrate 25 years!
Watch for details.
Introducing "Coco"

CH Haldane Lightning 's Hand  
 x  
 Haldane Five Gold Rings

Completed her Championship very quickly with a 5 point major at the Waukesha Specialty going WB/BOW, and then her Grand in a flash! 
Be looking for more Coco this year!

Owners: Marianne Ballard & Tim Smith  
Breeder: Tim Smith  
hal dane-wheatens.com
In loving memory of "Caramel"


We lost Caramel just 8 days shy of her 17th Birthday. Her hind legs could no longer support her with the dignity she deserved.

Caramel was a pretty, feminine show girl with personality and attitude. She was the alpha and put all the other Wheatens in their place until the end. She was a loyal and loving companion, and still kissed us the last month of her long life. She was adorable.

When Our first Wheaten "Finley" was aging, Caramel would lay beside him and put her head gently on his back to comfort him. After all Finley played with her as a puppy and taught her the ropes of defending and protecting us, keeping the deer and wild turkeys at bay.

Loving owners; Dr. Arnie Spanjers, Dublin, CA and Rose Rose, Asheville, NC
rose2ramble@gmail.com
CH Marquee’s Trick Or Treat

CH Gleanngay Daring Display ROM x CH Marquee’s Spellcaster ROM, CD
Dickens x Morgan

Caramel’s last show at 14 years old
June 19, 2015

Thanks to Richard Urquhart and Sonya Urquhart of Marquee Wheatens for letting us raise Caramel and give her the very best life a Wheaten can have.

Run free now sweet Caramel!
Meet Two New Bradberry Champions...

CH BRADBERRY'S LORE OF BOGART

Ch Atas Mackanme Colcannon Rogue x Ch Bradberry's Alexandria Jillian

“Bogey”

Owners: Jeff & Barbara Butler, Ron Shumate, Deb Van De Ven

Deb Van De Ven

deb@bradberryswheatens.com  702-308-9542
CH BRADBERRY'S DIVINE FITZPATRICK
Ch Bradberry’s Schnitzel Maguire x Ch Bradberry’s Born For Love

“Fitz”

Owner: Deborah Van De Ven

Bradberry WHEATENS
“Krista”

Krista finished in first place in her division at the Ladies KC show earning her second invitation to compete at the AKC North American Diving Dogs (NADD) Nationals in Orlando.

She has proven herself both in and out of show and performance rings with courage, tenacity and joy. We are blessed to have her as part of our family and look forward to more fun adventures with this perky little bitch.

Owned by Dorice and Mark Stancher
Bred by Sylvia & Bill Hamilton (Holweit)
201.323.2514
Perfect! There was no better word for the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater Milwaukee’s 30th annual summer specialty on Friday July 28 at the Waukesha County Expo Center. The entry was great – 5 point major in bitches. We had a wonderful opportunity to see Wheaten’s that are not normally entered in the upper Midwest shows. And the weather could not have been better: mid 70s, light breeze, no humidity. In fact, the weather was wonderful each day of this five-day cluster of shows, a combination of indoor and outdoor rings in which the SCWTs could strut their stuff. Perfect!

Our day began with Meggie greeting visitors at Meet the Breed. What a great opportunity for others to learn about Soft Coated Wheaten’s and their wonderful personalities!

Next, Susan McGee of Mirakel Wheatens judged an entry of 9 puppies (3, 6). After a short break, Mareth Kipp presided over our specialty entry of 22 (4, 14, 1, 3). We also hosted an apprentice judge, Brian Bogart, who had requested an opportunity to learn about judging the SCWT by shadowing Mrs. Kipp. Placements one through four in each class were awarded a stuffed toy. Other trophies included embroidered towels, rosette ribbons, and fabric bowls.

The hospitality luncheon gave everyone an opportunity to visit with old friends and meet new. Perfect. Attendees anxiously awaited the results of the raffle drawing. Items available included a SCWTCA anniversary afghan, a hand-painted mail box, handmade pillows, a hooked rug, and charming baskets containing sunflower themed objects and items found in Alaska. (Exhibitors from the Alaskan Malamute specialty wandered over and bid on that one!)

Special thanks go to the following committee members:

Show Chair: Geoffrey Bilda
Ring Stewards: Nancy Andersen & Geoffrey Bilda
Meet the Breed: Suzanne & Larry Larson
Hospitality: Suzanne Larson and Karen Lemke
Raffle: Carmen Glazier
Trophies: Nancy Andersen

SCWTGM Specialty, Sweeps Critique: Susan McGee

It was so exciting to be invited to judge at the Milwaukee Specialty... my first time judging! It was an honor to return to this show site where I won Sweeps with my first show Wheaten in 2001 on a terribly hot day during a prolonged drought with grass as sharp as needles. Fast forward to 2017 and we could not have asked for better weather, cool and sunny, perfect for our Wheaten.

Many weeks prior to the show date, I began preparing for this assignment. I studied our breed standard, the essence of SCWT type, prepared a list of major faults and objectionable faults. Thank you to Cindy Vogels and Gay Dunlap for the fantastic Judges Education Presentation (updated October 2016) located on our website. I found it to be so helpful.
I printed it in color and bound it. I encourage everyone to study it as it provides excellent examples of correct and incorrect head, skull, ears, size, substance, coat, tail, etc. An excellent education tool!

I was pleased with the overall quality of the puppies. Most of the puppies moved well on the go around. I thought I found my winner in one puppy but was disappointed to find a cleverly groomed straight rear and the funkiest rear movement I have seen in some time. Best in Sweeps caught my eye at first glance, was well presented and moved nicely.

Where did those 30 years go? I understand this year’s Soft Coated Terrier Club of Greater Milwaukee was its 30th year show, and I also had the pleasure of judging their first show. Wish I could go back those 30 years and remember that entry.

I do want to thank the club for the honor of judging this year’s show. The entry was high enough in numbers to have five points in bitches. That doesn’t happen too often.

First, some general observations. I think breeders need to pay more attention to the head that the standard calls for. I found some heads lacking, short with wide back skulls, not that pretty head we all desire. I thought by now mouths would no longer be a problem, but I found several that could use improvement. I thought for the most part coats were better than I have been seeing. It does seem that color and sheen were not as apparent as I would have liked. I have always been a judge who believes size is put into a standard for a reason and I was delighted to see size was no problem.

Now that is said, let’s get down to the nitty gritty. WD came from the Bred-By class and was Cela Just The Right Fit. Still a puppy at 7 months old, he had the right shape, nice coat and presented himself well. WB also came from the Bred-By class, Haldane Shoot The Moon, a little over a year old, she took over the ring like she owned it. Shiny coat, she caught my attention right away. She has a full length tail, but for the most part carried it well. Lovely mover, proper size and shape. She went on to also be BOW.
BOB went to a lovely dog, CH Ainle Something To Talk About. I have seen this dog before and he is a "real" one. Beautiful coat, correct size and moves like he owns the ring. Lovely head, shoulder and topline. A pleasure to have in my ring. He truly is something to talk about. BOS was awarded to a lovely, correctly sized bitch named CH Ryem's If She Hollers Let Her Go.

Again, these are just my observations. I would again like to thank the club as well as all the exhibitors. I love judging Wheatens and was not disappointed on that day.
### WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Judge</th>
<th>Best in Sweeps</th>
<th>BOB NOH</th>
<th>BOS</th>
<th>SD</th>
<th>SB</th>
<th>Sweeps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>7/28/17</strong></td>
<td>SCWTCGM</td>
<td>Specialty Judge: Mareth Kipp</td>
<td>Cela Just the Right Fit</td>
<td>GCH Orla Geragold Lake Isle of Innisfree</td>
<td>Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go (B)</td>
<td>GCH Orla Geragold Lake Isle of Innisfree (OHG3) (D)</td>
<td>Ch Jendu Joyful Spirit</td>
<td>Best in Sweeps: Jendu the Skyes the Limit (B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7/29/17</strong></td>
<td>Waukesha Kennel Club</td>
<td>Judge: Steve Hayden</td>
<td>Reyem’s Reality Check</td>
<td>GCHG Ainle Something to Talk About (D)</td>
<td>Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go (B)</td>
<td>GCHG Ainle Something to Talk About (D)</td>
<td>Haldane Shoot the Moon</td>
<td>BOS Sweeps: Cela Just the Right Fit (D)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7/30/17</strong></td>
<td>Waukesha Kennel Club</td>
<td>Judge: Sue Goldberg</td>
<td>Culiinn The Kingmaker</td>
<td>Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go (B)</td>
<td>Culiinn The Kingmaker</td>
<td>Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go (B)</td>
<td>Haldane Shoot the Moon</td>
<td>J’Adores Little Miss Magic At Raelyn (B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7/31/17</strong></td>
<td>Burlington Wi Kennel Club</td>
<td>Judge: Ms. J N Paulk</td>
<td>Reyem’s Reality Check</td>
<td>Culiinn The Kingmaker</td>
<td>Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go (B)</td>
<td>Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go (B)</td>
<td>Haldane Shoot the Moon</td>
<td>J’Adores Little Miss Magic At Raelyn (B)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8/1/17</strong></td>
<td>Burlington Wi Kennel Club</td>
<td>Judge: Mr. Del Richards</td>
<td>Reyem’s Reality Check</td>
<td>Culiinn The Kingmaker</td>
<td>Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go (B)</td>
<td>Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go (B)</td>
<td>Haldane Shoot the Moon</td>
<td>J’Adores Little Miss Magic At Raelyn (B)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WD**
- Cela Just the Right Fit
- Reyem’s Reality Check
- Culiinn The Kingmaker
- Reyem’s Reality Check

**RWD**
- Reyem’s Reality Check
- Cela Just the Right Fit
- Reyem’s Reality Check
- N/A

**WB**
- Haldane Shoot the Moon
- Vintage Button Button Who’s Got the Button
- Reyem’s Anamcara Back to Reality
- J’Adores Little Miss Magic At Raelyn

**RWB**
- Cela Quest for Hazel Nuts
- Reyem’s Anamcara Back to Reality
- Saltne Sandi’s Southern Belle
- Saltne Sandi’s Southern Belle

**BOB**
- GCH Ainle Something to Talk About (D)
- GCHG Ainle Something to Talk About (& G3) (D)
- Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go (B)
- GCHG Ainle Something to Talk About (D)

**BOW**
- Haldane Shoot the Moon
- Reyem’s Reality Check
- Culiinn The Kingmaker
- Reyem’s Reality Check

**BOS**
- Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go (B)
- Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go
- Culiinn The Kingmaker
- GCHG Ainle Something to Talk About

**SD**
- GCH Orla Geragold Lake Isle of Innisfree

**SB**
- Ch Jendu Joyful Spirit
- Haldane Shoot the Moon
- Haldane Shoot the Moon
- Ch Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go
Sweeps Critique, Judge: Ron Horn

I was honored to be invited to judge sweeps for the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Specialty. I’ve always found the Terrier Group to be one of the most interesting groups. As I think about a group of dogs, one of the things I like to consider is whether a certain breed would fit into our family. I’ve long considered the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier as one of those breeds with whom I would enjoy living. I find their happy, friendly, and devoted personality compelling.

There was clear quality in the young exhibits presented to me. Perhaps the most difficult area for me was evaluating the very important coat. Of course the coat is a distinguishing characteristic of the breed. Prior to judging, I spent a good deal of time working to understand the coat and I felt fairly confident that I knew what to look for. I think I understood the soft texture with a silky and gentle wave. Unfortunately, in the young dogs I judged, the mature coat I had studied was not always evident, so I had to make some judgments as to how I thought the mature coat would develop.

As I considered the breed standard as I examined each exhibit, I found much to like. I thought the heads were a strong point with a correct rectangular appearance. I liked the almond-shaped eyes set wide apart with the well pigmented rims.

The one thing that concerned me was the front structure on some of the exhibits. I would have liked to see more lay back in the shoulders.

I don’t know that I will ever own a Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, but I do know this experience makes me want to spend more time with the breed. Though I don’t know that I will ever apply to judge the whole Terrier Group, I will be continuing to learn more about your standard with the hope of having the honor of judging your breed for the AKC sometime in the near future. Thank you very much.
Specialty #1 Breed Judge: Pam Peat

**WD:** LISMORE RETURN OF THE KING
GCH Lismore McCormack's Dragon Song x GCH Lismore World Without End
Owner/Breeder: Meg Ryan

**SD:** GCHS LISMORE MCCORMACK'S DRAGON SONG
CH Aran What Happens In Vegas x GCH Lismore The World According To Me
Owners: Margaret A. Ryan & Maureen A. Long Breeder: Meg Ryan

**WB & BOW & BOS:** SADDLEBROOK’S POCKET FULL OF POSIES
CH Tara I Get Around x CH Saddlebrook’s Pickapocket
Owners: Janice & Bill McCollum and Jacqueline Jinx Moore
Breeders: Jacqueline Jinx Moore & Stan Moore

**SB:** GCH AZYDECO HOW CAN U SURPASS PERFECTION
CH Abiqua Wild Knight Romance x CH Azydeco Starlight Savannah Annabella
Owner/Breeder: Cathryn Bennett

**BOB:** CH LISMORE ONCE IN A LIFETIME (d)
CH Tara I Get Around x GCH Lismore Catching Fire
OWNERS: Meg Ryan & Albert Baker & Knoll & Fred Mitzner
Breeder: Meg Ryan

**AOM:** HALDANE SHOOT THE MOON
CH Lightning’s Hand x Haldane Five Gold Rings
Owner/Breeder: Tim Smith
Specialty #2 Breed Judge: Jay Richardson

WD: ROSHEEN HAPPY FALL Y’ALL
CH Honeylee’s Bye My Fair Whind x CH Rosheen Expression Superemma
Owners: Gail Lopez & Melisa Lopez  Breeder: Melisa Lopez

SD: GCHS ROSHEEN RING OF FIRE
CH Never Lasting No Limits x CH Acacia’s Bat Out O’Hel
Owners: Melisa Lopez & Karen Florentine  Breeders: Melisa Lopez & Barbara Smith

WB/BOW: STRATFORD MORE BANG FOR YOUR BUCK
CH Saddlebrook’s It All Started With A Big Bang x CH Stratford Fly Me To A Paper Moon
Owners: Janis Johnson and Molly O’Connell  Breeder: Molly O’Connell

AOM: HALDANE SHOOT THE MOON
CH Lightning’s Hand x Haldane Five Gold Rings
Owner/Breeder: Tim Smith

BOB: CH LISMORE ONCE IN A LIFETIME (d)
CH Tara I Get Around x GCH Lismore Catching Fire
OWNERS: Meg Ryan & Albert Baker & Knoll & Fred Mitzner  Breeder: Meg Ryan
### WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

| SHOW JUDGE | 8/18 • Greater Denver SCWTC Independent Specialty #1 (Greeley CO) Breed: Pam Peat / Sweeps: Ron Horn | 8/18 • Greater Denver SCWTC Independent Specialty #2 (Greeley CO) Jay Richardson | 8/19• Greeley KC (Greeley CO) Kalem Dumke | 8/20 • Greeley KC (Greeley CO) Delores Burkholder |
|---|---|---|---|
| WD | Lismore Return of the King | Rosheen Happy Fall Y'All | Rosheen Happy Fall Y'All | Lismore Return of the King |
| RWD | Blessing Flights of Fancy | Lismore Return of the King | Lismore Return of the King | Heirloom One Stroke Over the Line |
| WB | Saddlebrook’s Pocket Full Of Posies | Stratford More Bang For Your Buck | Stratford More Bang for Your Buck | Stratford More Bang for Your Buck |
| RWB | Ceili's Sister of the Fire | Lismore National Anthem | Lismore This Must Be The Place | Stratford Hey Boo |
| BOB | CH Lismore Once In A Lifetime (d) | CH Lismore Once In A Lifetime (d) | GCHS Rosheen Ring Of Fire (d) | Stratford More Bang for Your Buck (b) |
| BOW | Saddlebrook's Pocket Full Of Posies | Stratford More Bang For Your Buck | Rosheen Happy Fall Y'All | Stratford More Bang for the Buck |
| BOS | Saddlebrook's Pocket Full Of Posies | Stratford More Bang For Your Buck | Haldane Shoot The Moon | GCHS Lismore McCormack's Dragon Song (d) |
| SD | GCHS Lismore McCormack's Dragon Song | GCHS Rosheen Ring Of Fire | CH Rosheen Magic Thunder | GCHS Rosheen Ring Of Fire |
| SB | GCH Azydeco How Can U Surpass Perfection | Saddlebrook's Pocket Full Of Posies | Saddlebrook's Pocket Full Of Posies | Saddlebrook's Pocket Full Of Posies |
| AOM | Haldane Shoot The Moon (b) | Haldane Shoot The Moon | | |
| | Best in Sweeps - Lismore This Must Be the Place (b) | | | |
| | BOS Sweeps - Rosheen Happy Fall Y’All (d) | | | |

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**ONE: WALKIES...DONE!**

**TWO: BARK AT POSTMAN....DONE!**

**THREE: RIP UP THE POST....DONE!**

**FOUR: LONG SLEEP....DONE!**

**FIVE: LOOK OUT OF WINDOW AND BARK AT SQUIRRELS, I'LL DO THAT NOW!**
"Treasure the Moments, Cherish the Memories"

Oh my, what a week! From agility to obedience to barn hunt to conformation to education to awards, time after time those who attended were able to make new memories and cherish the old. It probably was one of the hottest and most humid national specialty weeks in recent memory. And, of course there had to be at least one day of rain.

There were four full days of performance events at In the Net in Palmyra. What an incredible place to showcase the performance activities! If you have never been to this venue, take some time next year to visit and see our Wheaten Terriers in action during their obedience, rally, agility, and barn hunt trials. Handlers sometimes seemed like they needed to be in two places at once because often the dogs were entered in more than one event. But it is hard to stop the SCWT from doing what they were meant to do and show their performance skills. It was easy to see that Wheatens absolutely loved what they were doing.

After the Hatboro Kennel Club show on Thursday, we were able to learn about raising happy and healthy puppies during the education seminar presented by Dr. Gayle Watkins of Avidog. Dr. Watkins, a 2016 AKC breeder of the year, was able to offer tips on the stages of canine development and what we can do to insure we raise great dogs. Her seminar focused on using science, nature, and experience along with nutritional support to bring out the best in every puppy.

Friday, brought us to the Hatboro show again and the Delaware Valley SCWTC Specialty. Then, Friday evening was the boutique where a variety of items were for sale. From stained glass to ornaments to clothing, most items featured our adorable Wheatens and were fit for every dog lover. People shopped, shopped, shopped and were able to pick up the floor mats and embroidered towels that they ordered, as well as purchase the just released 2018 SCWT calendar.

During the annual dinner, attendees were treated to a video that highlighted the activities of the local SCWT clubs. It was amazing to see all the impressive activities of these great clubs and all they do to educate Wheaten owners, train dogs, and just have fun. Keeping with the theme of “Treasure the Moments, Cherish the Memories” the video ended with the 1979 Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Metropolitan New York’s first specialty point show under sweepstakes judge Jacqueline Gottlieb (entry 13, 18) and specialty judge Mrs. J. H. Daniell-Jenkins (entry 21-24-24-3). How wonderful it was to see once again Ch. Stephen Dedalus of Andover, Ch. Radlee’s Serendipity, Ch Tammara of Balitara, Hogan of Hopping Brook, and others in the parade of veterans. Once dinner was completed, President Cecily Skinner conducted a short meeting with the election of officers and then had the pleasure of announcing the annual award recipients highlighted on the following pages. Congratulations to all of the winners!

The annual sweepstakes competition was on Saturday with judge Jinx Moore of Saddlebrook Wheatens. The ring was beautifully decorated with pumpkins and mums, although the weather did not reflect a typical autumn day. The puppies did well in the hot and humid weather and were a joy to watch. As in prior years, lunch from Panera was available at the site. No club events were scheduled that evening so that people could gather on their own and prepare their dogs for the specialty the next day.

Sunday brought on and off light rain along with temperatures in the mid-80s. A complimentary breakfast was offered in a new larger tent. The stunning trophy table attracted a great deal of attention. Many people, including those watching from other breed rings, took pictures of the striking display. Judge Peggy Beisel-McIlwaine moved things along so that the dogs did not get too wet or overheated. Despite the challenging weather, everyone enjoyed seeing so many Wheatens in the ring. Our National Specialty offers a wonderful opportunity to watch SCWTs who come from all over the country, and some from outside of the US, to participate in this prestigious show.
Finally, some time to relax and catch up on the week’s activities during the post-show celebration and buffet dinner. The Motor City Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club graciously stepped up to host the event and conducted the raffle of the table decorations. The handsome stuffed Wheaten bears and the stained glass representation of this year’s theme were coveted by everyone in attendance. Congratulations to Laura Kearns, the winner of this year’s raffle fundraiser – the bronze and copper gaiting Wheaten.

Congratulations also go to Suzanne Larson, the winner of the necklace crafted and donated by Hunting Horn with funds raised going to Wheaten Rescue. Meg Ryan outbid everyone for the artist’s original artwork that illustrated this year’s theme. Kathi Elliot was the lucky winner of the banner.

And, what were some of the special memories that visitors posted on the memory board? “Out of all the years we’ve been coming to Montgomery, last year our new GCH took an AOM.” “Bringing my Wheaten bitch to Montgomery with arrangements to have Shari Boyd show her only to have her come in season during the week-end. Needless to say, she was a bit crazy all week-end.” “Winning High in Trial with Duffy in Novice A. The very first time he ran around the room, and under a table! Thanks for encouraging us to try again.” “A stunning memory of Charlie winning the Breed under Gary at Montgomery. A memory that will last for the rest of my life as a special highlight in my life.” “Gosh, too many memories to count! Meeting so many owners on-line and on the phone! Best memory was when Paula and I found the PLN-associated variant alleles to help future generations avoid PLN!”

The week’s activities could not have been successful without the help of a host of volunteers. Co-chairs Karen Bilda and Jan Van Ness coordinated the efforts, but it truly takes a village of people to handle the details of a successful event. We are most grateful for the support and hard work of so many people who pitched in, many without being asked. Kudos to the staff at the DoubleTree by Hilton Philadelphia Valley Forge who were so helpful with all the arrangements at the hotel. And, thanks to all for keeping the hotel clean and making sure your dogs used the appropriate places for exercise.

Please make sure you “Treasure the Moments, and Cherish the Memories” from the 2017 SCWTCA National Specialty. Plan on attending next year and better yet, volunteer to help. It is a great way to meet fellow club members. Co-coordinators Jinx Moore and Lori Kromash are already hard at work making the 2018 National Specialty one to remember.

### 2017 Annual Award Winners

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Winner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Andover Challenge Trophy III</td>
<td>GCH Bryr Rose Symbol Of Paris</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Awarded to the Best of Breed winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016 | Breeder: Jeanne Ferris  
Owner: Michele Connor & Jeanne Ferris |
| Amaden Best of Opposite Sex Trophy | Star Shut Up And Dance  
Breeder: Denise Daniel & Amy & Rob Crowell  
Owner: Denise Daniel & Amy Martin & David Piesz |
| Awarded to the Best of Opposite winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016 |  
Denise Daniel & Amy Martin & David Piesz  
Owners of Star Shut Up And Dance |
| Janet Turner Dalton Memorial Trophy | Denise Daniel & Amy Crowell & Rob Crowell  
Breeders of Star Shut Up And Dance |
| Awarded to the Owner of the Best of Winners winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016 |  
Denise Daniel & Amy Martin & David Piesz |
| Everett Keller Memorial Trophy | Joanne & Terry Manning  
Owner/Breeder of O’Mannion’s Shattered |
| awarded to the Breeder of Winners Bitch at the |  
SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016 |
| David R Lincicome Trophy | Meg Ryan  
Owner/Breeder of Lismore National Anthem |
| Awarded to the Owner of the Bred-By Exhibitor Dog class winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016 |  
Bryan E McNamara Memorial Trophy |
| Awarded to the Owner of the Bred-By Exhibitor Bitch class winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016 |  
Best In Specialty Show Breeder Award |
| Awarded to the Breeder of the Best of Breed winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016 |  
Jeanne Ferris  
Bryr Rose Wheaten Draughts |

1. **Andover Challenge Trophy III**
   - Awarded to the Best of Breed winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016
   - **GCH Bryr Rose Symbol Of Paris**
     - Breeder: Jeanne Ferris
     - Owner: Michele Connor & Jeanne Ferris

2. **Amaden Best of Opposite Sex Trophy**
   - Awarded to the Best of Opposite winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016
   - **Star Shut Up And Dance**
     - Breeder: Denise Daniel & Amy & Rob Crowell
     - Owner: Denise Daniel & Amy Martin & David Piesz

3. **Janet Turner Dalton Memorial Trophy**
   - Awarded to the Owner of the Best of Winners winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016
   - **Denise Daniel & Amy Martin & David Piesz**
     - Owners of Star Shut Up And Dance

4. **Everett Keller Memorial Trophy**
   - Awarded to the Breeder of Winners Bitch at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016
   - **Denise Daniel & Amy Crowell & Rob Crowell**
     - Breeders of Star Shut Up And Dance

5. **David R Lincicome Trophy**
   - Awarded to the Owner of the Bred-By Exhibitor Dog class winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016
   - **Joanne & Terry Manning**
     - Owner/Breeder of O’Mannion’s Shattered

6. **Bryan E McNamara Memorial Trophy**
   - Awarded to the Owner of the Bred-By Exhibitor Bitch class winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016
   - **Meg Ryan**
     - Owner/Breeder of Lismore National Anthem

7. **Best In Specialty Show Breeder Award**
   - Awarded to the Breeder of the Best of Breed winner at the SCWTCA National Specialty October 9, 2016
   - **Jeanne Ferris**
     - Bryr Rose Wheaten Draughts
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award</th>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Breeder/Owner</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brenmoor Bred By Exhibitor Challenge Award</strong></td>
<td>Joanne Manning</td>
<td>O’Mannion Wheatens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded to the breeder who accumulates the most points from the Bred-By Exhibitor class dogs and bitches over the National Specialty Weekend.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Reserve Best In Show Award</strong></td>
<td>GCHG Bryr Rose Matisse</td>
<td>Breeder: Jeanne Ferris Owner: Ed &amp; Jan Koharik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded to the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier who wins Reserve Best In Show at least once during 2016</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Register Of Merit</strong></td>
<td>CH Stratford Top ‘O The Mornin’</td>
<td>Breeder: Molly O’Connell &amp; Monica Lamontagne Owner: Molly O’Connell &amp; Ruth Fagen &amp; Elena Landa &amp; Helen Moreland</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>To qualify as a Register of Merit: A sire must have produce 15 champions and a dam must have produced 8 champions.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Abby’s Postage Dhu O’Waterford “Casey” Award</strong></td>
<td>GCHG Bryr Rose Matisse</td>
<td>Breeder: Jeanne Ferris Owner: Ed &amp; Jan Koharik</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded to the Wheaten who defeated the most Wheatens by going Best of Breed</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Junior Showmanship Award</strong></td>
<td>Riley Capton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded to the Junior Handler who defeats the most Junior Handlers by class placements or Best Junior during the year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Obedience Dog of the Year</strong></td>
<td>Orion Trebol Hot House Flower UD PCDX BN OA AXJ CGCA</td>
<td>Owner: Amy Feldman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded to the Wheaten, owned by a SCWTCA member, with the highest average obedience score at AKC shows with a minimum of 2 qualifying scores that are averaged</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agility Dog of the Year – Masters</strong></td>
<td>CH MACH2 Aran Twisted Logic MXG MJG OF</td>
<td>Owner: Elizabeth Abate &amp; Shari Boyd-Cardusi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded to the Wheaten, owned by a SCWTCA member, with the highest MASTER agility points at AKC shows</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Agility Dog of the Year – Preferred</strong></td>
<td>MACH3 PACH Dunfrae’s Red Gate Renegade MXC MJB2 MXPB MJP3 MJPB PAX OF</td>
<td>Owner: Dina Melendez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Awarded to the Wheaten, owned by a SCWTCA member, with the highest PREFERRED Agility points at AKC shows</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Working Wheaten Standard Award (WW)</strong></td>
<td>CH Banner Sweet Talking Guy RA THDA CGC</td>
<td>Owner: Carol Carlson &amp; Pam &amp; John Mandeville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presented to a Wheaten owned by a SCWTCA member achieving titles in two different competition areas; including Barn Hunt, Dock Diving, Flyball, Nose Work, Rally &amp; Therapy</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CH Eringlo Dancing Through Life VCDI BNRA MX MXS MXJ MJG</strong></td>
<td>Owner: Cindy Jansen</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CH Katdancer Look At Me Scamper RN AX AXJ OF RATN</strong></td>
<td>Owner: Lee Martin</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CH Kaylynn Murphy’s Law Unto Himself RN AX AXJ CA RATM CGC</strong></td>
<td>Owner: Roberta Salmon &amp; Kay Baird</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GCH Orion Trebol Breaking Bad TD RN RATN</strong></td>
<td>Owner: Betsy Geertson &amp; Guillermo Rueda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GCH Orion Trebol Hot Like Me TD RN RATN</strong></td>
<td>Owner: Betsy Geertson &amp; Guillermo Rueda</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ida Sawtelle Mallory Versatility Dog Award – Excellent</strong></td>
<td>Almar’s Miss Cassandra VCD1 PCDX BN GN RE OAP OJP CGC</td>
<td>Owner: Cynthia Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award Presented to a Wheaten owned by a SCWTCA member achieving advanced titles in two different competition areas; including Conformation, Obedience, Agility, Tracking or Herding</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ida Sawtelle Mallory Versatility Dog Standard</strong></td>
<td>Almar’s Miss Cassandra VCD1 PCDX BN GN RE OAP OJP CGC</td>
<td>Owner: Cynthia Smith</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Award Presented to a Wheaten owned by a SCWTCA member achieving titles in two different competition areas; including Conformation, Obedience, Agility, Tracking or Herding</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CH Burdigan’s She’s Snow Flake NJP CGC</strong></td>
<td>Owner: Julie Burdick &amp; Melissa Spangler</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Marolow Run McClean CD AX AXJ MXP OF</strong></td>
<td>Owner: Diane Guillotte</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CH Mirikal Playing Footsie NAJ CGC</strong></td>
<td>Owner: Susan McGee</td>
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**Working Wheaten Advanced Award (WWA)**
Presented to a Wheaten owned by a SCWTCA member achieving advanced titles in two different competition areas; including Barn Hunt, Dock Diving, Flyball, Nose Work, Rally or Therapy

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**Can CH Holweit’s Red Grenadine RN THDA RATN DJ CGCA CGCU**
Owner: Dorice Stancher

Krista Earns Invitation to Compete at the AKC NADD Nationals in Orlando. At eight years young and now considered a veteran, Krista soared 10’ 6” to win the Novice Division and an invitation to the AKC North American Diving Dogs (NADD) Nationals to be held in Orlando.

This was no easy task as her competition consisted mostly of water dogs including Labrador Retrievers and Spaniels who were far larger. She and her owner, Dorice Stancher train in Lake Placid, but the real challenge is the off season when there is no water for practice.

This past Summer Krista was operated on for a benign tumor in her front paw and so they are diligently working on land exercises and physical therapy to keep her in competitive form with Dr. Robert Gillette of Sportsvet. Their land training includes lots of rear end awareness and core work along with cardio and stretching. They look forward to seeing their friends in Orlando and representing the breed.

Dorice Stancher

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**SCWTCA Rescue Family of the Year Award**
Presented to the person or family who exhibits extraordinary care, dedication, and personal sacrifice in the performance of rescue efforts on behalf of SCWTCA Rescue

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**Victor Pescatore**
Neither rain, sleet or snow will keep Victor Pescatore from transporting dogs. Victor is a vital part of the transport team and is involved with almost every transport rescue does. When he is not driving he is often monitoring the transport to make sure everything is running smoothly.

Victor has been transporting for over 10 years. When bad weather is approaching we rely on him to figure out the safest route so we can avoid problems. It is nothing for him to be on the road for 8 hours to pick up a dog being relinquished or the joyful part of bringing a dog to its new loving home. He always reports to us significant behavioral traits of dogs he transported. When he worked the third shift he had been known to drive to the meeting spot after work and sleep in his car until the transport arrived. That is dedication! He also follows up with owners to find out how dogs are doing and generally assists with home visits and picking up donations. His dependability is a trait we rely upon.

Mary Yourich

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**Wheaten Terrier Ambassador Award**
Presented to the Wheaten Terrier that has made a difference in its community. Preferably titled in one AKC performance event, the emphasis of this award is on diplomacy and community service through therapy work and/or exceptional fund-raising activities for the greater good. An added bonus is the willingness to participate in new ventures including herding-instinct testing, or outdoor sports such as skijoring or kayaking; exhibiting a zest for life.

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**Betty Jo Falkner & Max (Moonstruck Once Upon A Time)**
Max Never Tires of Making People Happy!

There were many astounding and heartwarming stories submitted by candidates for the Wheaten Ambassador Award. I wish that we could recognize all of them, for they are all stars shining in a time when we really need their light. We hope they will consider entering next year.

This year’s Wheaten Ambassador Winner is “Max” owned and trained by Betty Jo Faulkner and bred by Helen Fraguela (Moonstruck) who is a certified therapy dog with the Share-A-Pet Organization. This energetic boy visits non-stop to nursing homes, Broward General Hospital and Holy Cross hospital, participates in reading programs at two schools and visits the homeless.

His gentle ways and loving personality have also made him a favorite at the Ronald McDonald house where he visits the children and offers some Wheaten encouragement as he walks with them in the play rooms with their crutches or walkers. He quietly sits on the laps of those who have had a hard week. He also comforts the families many of whom are living with the bad news about the health of the children. As Faulkner explains, “They pour out their hearts to him and he kisses away their tears!”

We wish Betty Jo and her partner “Max” continued success and happiness on all of their future visits!

Dorice Stancher
AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award
This award honors those individuals who deserve special recognition that have made a difference in the sport of purebred dogs, embodied the AKC Code of Sportsmanship, and have been an active and valued member of an AKC member club.

Mary Yourich
Mary Yourich, words cannot describe how valuable she is to SCWTCA RESCUE. Her care and compassion for each and every wheaten in need of assistance is amazing. Through the years of being a volunteer her role has widened and now encompasses chief fundraiser, boutique organizer, reference checker and transport organizer. All of these jobs are time consuming and require patience, knowledge, and at all times following the rules of the rescue program. She does not hesitate to explain to people about puppy mills and the havoc they cause to dogs and to people. Her creativity regarding the boutique and fundraising is extraordinary and nothing makes her happier when she raises the bar on people donating to assist a wheaten needing help.

Mary truly deserves the award she received. She wears many hats and Karli and I and SCWTCA RESCUE value her willingness to always step up to the plate. She has her finger in so many important aspects of the organization that are impossible to cover and is truly an ambassador for the breed.

Mary, you are a wonderful person and an asset to SCWTCA RESCUE.

Nancy Butler

Jan Linscheid Fellowship Award
The Jan Linscheid Fellowship Award is presented when deemed appropriate to a member of SCWTCA who has made an extraordinary contribution to the club and to the breed and who epitomizes the outstanding human qualities of Jan Linscheid.

Helen Fraguela
When the SCWTCA president was looking for someone to take on the demanding role of Benchmarks Editor, he knew he need look no further than the very capable Helen Fraguela. Helen possessed both the talent and creativity to tackle this daunting role. And what a fabulous job she has done! From the outset, Helen aspired to make every issue of Benchmarks a useful publication, packed full of topics designed to revitalize Breeder Education. The feedback from both fledgling and longtime breeders is overwhelmingly positive. Another hugely popular initiative that Helen continued from Gay’s introduction in Sept 2014 was the expansion of color advertising. This feature has grown from a single centerfold spread to as many as twenty individual color ads in each issue. These ads are a reader favorite as a way of seeing dogs from across the country, and offer breeders a great opportunity to highlight their dogs to peers and judges alike. Helen generously offers her talents to design and layout these ads at zero cost to club members.

I think we can all agree Helen’s optimistic spirit, generosity and supportive attitude, and sense of humor epitomize the characteristics that the Jan Linscheid Fellowship Award represents. SCWTCA was proud to recognize Helen for this very fitting award and express our heartfelt gratitude for all she does for our membership.

Deb Van De Ven

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

Carol Carlson
Carol has served as President twice, and every other board position at least once. She took on Benchmarks, did a great job, and has been available whenever anyone needed her. She sewed a complete designer wardrobe for me to go to show at Beverly Hills in 1972 and to attend the formal dinner. Her skills extend from being a great friend to being a test cook for a famous talk show host’s cookbook. Jenny Love of Addison Mews was a product of Carol’s first litter and became the foundation bitch for Amaden.

Carol became the liaison with UoP and has maintained a close relationship with the doctors and researchers. Her leadership, along with that of Rosemary Berg, whom we honor this weekend, of the SCWT Endowment has led to great accomplishments. 20 years after the first documented case of PLN, we have a genetic marker test and within a much shorter time we hope to have the marker for PLE. The Open Registry has morphed into one of the most powerful databases available to breeders. The database was introduced in the latest Benchmarks and will be highlighted in articles to come. While she has served in every capacity, Carol has been the backbone of health research.

Emily Holden
Once again, the place to be to see Wheatens having lots of fun was at Palmyra, Pa. We had Wheatens competing in Barn Hunt, Obedience, Rally, Agility and CAT, so yes, they can do it all. Last year Ashley Ambrose, one of our newer Club members, kept track of the results. She couldn’t be there this year, so I’ll apologize in advance if I have missed anyone.

We’d love to see even more Wheatens competing next year, so start training now and mark your calendar for next October.

**BARN HUNT**

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<th>Date</th>
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<td>Turk</td>
<td>Master</td>
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<td>Star Shut Up and Dance</td>
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<td>Master</td>
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<tr>
<td>10/2/2017</td>
<td>Kaler Let’s Talk Turkey</td>
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<td>Crazy 8</td>
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<td>10/3/2017</td>
<td>Star Shut Up and Dance</td>
<td>Wren</td>
<td>Crazy 8</td>
</tr>
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**Obedience**

Pinehome Merrimoor Came To Dance - Novice B -HIT/SCWTCA Specialty - Linda Hallas

**Regular OB**

4th Pp Gchb Pinehome Merrimoor Came To Dance RN CA RATN. Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. Owner(s): LINDA HALLAS-NOV B

**Rally**

Jendu Tongue Twister - - High Combined SCWTCA SPECIALTY - Bruce/Sue Peters

1st pl EX B -AM Trial, 1st pl Ex B - PM Trial
3rd pl Adv B - AM Trial -2nd pl PM Trial

Marolou Highway - 2nd pl Adv A -AM Trial - Diane Guillotte

Barnum’s Pumpkin Pie Sage -2nd pl Nov A -AM Trial1st pl PM Trial - Maria Barnum

Barnum’s Pumpkin Pie Sage - Nov A/2nd pl AM Trial -Maria Barnum

Barnum’s Pumpkin Pie Sage - Nov A/1st pl - PM Trial - Maria Barnum

Marolou Run McClean - Nov B/1st pl - AM Trial - Diane Guillotte

Marolou Highway - Adv A/2nd pl - AM Trial - Diane Guillotte

Jendu Tongue Twister - Adv B/3rd pl - AM Trial -Bruce/Sue Peters

Jendu Tongue Twister - Adv B/2nd pl - PM Trial - Bruce/Sue Peters

Jendu Tongue Twister - EX B/1st pl - AM Trial - Bruce/Sue Peters

Jendu Tongue Twister - EX B/1st pl - PM Trial - Bruce/Sue Peters
AGILITY

Monday

Marolou Highway - EX JWW - 1st pl - Diane Guillotte
Barnum's Pumpkin Pie Sage - EX PREF JWW - 1st pl - Maria Barnum
Joy Dell's New Beginning For Macguiness - Masters JWW - 3rd pl - Lorri Ligato
Marolou Run McClean - Masters JWW/Pref - 4th pl - Diane Guillotte
Marolou Cours Izzy Cours - Nov A JWW - 1st pl - Sylvie Marchand
Chesire Heart of the King - Open - JWW - 1st pl - Lorri Ligato
Marolou Highway - EX Std - 1st pl - Diane Guillotte
Marolou Cours Izzy Cours - Nov A - Std - 1st pl Izy Marchand
Jendu Tongue Twister - Nov Pref JWW - 1st pl - Bruce & Sue Peters

Tuesday

Marolou Run McClean - 4th pl - Masters Pref - JWW - Diane Guillotte
Chesire Heart of the King - 1st pl - Open - JWW - Lorri Ligato
Marolou Highway - EX Std - 1st pl - Ex - Diane Guillotte
Marolou Run McClean - Ex - Diane Guillotte

Wednesday

Marolou Highway - 1st pl EX JWW - Diane Guillotte
GCH Orion Trebol Breaking Bad - 1st pl Nov FAST - Betsy Geertson
GCH Orion Trebol Breaking Bad - 2nd pl - Nov B JWW - Betsy Geertson
Joy Dell's New Beginning For MacGuiness - 4th pl - Masters JWW - Lorri Ligato
Marolou Run McClean - 2nd pl Masters Pref. JWW - Diane Guillotte
Joy Dell's New Beginning For MacGuiness - Masters Std - Lorri Ligato
Marolou Run McClean - 1st pl Masters Std - Diane Guillotte
Barnum's Pumpkin Pie Sage - Masters Std - 3rd pl - Maria Barnum
Jendu Tongue Twister - 1st pl - Nov Pref JWW - Bruce & Sue Peters
Jendu Tongue Twister - 2nd pl - Nov Pref FAST - Bruce & Sue Peters

Thursday

Marolou Run McClean - 3rd pl Masters JWW - Diane Guillotte
Chesire Heart of the King - 3rd pl Open JWW - Lorri Ligato
Marolou Highway - Ex Std - 1st pl - Diane Guillotte
Chesire Heart of the King - 1st pl Open Std - Lorri Ligato
OMG! I can’t remember when I have had more fun. I will forever be grateful to the membership for giving me this opportunity. I want to commend all the breeders who had a puppy participating for the marked improvements that are being made in our breed!

As I listened to my notes upon arriving home, I thought I sounded like a broken record, and that is a good thing. The consistency in the ring overall was really remarkable with noted improvements in bites and rears.

**Puppy Dog Class Winners**

6-9 mos: Orla Donegal Bay owned by Ava and Laura Leise; bred by Nancy Draper and Janet Snoddy.

This puppy was a nice square boy wearing a pretty coat and had a lovely rear.

9-12 mos: Clover’s Moonstruck Admiral Halsey owned by Morgan Glasspool and Liz Jamiolkowski; bred by Helen Fraguela and Liz Jamiolkowski.

I really liked the coat on this youngster, and he was very square.

12-15 mos: Keepsake’s Wave Ryder owned and bred by Shari and Sydney Robinson.

Once again, a square entry with good leg under him and very good rear. This boy, too, had a beautiful coat.

15-18 mos: Bradberry’s Regent Street London owned and bred by Deb Van De Ven.

This boy had a pretty coat and nice rear assembly.

**Puppy Bitch Class Winners**

6-9 mos: Star Absolute-Ly owned and bred by Denise Daniel.

This little girl was very square, balanced with a nice coat.

9-12 mos: Keepsake’s Flirt In A Skirt owned by Lana Campbell, John Slack, June Fraser and Shari Robinson; bred by Shari Robinson.

She was very square with a wide rear and a lovely coat.

12-15 mos: Reyem’s Anamcara Back To Reality owned by Meggan Abboud and Gwen Meyer; bred by Gwen Meyer.

What a quality entry. She was very square with a lot of rear and lovely tail set.

15-18 mos: Coventry Life of the Party owned by Erma and Jim Heckman; bred by Erma and Jim Heckman and Marjorie Shoemaker

Once again she was a nice square package and well conditioned.

**Best In Sweepstakes and Best Of Opposite Sex In Sweepstakes**

My BISS came from the 12-15 mos Puppy Dog Class. To be quite honest, I couldn’t find anything I didn’t like about him. He was very moderate and not only had a beautiful silhouette, but had great reach and drive and held his topline on the go-around. On Sunday I found out that he had earned three five point majors over the weekend and finished his championship!

**BEST IN SWEEPS: KEEPSAKE’S WAVE RYDER**

My BOSIS came from the 15-18 mos Puppy Bitch Class. This was a darling bitch. She, too, was very moderate, had a pretty head and very balanced. I thought she was a good match for my sweepstakes winner, and it was fun to watch her “sass” on the go-around.

**BEST OF OPPOSITE IN SWEEPS: REYEM’S ANAMCARA BACK TO REALITY**
Judging a national specialty is a tremendous honor. Judging a terrier national at the best show in the world, Montgomery County, is the ultimate honor. Thank you to all who gave this terrier snob such an honor.

About 15 days before the show I start to monitor the weather knowing full well it would change daily and often by the hour. I certainly didn’t want to judge SCWTs in the rain as I’m sure all exhibitors didn’t want to show their beloved breed in rain. I have to say we really lucked out and the bit we got was more than manageable.

Before I delve into the critique I must say what an enjoyable day I had. Each class was deep with quality which makes my job of judging so much more enjoyable. It lends itself for a judge to get down to finer points in the breed and really find exhibits that come closest to the breed standard. In general most of my entries were moderate in size and showed with confidence. I was extremely pleased to see so many with nicely placed and sized ears. Bites were good and eye color was dark. While I never bred SCWTs, I certainly owe a great deal to them, having shown and finished more than I can recall. I was so pleased after judging two roving nationals to have the opportunity to judge it at my favorite show, Montgomery.

It’s always a good sign when your very first class has quality. It’s a comfort actually and my 6-9 dog class was a perfect start. My first place puppy, Orla Donegal Bay, is a lovely balanced and a nice moderate size. He is a well moving youngster. He moved and showed extremely well. He was in fabulous condition with the proper soft silky coat. He was in good flesh and plenty of bone. Lovely dark eye, small properly placed ear and clean moderately long head. I carried him to reserve winners and I expect he will have a nice future.

The 9-12 puppy dog was, Clover’s Moonstruck Admiral Halsey, also in good flesh and nice coat. He too had a dark eye and proper coat. He moved and showed very well. I found him just a bit longer in body than the square the standard calls for.

My 12-15 class winner edged out the second place winner because of movement. Keepsake’s Wave Ryder has great type. Square, moderate, clean head and excellent silky-soft coat with the gentle wave. Lovely clean head of good length, dark eye, small ear and good bite. He moved extremely well on the down and back as well around the ring. I took him all the way to winners.

The 6-9 bitch first place winner was, Star Not Throwing Away My Shot. Lovely size and in great condition. Square in outline with nice reach of neck, good bone and body. Ideal head with a dark eye and good bite. He moved well but on the go around moved a bit high in rear.

My 6-9 bitch first place winner was Lonestar What’s Up Buttercup. She caught my eye right away and never disappointed. Proper square outline and moderate size, lovely long lean head, with dark eye, small ears. She moved and showed beautifully and was in lovely condition.

I only had one entry in the 9-12 bitch class but Keepsake’s Flirt in a Skirt was in lovely condition. She moved and showed well. She has a good bite and dark eye and a lovely coat and color. She’s a bit off square but does have a lot of quality.

My 12-15 class winner was Star Neet and I awarded her WB, BOW and BOS. This was a tremendous class full of top quality bitches. My winner is a very typey bitch with a lot of class. Good bone and proper balance, strong level topline. Lovely head, ear and eye.

The bred by bitch class was wonderful as it should be at ones’ national. My winner, Kaler Ice On Ice, also caught my eye immediately. She’s a lovely moderate size with good bone and body. Nice square outline, strong topline and high tailset. Beautiful coat and color. Very pleasing long clean head. Keen expression and properly placed ears. She quit in the winners class or she may have been my choice for WB. Awarded her RWB.

Open bitch went to, Boreal Northern Star Guinness, a bitch with incredible hard body, great bone and in excellent condition. Lovely head, eye and correct bite. Square in outline, strong level topline and good tailset. Moved around the ring with easy strides. Front movement was stronger than her rear. Beautiful gentle wavy coat of the correct texture.
I was so pleased with the quality in **breed competition**. My breed winner, CH J'adores Stanley Cup Toews at Raelyn is a lovely moderate dog with correct square outline, good bone, well-angulated at both ends, with a lovely laid back shoulder and good fill in front. Strong level topline and high set tail with correct carriage. He has a lovely long lean and clean head with dark eyes, proper ears and good strong bite. He is covered with soft silky hair that has the desired gentle wave and lovely color. His movement was outstanding with proper reach and drive, smooth, efficient, and not exaggerated ground covering gait. Proper width behind and straight column of support in front. He showed with confidence and gaiety. He did the breed proud in the group ring and came away with a third in tough competition.

**BOW/BOS** went to my WB

**Select Dog** went to CH Boreal Keepsake Immortal, another moderate dog with short back, level topline and high set tail. He’s a very classy dog that showed very well. Head, ear, eye and bite all good.

**Select bitch** was awarded to CH keepsake Timtara I’m a Rockstar. A lovely bitch of good type and fantastic coat. She had many of the same qualities as my BOS bitch but wasn’t as strong in rear movement.

**NEWS FLASH**

An amendment to Chapter 16, Section 1, of the *Rules Applying to Dog Shows* was adopted. Effective January 1, 2013, there will be a **new three-point major for the dog designated Reserve Winners Dog and Reserve Winners Bitch** at one National Specialty each year, specified by the Parent Club, provided there are at least twice the number required for a five point major in the winner’s sex.

At this show the Reserve Winners each received a 3-point major.
BOB & GROUP 3: CH J’ADORES STANLEY CUP TOEWS AT RAELYN (d)
GCH Rosheen Sufferin Succotash x GCH Raelyn J’Adore Eiffel
Owners: Kim Munson & Kimberly Wright   Breeders: Kimberly Wright & Lynn Cone

SD: CH BOREAL KEEPSAKE IMMORTAL
GCH Greentree Keepsake Tobasco Cat x Soft Dog City Inaia-Stella
Owners: Shari Robinson & Sydney Robinson   Breeders: Katia Lemay & Marc-Andre Hebert

SB: GCH KEEPSAKE TIMTARA IM A ROCKSTAR
CH Mackenme One Love One Heart x Keepsake Timtara Remember Me
Owners/Breeders: Shari Robinson & Sydney Robinson & Priscilla Tims

AOM: GCHG AINLE SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT (d)
GCH Lochlinear Gleanngoy Cha Ching x GCH Ainle Villanova Mouth Of The South CGC
Owner: Linda Robison   Breeder: Kathi Elliot

AOM: GCH CLOVER’S MR BLUE SKY (d)
CH Wheaton Rebel’s Nelson For Navy x CH Greentree Clover Ooh La La
Owners: Liz Jamiolewski & Mike Jamiolewski   Breeders: Liz Jamiolewski & Mike Jamiolewski & Beverly McDonald & Kevin McDonald

AOM: CH LISMORE ONCE IN A LIFETIME (d)
CH Tara I Get Around x GCH Lismore Catching Fire
Owners: Meg Ryan & Albert Baker Knoll & Fred Mitzner   Breeder: Meg Ryan
AOM: **GCH LISMORE McCORMACK’S DRAGON SONG (d)**  
CH Aran What Happens In Vegas x GCH Lismore The World According To Me  
Owners: Margaret A Ryan & Maureen A Long  
Breeder: Meg Ryan

AOM: **CH ACACIA ROSHEEN LIL REDRIDINGHOOD (b)**  
CH Acacia's Friar Tuck x CH Acacia Rosheen Naya  
Owners: Barbara Smith & Melisa Lopez & Gail Lopez  
Breeders: Gail Lopez & Barbara Smith & Melisa Lopez

AOM: **GCH SUNDANCE LUCKY ROVER (d)**  
CH Kincora Tara Life In The Fast Lane x Sundance Order Of The Irish Rose  
Owners: Kerrie Rousey & Susan Wuerz  
Breeders: Susan A Wuerz & Donald L Wuerz & Juliana McKamey

**Didn’t get to the show?**

“Treasure the Moments, Cherish the Memories”

with your very own  
**DVD of the 2017 National Specialty.**

This DVD set, produced by Ken Davis, makes a great show souvenir and serves as a good reference tool for evaluating each entry. Missed the show? View the DVD to capture each exciting win and see what you missed. Complete order information can be found on www.scwtca.org

Cost: $60.  
Please allow 6-8 weeks after the show for delivery.
## WEEKEND AT A GLANCE

| SHOW JUDGE | 10/5 HATBORO DC (Wrightstown PA) Judge: Jay Richardson | 10/6 HATBORO DC & DeVal SCWTC Specialty (Wrightstown PA) Judge: Edd Bivin | 10/7 DEVON DSA (Ludwigs Corner PA) Judge: Melinda Lyon | 10/8 SCWTCA NATL SPECIALTY MCKC (Blue Bell PA) Judges: Sweeps, Jinx Moore Breed, Peggy Beisel-McIlwaine |
|---|---|---|---|
| WD | Keepsake's Wave Rider | Keepsake's Wave Ryder | Rioga Hakuna Moscato | Keepsake's Wave Ryder |
| RWD | Whindancer Too Cool To Be Forgotten | Rioga Hakuna Moscato | Bradberry's Raspberry Beret | Orla Donegal Bay |
| WB | Boreal Northern Star | Burdigan's Sunshine And Lollipops | Moxxy Shandalee Don't Stop | Star Neet |
| RWB | Burdigan's Sunshine And Lollipops | O'Mannion's Melody | Escapade By the light of The Moon | Kaler Ice On Ice |
| BOB | GCH Adako Little Red Robin Hood (d) | CH O'Mannion's Shattered (d) | GCH Lovesong's Tailor Made To Dance (d) | CH J’Adores Stanley Cup Toews at Raelyn (d) And a GROUP 3 under Judge John Reeve-Newsom |
| BOW | Keepsake’s Wave Rider | Keepsake's Wave Ryder | Rioga Hakuna Moscato | Star Neet |
| BOS | GCH Keepsake Timtara Im A Rockstar | GCHB Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go | GCHB Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go | Star Neet |
| SD | GCHG Ainle Something To Talk About | CH J’Adores Stanley Cup Toews at Raelyn | GCH Bryr Rose Matisse | CH Boreal Keepsake Immortal |
| SB | GCHB Reyem’s If She Hollers Let Her Go | GCH Diamonds Swing of Delight | GCHB Banrions Bibbidi Bobbidi Boo | GCH Keepsake Timtara Im A Rockstar |
| AOM | GCHP Bryr Rose Matisse (d) | GCHG Sundance Second Chance (d) | GCHG Ainle Something To Talk About (d) | GCHG Ainle Something To Talk About (d) |
| | GCH Diamonds Swing Of Delight (b) | GCHP Bryr Rose Matisse (d) | GCH Sundance’s Lucky Rover (d) | GCH Sundance’s Lucky Rover (d) |
| | GCHG Lismore McCormack’s Dragon Song (d) | AOM - GCH Culieann Dirty Laundry (b) | CH Acacia Rosheen Lil Redridinghood (b) | CH Acacia Rosheen Lil Redridinghood (b) |
| | | GCHL Lismore McCormack’s Dragon Song (d) | GCH Clove’s Mr Blue Sky (d) | GCH Clove’s Mr Blue Sky (d) |
| | | | GCHG Lismore McCormack’s Dragon Song (d) | GCHG Lismore McCormack’s Dragon Song (d) |
| | | | | Best Sweeps - Keepsake’s Wave Ryder (d) |
| | | | | BOS Sweeps - Reyem’s Anamacara Back to Reality (b) |

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**SWEEPS 10/7/17 (Saturday)**

Judge: Jinx Moore
Benchmarks Subscription Rates

SCWTCA members USA $25/year
Canada and overseas $35/year
Non-SCWTCA members USA $35/year
Non-SCWTCA members Canada and overseas $45/year
US funds only

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

Articles and letters closing date for March 2018 issue: Feb 1

Advertising Rates

Full Page/B&W in print, color on-line: $50
Inside Covers or inside single/color: $75
Center fold 2 page spread/color: $200
Page size is 8.5 x 11 inches

Ads may be sent via email attachments, photos 300 dpi (300 kb), jpeg format. Original photos sent to Editor, will be returned. No commercial advertising. Only photos with un-retouched dogs accepted. Limit health references to hip and eyes and/or "health testing current and shared upon request". Ads accepted from club members only, limited to two pages per issue. ONLY CLUB MEMBERS’ CHECKS ACCEPTED for ads of co-owned/bred dogs.

Ad closing date for March issue: Feb 1

Send advertising to Helen Fraguela, at fraguela@aol.com or via mail to 8681 Waterview Terrace, Parkland, FL 33076. If sent by overnight service, sign “signature waiver” (so driver will leave package). If you have copy and photos submitted by due date, draft layouts will be provided for edits. Include email address for quick turnaround. Payment sent to the editor, payable to SCWTCA.

Birthdays/Celebrating Long Life:
Submit to editor by closing date

Benchmarks Editors:
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Non-members</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>$9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>$5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pet Grooming Pamphlet</td>
<td>$4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Illustrated Standard</td>
<td>$12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Super-Saver Pak</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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