Summer fun has just begun!
Millie goes to the garden
The world belongs to...

Thank You Judge Mr Sidney Marx for this Reserve Best In Show!

#1 WHEATEN BITCH • BREED & ALL-BREED

Millie

GCHS HARBOUR HILL ONE IN A MILLION

Owned by Susan Sakauye & Lauren Smith
Bred by Susan Sakauye
Team Bode would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy summer. We hope to see you all soon.
Owned by: Beverly & Kevin McDonald, Jill Miller
Presented and Conditioned by: Sydney Robinson
HAPPY 13TH BIRTHDAY
GOLD GCH, CDN CH, SHO-WELL’S BREE’S BOY TOY
BENTLEY

WHERE HAVE ALL THE YEARS GONE?

Ainle Wheatens
Kathi Elliot  kelliotus2002@gmail.com
LET'S GO CRAZY
AND
PARTY LIKE ITS 1920!

“THE ROARING 20s”

SCWTC A

SAVE THE DATE: OCTOBER 10, 2021
WE’LL HAVE A ROARING GOOD TIME!
MORE TIME TO SHOP FOR OUR FLAPPERS
AND PRACTICE THE CHARLESTON.
STAY HEALTHY AND SAFE.
Exeter Is Celebrating...

LITTERMATES

Exeter’s It All Happens for a Reason RATN

“Tory”

Won her RATN in three trials. Earning a second place Q then two high in class Qs; one in 12.93 seconds.

Exeter’s I Hope You Dance CGC, BCAT TKN

“Ennis”

Tied for 10th place AKC Owner/Handler as of 3-22-20

Co-owned by Julia Callaghan, Cyndi Stokvis & Gwen Meyer

Bred by: Gwen Meyer & Cyndi Stokvis

GCHG Sundance’s Lucky Rover (Bowie) X CH Reyem’s Diamonds and Gold at Exeter (Haley)
AND A NEW CHAMPION

CH Whindancer’s 
Sweet Emotion
at Exeter

“Tyler”

Earned her CH at 11 months of age at the Columbus OH Cluster

New CH
Lima KC
Judge: Ms. Kathi Brown

W/BOW/BOS
Dayton KC
Judge: Mr. Geir Flyckt-Pedersen

SELECT
Central Ohio KC
Judge: Mr. David J. Kirkland

BOB
Minneapolis KC 11-23
Judge: Mr. Andrew Kramer

BOB
Minneapolis KC 11-24
Judge: Mrs. Rosalind Kramer

Tyler will be bred later this year

CH Whindancer’s Heart Like A Wheel (Jackson) x CH Whindancer When My Heart Comes Home (Zoe)

Special thanks to Kent and Gwen Meyers for their wonderful care, conditioning and handling.

Cyndi Stokvis
CStokvis@outlook.com

Bred by: Susan Ratcliffe, Art Miller & Abby Kochan
Owned by: Susie Ratcliffe & Cyndi Stokvis
CH SALTNSEA JUST AN ILLUSION

CH Andover All Done With Mirrors (Copperfield) X CH Saltnsea Suzi's Sunmeadow (Sunny)

This youngster earned his CH with 4 majors, all at specialties!

- WD Greater Denver Specialty Weekend
- WD/BOW Palm Springs Specialty Weekend
- WD Great Western Specialty
- WD SCWTCA Roving Specialty

REILLY

Thank you to Shari Boyd for her expert handling and presentation

Owned by: Sandi Larsen and Susan Jacobsen
Bred by: Susan Jacobsen, Sandi Larsen & Eric Taylor
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Summer fun has just begun!
FROM THE PRESIDENT

It has been an extraordinary spring for us all. After our two-day meeting in February, the Board has resumed its monthly meetings via Zoom. Like so many of you, we have adjusted to the online meetings, and it is good to be able to see each other’s faces when we talk. After weeks of discussion, the Board voted to cancel the 2020 National Specialty. The greatest consideration was given to the health and safety of our members as well as other exhibitors. Once the AKC issued its Best Practices, we saw how difficult, if not impossible, it would be to have both social events that we all cherish, as well as the logistics of grooming while maintaining social distancing, observing ringside with the same limitations and, getting in and out of the ring safely.

Another significant consideration was the difficult position our Coordinators, Barb Smith and Janet Snoddy, were in. Normally most of the specialty planning would be complete and the mailer ready to go in June. Because of the uncertainty of having the show, many plans had been put on hold. We give huge thanks to Barb and Janet for their patience and expect that they will make the 2021 National Specialty an especially happy and meaningful one. Once Montgomery County Kennel Club lost its venue, the uncertainty of even having a show site weighed heavily on our decision. As I am sure you know by now, MCKC has canceled its 2020 Terrier Specialty as has Hatboro.

The Board immediately notified our 2020 judges. Clay Coady has opted to be eligible to judge at our National Specialty 2023 and beyond and is on the current ballot. He is already committed to judge at MCKC in 2021. Sweeps judge Gwen Meyer has withdrawn her name as she will be licensed to judge Wheatens in the near future.

Serious negotiations with the Doubletree Hotel have been ongoing. We are relieved to announce that the hotel decided to waive the cancellation fee for our contracted rooms and events.

Because there were few dog shows this year, we have postponed indefinitely the planned Top Twenty competition. Once dogs are back in the ring and standings are compiled, we will revisit this exciting event.

Currently the Board is considering options for the Annual Meeting. Details will be coming in the next few months. I will keep you informed via Updates and Discuss when plans are finalized.

After compiling an inventory of all the items we have for sale, from the boutique and other fundraising items, we created a Fundraising Committee. Taking the burden of fundraising from the National Specialty coordinators relieves them of a difficult job. The new committee will have stronger inventory control and continuing promotion of past items so that we do not have a back stock that remains unsold. In addition, we will be able to coordinate fundraising efforts among SCWTCA committees. Kent Meyer has agreed to chair the Fundraising Committee. We hope to open the online Boutique soon and will inform you when that happens.

In an effort to facilitate the work of Rescue, I have been appointed liaison to that group. Currently we are working on updating and enhancing Rescue Policy, Procedures, Guidelines and Liability Waiver.

On the health front, SCWTCA has joined with the Endowment and the GRF to donate $15,000 to Dr. Gary Johnson at the University of Missouri. The Club and the GRF each donated $3,000 from their Donor-Advised Funds and because it is an AKC-CHF grant, those amounts were matched for a total of $12,000. The Endowment donated an additional $3,000. These funds will go toward his research on Degenerative Myelopathy, hereditary disease that has shown some prevalence in our breed. The funds go toward Grant #02800, “Defining the Effect of Genotype, Breed and Age of the Risk of Developing Canine Degenerative Myelopathy and investigating the Molecular Mechanisms Underlying That Risk.”

I would like to thank every Board member for each one’s continued diligence as we navigate uncharted waters, hoping to do the absolute best for our club members.

MOLLY O’CONNELL
President, SCWTCA, Inc.
Stratford Wheatens
FROM THE EDITOR

Given the tremendous amount of difficulty we all have experienced over the last five months, it has not been an easy job to put together an issue that is relevant.

I need to thank the SCWTCA members who contributed articles. The focus of this issue is more on the performance aspect of our Breed than conformation.

We are very fortunate to have club members who not only compete in conformation but also performance events and are willing to share their experiences in regards to both training and competing.

I need to thank Marcy Kraus, Susie Blackledge, Dorice Stancher, Cynthia Hollis, Sally Sotirovich and Sue Peters for their offering to write about different events they compete in with their Wheatens. I am envious of what they have accomplished.

Thanks to both Karla Baer Cohen and Ann Leigh for their sharing a snapshot of the Southern California Specialty Show and the SCWTCA National Roving. As always thank you also needs to be offered to Laura Vincent Virant for sharing photos from the weekend so that we can all feel like we were there at least in spirit.

We are not just a pretty breed but one that can compete in a variety of arenas. It is a shame if we don’t allow our dogs to be all that they can be.

This issue is also taking a look at the new AKC guidelines for best practices at dog shows going forward as well as breeding a litter during COVID-19. Thank you to both Kathi Elliot and Molly O’Connell for contributing this information.

As always a thank you needs to go to Pam Mandeville for her thought-provoking Devil’s Advocate column and to Helen Fraguela not only for designing the cover but also for the ads in this issue. Helen has tremendous talent that more people should take advantage of as she does it out of love for the breed and not financial gain.

Going forward it is important that more club members offer up topics of interest or be willing to write an article. As a club we have many talented members but most remain silent. Please don’t be shy. You may just have an experience or knowledge that others could benefit from. Our breed has been recognized since 1973 and we are so fortunate to have many of the early members still with us. Let’s take advantage of their experience in both breeding and showing. Offer up a topic and I will find members to respond and share their knowledge.

One of the most important lessons I learned in my 20 years in Wheatens is to befriend as many breeders as possible and there is no such thing as a stupid question. Ask away and you will find that most people are willing to share their knowledge. They too were once new and had to rely upon others more experienced, sometimes in other breeds, to learn about our dogs, both genotype and phenotype.

While we will not be meeting this year at MCKC, that should not hold us back from continuing to expand what we know as breeders and exhibitors. Every litter offers us a chance to grow our repertoire. Each chance we have to spend time with our foundation breeders is something that money can’t buy. Don’t be shy, I bet you will be hard pressed to be turned down for asking questions. I consider myself to be very fortunate as I have had the opportunity to spend time with breeders like Jackie Gottlieb, Gay Dunlap, Kathy McIndoe, Beverly McDonald, Kathy Clarke and Shari Boyd. They have so much to offer, ask and you might just be surprised.

Last, I owe a thank you to all of my proofreaders - Helen Fraguela, Gay Dunlap, Molly O’Connell and Ann McCormick.

Stay safe and healthy and hopefully we will have dog shows again in the near future. I am looking forward to input for future issues of Benchmarks.

Holly Craig
Benchmarks Editor
Double Vision

SCWTCSC Specialty in conjunction with Great Western Terrier Association and the SCWTCA National Roving Specialty
February 28th, 29th and March 1, 2020
Pomona, CA

You didn’t have to put your glasses on to see just how special our weekend was this year! Four shows in three days, the SCWTCA Roving Specialty held with the Kennel Club of Beverly Hills, the SCWTSC Specialty in conjunction with Great Western Terrier Association, beautiful Wheatens, smiling faces, friends, helping hands, incredible dinner and fabulous raffle. It was a sight to behold.

Our decoration committee outdid themselves this year. Laura Vincent Virant designed a Wheaten eye chart to combine with Darci Olson’s art work that was the center of attention on our trophy table along with two arrangements of bright yellow flowers. Laura even made a tablecloth for the trophy table with six Wheatens appliquéd on the front hem. Joan Johnson and Carolyn Filing made bookmarks with the theme artwork that were handed out to exhibitors and our Wheaten Fancy.

For the SCWTCSC Specialty on Friday, Merrilee Ford created her hand-thrown plates which she decorated with her trademark Wheatens - this year wearing spectacles, following our theme. Our second show on Friday was a supported entry with acrylic engraved key fobs.

The trophies from SCWTCA for Saturday’s Roving were an incredible assortment of metal awards from Wendell August Forge embellished with a Wheaten head by Darci Olson.

The dinner was held at the Pomona Mining Company, high on a hill overlooking the valley. The view out the window was spectacular but the decorations inside the room, courtesy of Paula Radin, rivaled the view! They were so festive and fun. Bright floral tablecloths covered the tables, topped with beautiful flowers, with bees and Wheatens tucked within the blossoms. A life sized topiary Wheaten with a butterfly just about to land on his nose greeted each guest as they picked up their themed place card. Each guest took home a metal Wheaten plant pick.

Our raffle was a labor of love for Chairs, Laura Vincent Virant and Allison Van Wig. We offered a Gift Card Tree valued at over $1000, a Scratcher Lottery Tree, a metal bowing Wheaten, an incredibly detailed Wheaten Family Scene Shadow Box hand crafted and donated by Michelle Toland, a fabulous Wheaten Christmas tree skirt and of course completed by a red fire hydrant!

Each day Paula and her volunteers spread out morning and afternoon hospitality for our Wheaten people. On Saturday in honor of the Roving she had sandwiches and a Wheaten cupcake cake that spelled out SCWTCA. One of our visitors from Italy, Guillio, brought a delicious cheese and a chocolate cake to share with the group.

Each year when organizing our specialty, our club focuses on the past, the present and the future.

The past is the foundation of our breed. We celebrate the people and the Wheatens that created history so many years ago. We also celebrate our Specialty history.
The present is the joy of the moment, your bundle of fur, a ribbon, and friendship at the show site.

Most importantly we look to the future. The future is sweepstakes, competition, rescue, volunteers and health cures. The future is in our hands. We must nurture and encourage it with friendship, determination and perseverance...the very essence of a terrier.

We would like to thank all those who helped this year:
Our faithful and wonderful Ring Stewards - Lynn Aquirre & Wilma Johnson
Judges: Christine Erickson, SCWTCA Roving
Molly O’Connell, Roving Sweepstakes
Joe Walton, SCWTCSC Specialty,
Carol Scott, SCWTCS Sweepstakes
SCWTCA President, Molly O’Connell and Board Members
SCWTCA Dinner - Paula Radin
SCWTCA Liaison - Cecily Jones Skinner
Hospitality - Paula Radin
Decorations -Joan Johnson, Carolyn Filing & Laura Vincent Virant
Raffle - Allison Van Wig & Laura Vincent Virant
Advertising - Kay Baird
Treasurer - Jackie Whitham
Trophies - Sue Banas
Trophy Creation - Merrillee Ford
Specialty Art Work - Darci Olson
Soft Goods - Debbie Bowen
Postcard Graphics - Debbie Bowen
Mailing and Printing - Allison Van Wig
Reservations - Miriam Kahan
The girls who manned the tables - Laura Vincent Virant, Allison Van Wig, Debbie Bowen & Jennifer Olsen
Anna Marzolino - Ringside Reporter and Cheering Section

Thank you to those who helped out so that we could show, those that exhibited, those that donated, and those that cheered us on...it was a wonderful, joyous three-day celebration of Wheatens because of you.

Ann Leigh, SCWTCA Roving Specialty Chair
Karla Baer Cohen - SCWTCSC Specialty Chair & the entire SCWTCSC membership.
SOFT COATED WHEATEN TERRIER CLUB OF SOUTHERN CA SPECIALTY SHOW
GREAT WESTERN TERRIER ASSOCIATION #1
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28
BREED - MR. JOE C. WALTON
SWEETS - MRS. CAROL L. SCOTT

GREAT WESTERN TERRIER ASSOCIATION #2
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 28
BREED - MR. RICHARD LOPASCHUK

KENNEL CLUB OF BEVERLY HILLS
THE SCWTCA NATIONAL ROVING SPECIALTY
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29
BREED - MS. CHRISTINE ERICKSON
SWEETS - MS. MOLLY O'CONNELL

KENNEL CLUB OF BEVERLY HILLS
SUNDAY, MARCH 1
BREED - MRS. SUE-ELLYN REMPEL

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**RESULTS FROM THE SCWTSCS SPECIALTY AND SCWTCA NATIONAL ROVING SHOWS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Best in Sweepstakes</th>
<th>Best Opposite Sex Sweepstakes</th>
<th>Best of Breed</th>
<th>Best Opposite Sex</th>
<th>Select Dog</th>
<th>Select Bitch</th>
<th>Best of Winners</th>
<th>Winners Dog</th>
<th>Reserve Winners Dog</th>
<th>Winners Bitch</th>
<th>Reserve Winners Bitch</th>
<th>Award of Merit</th>
<th>Award of Merit</th>
<th>Award of Merit</th>
<th>Award of Merit</th>
<th>Terrier Group</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>LOCHLINEAR HEAD OF THE CLASS (D - 6-9)</td>
<td>HEIRLOOM ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY ADDIE TKI (B - 9-12)</td>
<td>GCHS DOUBLOON'S EXTREME GAMER (D)</td>
<td>GCHB LOCHLINEAR THIS GIRL IS ON FIRE (B)</td>
<td>GCHS KOLOHE IT'S RAINING SUNSHINE</td>
<td>GCH HARBOUR HILL ONE IN A MILLION (B)</td>
<td>LOCHLINEAR HEAD OF THE CLASS (D)</td>
<td>LOCHLINEAR HEAD OF THE CLASS (D - 6-9)</td>
<td>SALTNSEA JUST AN ILLUSION</td>
<td>KOLEHO BONNEY SHINING LEGACY (B - 12-18)</td>
<td>LOCHLINEAR HEAD OVER HEELS (B - 6-9)</td>
<td>GCHB BENDAUGHT BELIEVE IN MAGIC</td>
<td>GCH HARBOUR HILL ONE IN A MILLION (B)</td>
<td>LOCHLINEAR HEAD OF THE CLASS (D)</td>
<td>SALTNSEA JUST AN ILLUSION</td>
<td>SALTNSEA JUST AN ILLUSION</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
First, I would like to thank the SCWTCSC for asking me to judge their annual Specialty held in conjunction with the Great Western Terrier Association of Southern California. The entry of 28 was fairly uniform.

Size and proportions (silhouette) were generally correct with only one or two being too long in body. Heads - most of the heads were the correct rectangular shape with correct parallel plains, 50 - 50 proportions giving the "impression" of being longer in muzzle. Practically all had correct small, triangular shaped ears, and most importantly set correctly and breaking level with the skull. Eye color was not a problem. Coats - there were a number of coats that were the correct (single coat, soft and silky) texture. Most of the coats were of correct length, and there was not too much trimming. Attitude - very good overall, with only one exhibit exhibiting shyness, and none exhibiting any hint of being overly aggressive. Movement - was average. As always, my main concern with movement was (as with many breeds) front movement. This has been a weak point in this breed for a long time.

The WD was from the 6 to 9 puppy class and was a nicely balanced, and promising example. I hope that his tail carriage (not set) improves as he matures. Perhaps because he was excited to be there, his tail was carried a bit too gaily.

The WB, from the 12 to 18 class was nicely balanced, in good coat, nice head with correct ear set. Her tail also was set correctly but carried a bit too gaily.

The BOB class was uniform for the most part. The BOB dog is an excellent example of the breed. There is very little to criticize about him - correct silhouette, very correct coat showing the correct gently wave, sheen, and warm wheaten color, and beautiful head,. He is a sound, strong mover. When I brought out several males to spar, he stood up on his toes, arched his neck and said to the other boys that "I am here guys" without showing any sign of being overly aggressive. My select dog would have been my breed dog in the absence of the winner. In particular, he has a very nice coat. BOS bitch was a lovely bitch proper in most respects. The select bitch, and the AOM's were all good examples of the breed. It was nice to see the Veteran bitch who was also an AOM.

It was a pleasure to judge this nice entry, and again I would like to thank the club for the invitation.
SCWTSC SPECIALTY PHOTOS FEBRUARY 28, 2020

BEST OF BREED AND GROUP 1
GCHS Doubloon’s Extreme Gamer (D)
Breeder and Owner: Elena Landa

BEST IN SWEEPSTAKES
Lochlinear Head Of The Class (D, 6-9)
Breeder: Pat Mullin
Owners: Breeder and Ann Neumann

BEST OF WINNERS & WINNERS DOG
Lochlinear Head Of The Class (6-9)
Breeder: Pat Mullin
Owner: Breeder and Ann Neumann

SELECT DOG
GCHS Kolohe It’s Raining Sunshine
Breeders: M Brown, S Amorosia & G Amorosia
Owner: Paula Radin

BEST OPPOSITE SWEEPSTAKES
Heirloom Anything But Ordinary Addie TKI (B, 9-12)
Breeder: H. Reuben, M. Rosenbaum, P. Chevalier & R. Bergman
Owners: P. Chevalier & R. Bergman

BEST OPPOSITE SEX (B)
GCHB Lochlinear This Girl Is On Fire
Breeder And Owner: Pat Mullin
It was an honor to chair the National Roving Specialty on February 29, 2020 in conjunction with GWTA, SCWTCSC and KCBH. A beautiful lineup of SCWT judged by Christine Erickson for Breed and Molly O’Connell for Sweepstakes.

The winners were presented with gorgeous Wendell August trophies. Congratulations to all the winners! Elena Landa and Mister reigned supreme winning.

BOB every day and two G1 and a G4 placements.

It was wonderful to see our SCWTCA Board members ringside many of whom attended the lovely dinner organized by Paula Radin, kudos to her. Grateful thanks to all the SCWTCSC members who helped to make the Roving a huge success.

Ann Leigh, Chairperson
SCWTCA NATIONAL ROVING SPECIALTY SWEEPSTAKES
FEBRUARY 29, 2020

JUDGE MOLLY O’CONNELL

Thank you to the SCWTCA, Inc. membership who chose me to judge the 2020 National Roving Sweepstakes in Southern California. Unfortunately, the entry was only two dogs, so my ring time was short but sweet.

The two dogs presented turned out to be littermates! No one could lose in that scenario. Both puppies had correct spring of rib and depth of chest as well as properly shaped heads. The puppy dog, Lochlinear Head of the Class, was Best of Opposite Sex. My Best in Sweeps, Lochlinear Head Over Heels, was the bitch puppy who sported a lovely, abundant puppy coat. Her most remarkable feature is a spot-on tail set with great butt behind. And as her call name reflects, I was Smitten!

SCWTCA NATIONAL ROVING SPECIALTY
FEBRUARY 29, 2020

JUDGE CHRISTINE ERICKSON

I want to thank the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America and host venue show Kennel Club of Beverly Hills for inviting me to judge our lovely breed.

I would like to start my comments with the specials class and what stood out. I was very pleased when I asked the specials to come out three at a time. I told them where I would like them to stand and to let the dogs look at each other. All the dogs and bitches did exactly that with not a single one showing fear or acting unruly. It was an excellent opportunity for me to walk around each dog while they were “on their toes.” It was a beautiful sight, one that I will remember, and our breeders should feel proud of this. My breed dog owned the ring the entire time, never tiring and he looked fabulous every time my eye scanned the ring. He has a lovely rectangular head, a strong muzzle, with good fill under his brow, slightly almond-shaped eye.

Overall my BOB, BOS, Selects, and AOMs were sound, had good toplines with short strong backs. I found their beautiful coats were trimmed to what I consider an appropriate length.

An Anne Rodgers Clark quote pops into my mind frequently while judging: “Type first then soundness,” meaning it MUST look like a Wheaten first and foremost. Then it must be sound. From there, you move on to determine individual strengths; e.g., head, eye, ears, coat etc., etc., etc.

Although it was a small entry, I was happy with it. I want to thank all the exhibitors for showing and demonstrating such good sportsmanship. It was a pleasure.
SCWTCA NATIONAL ROVING SPECIALTY PHOTOS
FEBRUARY 29, 2020

BEST IN SWEEPSTAKES (B)
LOCHLINEAR HEAD OVER HEELS (6-9)
BREEDER & OWNER: PAT MULLIN

BEST OF OPPOSITE SWEEPSTAKES (D)
LOCHLINEAR HEAD OF THE CLASS (6-9)
BREEDER: PAT MULLIN
OWNERS: BREEDER & ANN NEUMANN

BEST OF BREED & G4 (D)
GCHS DOUBLON'S EXTREME GAMER
BREEDER & OWNER: ELENA LANDA

BEST OF WINNERS & WINNERS BITCH (12-18)
KOLOHE BONNEY SHINING LEGACY
BREEDERS: MARY BROWN & JON CALIRI
OWNER: BONITA F. SNYDER

SELECT DOG
GCHB BENDACHT BELIEVE IN MAGIC
BREEDERS: MICHAEL DECARLO & MARY JO CARR
OWNER: MARY JO CARR

WINNERS DOG (12-18)
SALTNSEA JUST AN ILLUSION
BREEDERS: SUSAN JACOBSEN, SANDI LARSEN & ERIC TAYLOR
OWNERS: SANDI LARSEN & SUSAN JACOBSEN

RESERVE WINNERS DOG (6-9)
LOCHLINEAR HEAD OF THE CLASS
BREEDER: PAT MULLIN
OWNERS: BREEDER & ANN NEUMANN

AWARD OF MERIT
GCHB LOCHLINEAR THIS GIRL IS ON FIRE (B)
BREEDER & OWNER: PAT MULLIN
AWARD OF MERIT
HEIRLOOM ANYTHING BUT ORDINARY ADDIE TKI (B)
BREEDERS & OWNERS: PATRICE CHEVALIER & ROBERT BERGMAN

VETERAN BITCH & BEST VETERAN
CH TARA GOOD VIBRATIONS FOR CLADDAGH
BREEDER: CECILY SKINNER
OWNERS: BREEDER & KARLA BAER COHEN
HAPPY BIRTHDAY SENIORS!!!

“Brogan”
CH Sundance’s Keepsake South of the Border
Timtara’s Talk of the Town x CH Canopy Road’s Erin Barkovich
DOB: May 10, 2007

It all began in January 2012 when we were blessed to add Brogan to our family. He was definitely a gift from heaven. My mom passed away on her birthday and that year it was also Mother’s Day. Brogan has the same birthday as my mom.

Brogan is the sweetest, most sensitive, most loving, and calmest Wheaten. He and Hannah became best buds. When we moved to South Carolina I knew I wanted to get involved with volunteer work to include Brogan. We went through basic obedience. He earned his CGC (again) and his CGCA. Having completed these, we then took the therapy test, and proudly we are now members of the Alliance of Therapy Dogs Organization.

Every day is better because I always have Brogan’s smiling face and wiggly butt to wake me. After all, I wouldn’t share my bed with just anyone! Love you Brogan with all my heart and soul and pray that we have many more years together.

Jo Ann Budraitis

“Piper”
Raelyn Frequent Flyer
CH Katdancer Irish Rebel x CH Raelyn All That Jazz
DOB: March 26, 2006

Piper was from my last litter born in Florida before I moved to South Carolina and took a litter of 4 week old puppies with me. One of the families getting a girl flew their private plane from Florida to pick her up. Mary and Kevin named her Piper.

Mary learned to groom Piper. Piper was shown for a bit but preferred to be the official greeter in their insurance office. Piper welcomes all customers and they look forward to seeing her. When the Feusers got another puppy from me 2 years ago, it took a while for Piper to warm up to Skye but they are now wonderful friends.

Mary does a great job of grooming both Wheatens and has become a wonderful trainer as well. Piper is a very special little girl, and I am so proud of this wonderful home.

Lynn Cone, Raelyn Wheatens
Mary & Kevin Feuser
“Barley”
Hollywood’s Barley
CH Hollywood’s Malachy McCourt x Hollywood’s Blonde Ambition
DOB: April 19, 2004

Hi Cynthia, I just wanted to send you this email to let you know that Barley is doing well at 16!! I have attached a few pictures and a recent video of her driving in the convertible. Barley is a special dog and a wonderful part of our family!!! Hope all is well with you

Renee & Steven Weiskopf

“ChaCha”
Hollywood’s Dancing With The Stars
Irish Creme Midnight Blues x Hollywood’s Never on Sunday
DOB: November 7, 2006

“ChaCha” loved the shows, but she loved being a mother most of all. She gave me two lovely champions who are now 10 years old. Her recent blood work was all normal, and she can still jump into the upper kennel and take 3 steps in a single leap. Forever the Matriarch, she will soon put a stop to having “too much fun.” Oddly, ChaCha is not a kisser, but enjoys giving a long and gentle hug to everyone. Old dogs are the best.

Breeder and Owner: Cynthia Hollis
Hollywood Wheatens
CELEBRATING LONG LIFE

“WINSTON”
Hollywood’s Winston Sir Pritchett
May 16, 2005 - March 20, 2020
CH Hollywood’s Dagwood Bumstead CD RAE NA NAJ x
Hollywood’s Venus in Blue Jeans
Breeder: Cynthia Hollis, Hollywood Wheatens
Owners: The Pritchett Family

Winston came into our family in 2005, when we drove from Texas to Tennessee to choose a pup from Cynthia Hollis at Hollywood Wheatens. Winston had the best personality and loved being in the middle of everything. His quirkiness gave us so many laughs and wonderful memories and he did a great job training all of us.

I started a business in 2008 when Winston was about three and he came to work with me every day for 12 years. He would greet the customers when they came in the door and sit with them as they waited for their floral arrangement to go. If we were running late for work in the morning, Winston would bark and run to the door over and over again until we loaded up in the car. He would greet each employee as they came in to work every morning and around 5:00 each afternoon, he would start telling everyone good-bye.

When we went on vacation, the person staying with Winston at the house would continue to take Winston to work each day so he could stay in his routine. And of course when we came back home from our trip, he would be so excited at first to see us, but then he would go sit across the room with his back to us acting like he was so hurt. All it took was a big hug and a treat for him to forgive us.

Winston loved all celebrations, birthdays, Christmas or anytime there were presents. He would get really close to the person opening their gift and of course he would have to check out the present to see what it was. He loved going to the spa for his bath and would jump for joy doing pirouettes in the air when it was time to go. The evenings were special as that was his time to get close to each family member and “let us” rub his belly.

As our mascot at Lilium, everyone knew and loved Winston. He went everywhere with us, everyone loved him and he will be greatly missed by our customers, our friends, our employees and most of all, his family.

RIP Winston...you are forever in our hearts.

The Pritchett Family
CELEBRATING LONG LIFE CONTINUED

“EINSTEIN”
Hollywood’s Einstein
May 8, 2020 - January 9, 2018
CH Hollywood’s Run For The Rodeo CD x CH Hollywood’s Give Me Liberty CD
Breeder: Cynthia Hollis, Hollywood Wheatens
Owners: The Katseff Family

16 years ago we were so lucky to meet Cynthia Hollis of Hollywood Wheatens. We visited Cynthia's farm and fell in love with the breed. A few months later we got Einstein, a male Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier, who stayed in our family for 15 years and 8 months! A long and healthy life! Every day was filled with so much love and laughter.

Wheatens are the sweetest dogs ever from the daily Wheaten greetin' to running around in happy circles to all of the loving kisses.

Einstein was the greatest gift to our family. We got him when our boys were 5 and 7 so we shared a lifetime together. He was great with kids and all of the other dogs in the neighborhood.

I started a Wheaten day in Nashville where all of the Wheatens I met along the way would come to a park and share stories of our babies. We loved him and he was loved by everyone who met him.

Our family was so honored to get one of Cynthia’s wonderful Wheatens. We were so happy that we hope to have another one in our family soon.

“MURPHY”
Hollywood’s Murphy McCord
November 3, 2001 To January 29, 2018
Irish Creme Midnight Blues x CH Hollywood’s Bonnie Blue Butler CD
Breeder: Cynthia Hollis, Hollywood Wheatens
Owners: The McCord Family

Murphy was born on November 3, 2001 to Bonnie and Charlie of Hollywood Wheatens in Tennessee. A few months later his new dad arrived to take him home to Jupiter, FL. The day that Murphy walked through the gate at his new home is known as the happiest day of our lives. It was most definitely love at first sight. Murphy attended Puppy Kindergarten where he learned basic manners, how to run through a tunnel and how to play like a champ. At his first Obedience Class he was known as the “party dog” because he was full of exuberant energy and had a zest for life. As he matured he went on to become a Canine Good Citizen followed by a Certified Therapy Dog from the Delta Society Therapy Dogs. His calm and gentle demeanor gave comfort to all that he met.

When Murphy was 3 we opened a dog daycare center and pet boarding business so that we could bring him to work. At daycare Murphy played with hundreds of different dogs. Murphy loved the other dogs and would play until he was exhausted.

When Murphy was 9 we made the 2,500 mile journey to Palm Springs. We then moved to AZ and then NV before the 2,500 mile trip back to FL.

Murphy didn’t like moving and especially the moving boxes but he was a champ throughout the journey.

Murphy was skilled at catching banana slices from 8 feet away, rolling his way across the front yard, sleeping upside down, walking on his hind legs for his liver treats and being the best friend anyone could ever have.

Losing him in January of 2018 at the age 16 was the worst day of our lives. But we are comforted knowing that Murphy lived a full and joyful life here on Earth. Murphy was truly one of a kind. We miss you everyday sweet angel, more than you will ever know.
So...what's new with you?

By now, we want to slap anyone asking that. In our heads, our response is “NOTHING!! When the *&^% are we getting back to normal???” But we all know “normal” is gone.

What have these last few months taught us? We discovered the dog show calendar we knew by heart is not inviolate. A few days before the show, long marked for Sprite’s puppy debut, the cluster was canceled. The DelVal specialty weekend, including my terrier club’s big 25th show celebration, followed suit. All the specialties and much-loved shows went, including our own National. As of this writing, Montgomery is searching for a new site with many skeptical they’ll find one.

We learned many people in dogs don’t know how the sport works. Initially, some folks whined about not getting entry fees returned. I listened for about a week and then let loose with a “you’re not getting your money back so grow up” social media rant… which to my astonishment was not only 98% positively received by hundreds of people I don’t know and went semi-viral.

The next series of complaints were why wasn’t AKC refunding fees/forcing clubs to refund fees/canceling shows/rescheduling shows along with whining about clubs canceling months in advance.

The sad conclusion: many dog people think shows magically happen for their personal pleasure. They either don’t know or don’t care to learn about Volunteers, expenses and planning. It’s time to learn…and for clubs to teach them. A step to reverse this situation: at minimum, club members should have access to an understandable balance sheet as well as a blueprint for putting on every event.

Alternatively, let’s get AKC to make a new rule: after you put your 2nd title on a dog, you cannot get any more until you have joined a club and submitted a letter from the chair of an event you worked on. You wanna get, you gotta give.

Those who didn’t know it already learned how precarious the life of professional handlers can be.

Overnight, they lost their income. Some longer tenured, better established ones had side businesses…if they could stay open…or some savings. Others, especially those just starting out, found out what it means to be a sole proprietor in an industry fueled by others’ discretionary income.

My hat is off to those who used this time to share their knowledge with the fancy. They went online to demonstrate grooming, evaluate puppies and discuss breeds they knew well. There were online dog shows and grooming competitions. Some requested donations to organizations. These supplemented other established online programs, with AKC-CHF’s webinars leading the pack. Anyone with down time during the shutdown could grow their canine knowledge.

Now I’m going to say some nice things about AKC, shocking many. They didn’t exactly hit the ground running…sounds of crickets emanated from NYC and Raleigh for too long and the handling of the layoffs was exceptionally pathetic, matched only by a member club stating it was none of our business.

Then AKC started showing something long lacking: thought and imagination and concern for the sport and its participants. Online content about the pandemic to help owners and breeders. Reasonable decisions to help event-giving clubs adjust. A “virtual” Rally Novice title…to which I fully intend to subject Berry. Guidelines for events as they start up again. While leadership may remain overpaid and clueless, staff has stepped up.

We learned dogs are the answer to pandemic blues. No surprise here but others looked around and decided the time was right for a new puppy. OMG did they ever! For the last 2 months, I received 30 to 50 puppy inquiries every single week…about 4 times the average. (I track these things.) Since I regularly lecture others on promptly responding, it’s only fair I admit to trouble keeping up. This overwhelming interest was met with a paucity of available puppies. With the various shut down restrictions, some breeders decided to wait…and those with litters worked through a much different experience in whelping, raising and placing puppies.

I’ve been lucky be able to work from home. When we “return to the workplace, “it will be very different. When dog events resume, they’ll be changed, too.
As much as we want to get back to showing and breeding “normally,” the overarching lesson we need to internalize is this: it’s a hobby. Dog events are the very definition of “nonessential” to the rest of the world. We must never, ever forget it, and we must all lose the attitude of privilege permeating so much of what we do and say.

My crystal ball is as cloudy as yours but here it what I do foresee:

There will be 2 to 5 years of changes. Just as we cannot go back to restaurants, concerts and malls overnight, we’re not going back to crowded grooming areas and 1,000 dog shows soon.

Reduced travel means smaller events, probably helpful for amateurs. Some professionals may need to rethink their careers; perhaps there will be a consolidation back to fewer, more seasoned pros with apprentices staying longer. Difficult changes but not necessarily the worst thing.

National specialties must be rethought...including ours. This year, in lieu of our National, SCWTCA will have a supported entry, IF MCKC goes on.. Likely the right decision but the Board has not been adequately forthcoming with the information supporting it. Club members are entitled to it and transparency is in the Club’s best interest. More importantly, SCWTCA should take this opportunity to decide what sort of a specialty we should have going forward; assuming we will automatically return next year to the annual extravaganza is foolhardy.

The masses wanting puppies is good news...if we don’t screw it up. Serious potential owners will wait, providing a pool of good homes. But taking advantage of a favorable supply and demand imbalance by overcharging, being arrogant, making unreasonable demands, cutting corners or ignoring people will drive them directly into the hands of the “ADOPT DON’T SHOP” crowd! That doesn’t mean lower our standards, it means being ethical in our dealings.

We have good reason to hate that we need to change. We also have no choice. Let’s take the pandemic lessons and create a good new dog world.

Pam Mandeville
Banner Wheatens

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2018 Yearbook is NOW available!

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ANOTHER CHANCE AT THE GOOD LIFE - SCWTCA RESCUE

Meet Hogan - A Senior Rescue
Owned by Mari & David Phipps

May 29, 2020 marks three years since Hogan passed away at 13.5. We were lucky enough to get Hogan from SCWTCA Rescue when he was 11. When he first arrived, he would try to run out of any open door. We believed he was trying get back to his original home. I can’t describe the feeling the day we realized he no longer wanted to escape.

Hogan was sweet, and funny, and very determined. He loved to sit on laps and be cuddled, he loved food, he loved to go out for walks, and he loved the beach. If he was caught doing something naughty (like the day he stole my husband’s sandwich off the plate) he would freeze as if he thought that if he didn’t move, we couldn’t see him.

This is one of my favorite photos of Hogan because it captures the joy he took in life. Don’t be afraid to take in a senior, they have so much to give. We miss you, Hogan.”

Meet Meggie - A Detroit Street Dog
Owned by the McGaheys

Meggie came into Rescue May of 2011, she was found by Animal Control wandering the streets of Detroit. With the help of Jacki Stein I picked her up to foster. She was matted to the skin, so my husband shaved her down. She almost stayed here, as I became so attached to her. Meggie is now a senior and has been living a wonderful life in AZ with the McGaheys.

Foster Mom - Mary Yourich
COVID-19 AND AKC DOG SHOW BEST PRACTICES

It has been three months since most of us have been staying home and social distancing. For all our essential worker members we extend a BIG thank you for all you do. I think it is safe to say we are missing our dog shows. So many are disappointed that the promising puppy that we wanted to have in the ring this spring is still sitting at home. Then there is the social aspect of dog shows; we are missing our friends and wondering when things will get back to normal. It doesn’t matter whether we participate in conformation or performance activities we all wonder what the future will bring and most importantly - when.

The American Kennel Club recently published “Best Practices” for when we do return to dog shows. You can find these for all dog sports on its website, and our AKC Delegate, Bob Bergman also posted this information on Discuss. The following are the Best Practices for Conformation taken from the AKC document dated May 12, 2020. They are lengthy and give us food for thought regarding what dog shows will look like in the foreseeable future.

AKC Suggested Best Practices for the Well-Being of Dog Sport Participants

General Practices

Clubs, officials and participants are required to follow state, local and facility guidelines that apply to the area and site where the event is held.

Practice social distancing consistent with guidelines in effect at the time of the event. Avoid congregating to the extent possible.

Consider wearing masks when in close proximity to others. Clubs should provide masks if desired for officials, judges and volunteers.

Consider wearing disposable or washable gloves.

Wash hands as frequently as possible. Have disinfecting spray at bathroom facilities for people to spray door handles (or anything else they touch). Consider hiring bathroom attendants to maintain maximum cleanliness.

If you utilize portable toilets, please ask for a hand washing station(s) to be delivered as well.

Avoid shaking hands, hugging, or other physical contact.

Avoid touching dogs that are not your responsibility.

Avoid common use pens/pencils - bring your own.

Disinfect surfaces in common use areas as often as possible (tables, chairs, doorknobs, etc.) Clubs and facilities may consider not providing chairs.

Meals - Avoid or stagger group lunches/dinners if possible. Hospitality areas should avoid community items such as salt and pepper shakers, condiments, creamers, etc. Participants should consider bringing their own lunch/drinks.

Vendors should follow retail guidelines for the area.

Parking - Park with sufficient distance between vehicles if possible. If there is a parking fee, ask exhibitors to bring exact change.

Indoor show sites should work with facilities to have as many entrance/exits points open as possible. Hand sanitizer should be available at every entrance to the site and at multiple locations within the site.

Parking/unloading staff should wear masks and sanitize their hands following the assistance of each individual.

Event Practices

Opening Date - In order to provide clubs flexibility during times of uncertainty, clubs may specify a date in the premium when entries will start to be accepted. The “opening date” should be selected to allow time for mailed entries.

Site Set-up

The size and layout of a site will determine the opportunities available to clubs.

Separate the rings if possible, otherwise set-up buffers within rings along adjoining sides to provide separation.

If individual rings are not possible, avoid placing gates, stewards and judges’ tables next to those in neighboring rings.

Consider two gates per ring, one for dogs entering and one for dogs exiting.

Stewards should be responsible for finding the dog in the catalog if the exhibitor does not know the armband number and for handing out armbands. Stewards
should not hand their catalog to exhibitors for review.

Stewards should sanitize their hands frequently and consider wearing a face mask and gloves.

For outdoor shows consider marking off areas near the rings for exhibitors to set-up personal pop-up tents. This can also be done for areas near the buildings holding indoor events.

Create a ready ring area outside the show ring for exhibitors showing the breed being judged.

Clubs should consider not providing chairs. Private chairs should not be placed in higher traffic areas.

Scheduling

With the efforts to make shows safer, the event may take longer. Modified scheduling may assist with congestion and provide a better experience for exhibitors. If using a superintendent, work with them to create a schedule that assists with the situation.

Consider published judging segments shorter than one hour.

If possible, schedule groups to start following the completion of the respective breeds. This allows exhibitors the option to leave for the day.

As per AKC rules, Groups and Best in Show are optional for group and all-breed shows. Some shows may consider implementing entry limits.

Exhibitors

Prepare to be self-sufficient: bring sanitizer, bring a generator for electricity, and bring personal use masks.

Know the armband numbers for your entries before going to the ring.

Do not congregate at the ring or ring gate.

While showing your dog, maintain social distances with other exhibitors.

Grooming

Recommend grooming beside the exhibitor’s vehicle including the use of pop-up tents should weather conditions warrant.

Design the layout of grooming areas and spaces to comply with the social distancing guidelines in place at the time. Marking off individual grooming spaces is encouraged.

Prohibit the use of forced air dryers in indoor grooming areas.

Judging

Is where the ability to socially distance becomes challenging. Taking care to protect the parties will require a concerted effort between the judge, steward, and exhibitors.

Judges should consider wearing face masks if otherwise not required.

All classes should be called in catalog order to provide order and efficiency.

Judges must practice ring awareness, be conscious of spacing, and take appropriate measures to avoid crowding of exhibitors.

Judges are to have the exhibitor display the oral exam and may personally examine the mouth only if absolutely necessary. By the nature of the procedure, judges must conduct thumb exams.

Judges should sanitize hands after examining each entry. Re-examining of dogs should be minimized.

Judges are encouraged to personally pull ribbons for placements. Coupled with frequent hand sanitizing, this will help mitigate contact exposure.

Equipment used to measure and/or weigh dogs must be sanitized before and after each use.

Clubs should consider providing boxed lunches for judges and volunteers.

Photographers should consider using a process where a photo of the judge is added to the photo of the dog.

Consider taking photos of each judge in the morning as though they were standing for an award photo.

Take win photos without judges.

Digitally insert the judge with the wins to finalize the photo.

Consider not using trophy presenters.
Breeding During Covid-19

English Setter fanciers recently heard the news that our 2020 National Specialty, scheduled for September in Virginia, was being canceled. I know that many of you are in the same boat, with nationals, regional specialties, and shows canceled in the coming months. It is a sad time for dog shows - and a difficult time for club boards - as these decisions are announced. Health considerations and finances are making it tough for many clubs to reach any other conclusion, though we wish the best for all of the clubs that are going ahead with their shows. While the shows might not go on for us right now, one thing that absolutely must continue during the coronavirus outbreak is dog breeding. We can wait for dog shows to resume, probably next year, but losing a year in a breeding program is something that's harder to recover. Dogs have a short time to reproduce. If you're waiting to put a championship on your dog and you lose a year because of the coronavirus, you have lost a year in the prime of your dog's reproductive life.

That doesn't mean that it's always easy to breed a dog at the moment. Some breeders and owners do report difficulties in scheduling health tests for their dogs at this time but others have been able to have testing done as usual. It can depend on where you live and each state's individual restrictions. Veterinary services have been considered “essential” in most, if not all states. Likewise, the AKC was successful in having other pet services such as pet food and supplies, and pet care and kennels declared “essential” in most places. However, individuals can still experience difficulties when it comes to breeding a dog just because of delays and the sometimes unavoidable effects of the pandemic.

In an informal survey of breeders, several vet techs reported that the veterinary practices where they worked were open and following social distancing recommendations. They were performing all of their usual services. Owners could come and drop off their dogs but they were not allowed to enter the building. A tech or vet would come outside to get the dog. This was true even for a reproductive hospital that was open for all reproduction needs. One vet tech reported that business was slow for reproduction right now. One owner did report that her dog's appointment for eye testing had been canceled. And another owner stated that her dog would not do well with x-rays if she had to drop him off at the vet's office and leave him so she was delaying his hip and elbow x-rays.

Kathi Elliot
Ainle Wheatensets
(Thank you to Kathi Elliot for the introduction to this article and compiling the recommended guidelines from the AKC website.)

Event Application Late Fees

Event application late fees are waived through the end of October. This provides clubs more flexibility in planning or rescheduling their events.

For events canceled in 2020, the AKC will apply Event Application fees to the club’s next event of the same type.

Assignment Conflicts for Conformation Judges - The 30 days/200-mile conflict distance policy for assignments has been suspended for shows held in 2020.

The same day exhibiting restriction for judges assigned only NOHS Groups and/or NOHS BIS has been waived for shows held in 2020. This will provide clubs greater flexibility and more options in the panel assignments.

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On the other hand, one breeder in California reported that a friend had just had a dog impregnated through AI with shipped semen and was planning on a C-section so, clearly, some reproductive practices are moving right along. Other breeders reported that they had to wait for OFA to complete DNA tests but this problem should be clearing up. The Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA), which registers health test results for so many breeds, had been experiencing Covid 19-related delays. It now has this message posted on its web site: ***OFA Operations Update *** The Missouri State and City of Columbia non-essential business closure orders have been lifted as of May 3rd. Beginning on Monday, May 4th, the OFA returned to normal operations. Your patience while we’ve adjusted our business processes to the challenges of the last few weeks have been greatly appreciated.

Breeders that BAER test puppies also reported some unusual difficulties. If you’re not familiar with BAER testing, puppies in a litter typically have their hearing tested between 5 weeks and 12 weeks of age (before they go to a new home). The testing involves using tiny electrodes and a special computer to read the puppy’s hearing responses. This is specialized testing and breeders have to take their puppies to testing sites with trained testers to have it done. One breeder reported that she couldn’t get her litter tested at one university but she was able to find another tester. Another breeder reported that she had to wait outside with the puppies while the testing vet made trip after trip to the vehicle to get each puppy to test and bring it back. She wasn’t allowed to go inside the clinic. Several other breeders who currently have puppies from recent litters said that their only problems have been trying to get the puppies to their new homes. For reasons related to Covid-19, air travel for pets is very limited - or next to impossible - at this time.

Many people are unwilling to risk air travel at all for health reasons. If you have puppies or you are thinking of breeding a litter, you will probably need to think about ground transportation for the next few months. The worst story came from a breeder who had recently moved and had a bitch due to whelp. Because of the pandemic, the breeder had trouble finding a veterinarian well-versed in using ultrasound equipment. The bitch had previously required a C-section but the new veterinarian seemed reluctant to believe she might need one again. When the bitch went into labor and appeared to need a C-section, the breeder had to drop her off at the door to the practice and wait outside. The bitch produced a big, healthy puppy and all turned out well, but if you are a breeder, you know how nerve-wracking this experience had to be. This is the down side that you might be facing if you decide to breed this year. But there is an upside. If you have any doubt about the current demand for dogs and puppies, there has been a steady stream of news stories coming out about empty shelters. Lots of people adopted or fostered dogs from shelters and rescues during the shelter-in-place orders which speaks to the tremendous demand for dogs right now. The supply chain of “meat dogs” and strays from other countries has also, at least temporarily, been cut off due to the pandemic. This means that Americans are getting American dogs. The American Kennel Club also reported in the April 23 board minutes that they have been experiencing a spike in registrations due to Covid 19, though it could be temporary. Their projection was that litter registrations would be up 14 percent in April and individual dogs registered would be up 19 percent. AKC reported to delegates this month that April month-to-date Online Dog Reg volume is currently +40% over same period last year; and April month-to-date Online Litter Reg volume is currently +30% over same period last year.

Of course, these numbers may drop as people start to go back to work, though as of right now it’s not at all clear how soon some people may return to work, at least in some states and some professions. Some have also speculated that the shutdown may bring some permanent changes in our economy, with more people working from home.

Whatever the case, we need to ensure the future safety of our dog breeds. A few generations ago, many breeds in Europe and Asia were nearly wiped out because of world wars. Their populations dwindled to a few survivors or virtually disappeared. It has taken decades to revive some breeds and some breeds were, indeed, lost.

While Covid-19 might not be on the same level of disaster as a world war, it has interrupted our way of life, health, employment, income, our ability to travel, and all of the things we normally take for granted. It’s certainly interrupted activities like showing dogs. We can’t allow it to reduce the numbers of our purebred dogs - especially for the breeds that already have low numbers.

If you were planning to breed a litter this year and your finances allow it, this is still a good time to
breed. This is especially true if you’re at home more than usual and you have time to raise a litter. Don’t be put off by the cancellation of dog shows. People are still looking for purebred puppies. If you were waiting to finish a dog before breeding, consider breeding your dog now instead. Adapt to the current conditions. Many people are already saying that they regret not breeding their bitch earlier this year. Dog shows will return and we need to have plenty of young dogs to show when they do. We need to make sure that our breeds are in good shape for next year.

Article contributed by
*Molly O’Connell*
Stratford Wheatens

Written by Carlotta Cooper

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**CALL FOR PHOTOS**

**It’s time for the 2021 Calendar.**

**We need your photos by July 30**

**Please use these guidelines:**

- Photos must be high resolution
- Maximum of 5 photos per person
- No files or link to files
- We prefer photos to display dogs in a traditional Wheaten trim and no people in photo
- Send them to Dana Barton or Catherine Perron at jenduscwt@aol.com

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SCWTCA ENDOWMENT, INC. SUPPORTING WHEATEN
HEALTH, RESEARCH AND EDUCATION
WE PUT YOUR DONATIONS TO WORK TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF WHEATEN TERRIERS WORLDWIDE

2001 SCWTCA Endowment established.

Ongoing Fecal API Kit Program: Distribution points set throughout the US & Canada.

SCWTCA, Inc. Approved, Funded by SCWTCA Endowment

2003, 2004 Colony Dog Adopt a Colony Dog Fundraiser established. Coordinated fundraising campaign to individual sponsors and regional clubs for each colony dog living at NCSU. SCWTCA, Inc. Approved Funded by SCWTCA Endowment Colony Dog expenses incurred by SCWTCA Endowment $13,300

2006 AKC/CHF: Genetic Determinants of Malignant Melanoma (Dr. Kent UC Davis), 2006 $1,000 Approved by SCWTCA, Inc. Funded by SCWTCA Endowment

2006 4th Annual CHF Canine Health Conference- Chicago, Il. $5,000 attendees Elaine Azerolo and Susan McGee SCWTCA, Inc. Approved Funded by the SCWTCA Endowment

2007 & 2008 University of Missouri Canine Phenome Project 2007 - The purpose of the Canine Phenome Project is to establish a DNA bank with supporting data for use by researchers to identify the genes responsible for canine diseases and other characteristics. Includes Siblings Pair Study -Dr. Gary Johnson SCWTCA, Inc. Approved Funded by SCWTCA Endowment $35,200 includes blood draw clinics and SNIP.

2012 Informative Family Project, Geriatric Dog Project contributing to 1485: Study of PLE/PLN (Protein-losing Enteropathy/Nephropathy) in Soft-Coated Wheaten Terriers University of PA, Dr. Meryl Littman - $9,000 Pelletizing DNA for Penn DNA Bank. Biopsies, shipping of samples, summer students, genetic testing DNA collection kits, AKC report fees for Penn on registration numbers, histopathology, testing expense and freezer expense. Summer students also helped with the Open Registry, with the collection of DNA samples, and acquiring medical records for phenotypic information for dogs with PLE/PLN, IBD, Addison’s Disease, and Renal Dysplasia.

After years of research supported by hundreds of Wheatens and their owners and breeders, Dr. Meryl Littman and Dr. Paula Henthorn at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine (Penn Vet) identified mutations associated with PLN in two genes. A simple cheek swab test to determine an individual dog’s DNA status was introduced to Wheaten owners in May 2012. SCWTCA, Inc. Approved Funded by SCWTCA Endowment $38,800

2008 Rabies Challenge Charity Trust $500 SCWTCA, Inc. Approved funded by SCWTCA Endowment

2008 AKC CHF Conference - Jana Carraway SCWTCA Approved, Funded by SCWTCA Endowment $200

2012 Student Researcher Professional Development Award - Claire Wiley - Grant $560 SCWTCA Approved, Funded by SCWTCA Endowment

University of Pennsylvania offers a DNA test for PLN Associated Variant Alleles. By May of 2012 we had distributed 2,750 DNA test kits in support of DNA testing for PLN-associated variant alleles at the University of Pennsylvania. By early September 2012, Dr. Littman advised us that they had received approximately 1,000 samples with the help of the Endowment, GRF and SCWTCA, Inc.

2013 TUFTS University Breeding & Genetics Conference - Deb Van De Ven $235 SCWTCA Approved, funded by SCWTCA Endowment

2013 Purchase of Database and maintenance:
After a number of years of development, the SCWTCA Endowment, Inc. is excited to announce the launch the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Database at http://www.scwtdb.org. $7,600

2014 Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania SCWT Histopathology & Testing Expense $5,000

Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania (Purchase of a new freezer to store SCWT NNA Samples $9,142.)

2016 University of Pennsylvania, Paula Henthorn Protein Losing Enteropathy Research, $9,000 Pilot

2018 AKC CHF Grant 2519: Prevalence of Bartonella spp. Infection in Dogs with Cardiac and Splenic Hemangiosarcomas within and between Geographic Locations, Edward B Breitschwerdt, DVM; Matthew Breen, PhD; North Carolina State University SCWTCA, Inc. $2,500 funded by the SCWTCA Endowment.

2019 Genome-Wide Association Studies (GWAS) using SNP chips Protein Losing Enteropathy - University of Pennsylvania, Paula Henthorn $7,750

2019 Genetic Testing for PLN-Associated Variant Genes Follow Up Survey University of Pennsylvania, Paula Henthorn, Mariah Gentry $5,000

2020 AKC CHF Grant: 02800: Defining the Effect of Genotype, Breed and Age on the Risk of Developing Canine Degenerative Myelopathy and Investigating the Molecular Mechanisms Underlying That Risk $3,000
WHEATEN HEALTH NEWS
Presented by: Susan Ratcliffe, WHNL Editor

Penn Adds New Combo Tests For Degenerative Myelopathy (DM) and Microphthalmia

We are happy to announce that the PennGen Laboratories, at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, are now offering genetic testing for Microphthalmia and Degenerative Myelopathy in Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers (and we can use your DNA samples already in our lab!)

Paula Henthorn, Ph.D.

PRICING: (new submission refers to newly submitted blood or cheek brush sample)

Individual tests
PLN - PLN Associated Variant Genes (we test for the variants in both the NPHS1 and KIRREL2 genes)
$100 for new submissions
Microphthalmia RP4 variant
$65 for new submissions
$55 if DNA is already available at PennGen
Degenerative Myelopathy SOD1 variant—only available in conjunction with another test (see below)
$50 if DNA already available at PennGen

Combinations
$140 for ALL three (PLN, Microphthalmia, DM) together on new submission ($75 savings)
$120 for PLN and Microphthalmia submitted together on new submissions ($45 savings)
$105 for PLN and Degenerative Myelopathy submitted together on new submissions ($45 savings)
$90 for Microphthalmia and Degenerative Myelopathy on DNA already at PennGen ($15 savings)

Litter Rate
PLN test only—$60 per littermate puppy under four months of age when three or more are submitted together
All three tests—$120 per littermate puppy under four months of age when three or more are submitted together

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: (please read through to the end before you begin the process)

1. Before ordering tests:
   a) Please go to https://www.vet.upenn.edu/penngen for instructions on sample collection, where to order your DNA swabs, and how to ship. Briefly, you can purchase swabs online from DNAkit.eu or ezswabs.com. Please order brushes, not swabs, and buy enough for two brushes/dog.
   b) If there is already DNA at PennGen for your dog because the dog was previously tested for PLN, we can use that DNA to perform additional tests, and you will not need to send in blood or cheek brushes. The first step is to go back to your records and find the PLN test number. This will be either the 5-digit PennGen submission number, or a submission ID that has the letter W followed by four digits (Wxxxx) that was initially used when results were reported by email (before Sept. of 2015). If you cannot find the old email or that number, we will need enough information to correctly identify the dog. This may be more difficult if the dog was tested as part of a litter. Useful information includes: Dog’s names (litter name, call name, registered name - whatever you were likely to have put on the submission form), date of birth, sex, registration number if you have it, parents’ names if the dog was tested as part of a litter, your name or name of co-owner who may have submitted the test. You will need this identification information as you create the submission on the PennGen website.
2. Create a submission on the PennGen website. Your starting point in this process may vary for your situation. You may need to begin at a different point (a, b or c below):

a) If you have never used the PennGen online submission system, you will need to create an account. Go to the University of Pennsylvania testing site at https://www.vet.upenn.edu/research/academic-departments/clinical-sciences/advanced-medicine/research-labs-centers/penngen/penngen-test. Find and click the "Log In" button to get into the "Sample Submission Application." This will take you to a page that lets you either log in, create an account, or reset a forgotten password (hint: retrieving your password requires that you remember what email address you used when creating the account). Click "Create an Account" and follow the directions to do so. Then proceed to step 2 to enter information about the dog you want to test (aka Create Animal Record).

b) If you already have a PennGen account but want to test a dog that was first tested under the old system (Wxxxx number, paper submission, email results), you will need to "Create Animal Record" for that dog. Provide the information requested, some of which is required. Note that identification information that you provide will appear on the test results report (although the parents information does not). Once you have successfully created an animal record, you can go to the next step.

c) If you want to order a test(s) for a dog that is already in the PennGen Submission Application, create a submission (for a dog that was previously tested for PLN, or for a dog that you have just entered into the system) by going to your home page and click on the name of the dog you wish to test. Once the dog’s information comes up, make note of his/her PLN test submission number (if it has already been performed). You will need this information as part of the submission.

Click on the words at the bottom "Create A Submission."

This brings up a drop-down menu between the bottom two dark bars named "Test Type." Click on the arrow to see the possible tests for Wheaters. There are three possible DNA tests: Microphthalmia (MO SCWT), PLN-Associated Variant Genes, and Degenerative Myelopathy. Only the prices for the tests ordered individually are shown here. The discounted prices do not appear within the PennGen Sample Submission application. We will apply discounts for multiple test combinations and for testing DNA already available at PennGen (shown above) before you are billed. If you think we made a mistake, please let us know BEFORE you pay the bill online.

Click on the test you want (you can only click on one at a time, as you will see below). For each test, you must select a reason for testing. If you think you may have an affected, select affected. If it’s for breeding, select breeding, etc.

You must also enter the type of sample that was collected (blood or cheek brush).

Where it asks for date of collection and submission, just use the current date, or a guess at the date you will collect and submit.

**IMPORTANT:** If this is a submission for tests that will use DNA from a previously submitted sample, put the PennGen or Wxxxx test ID# number from the previous PLN test in the "Comment/Clinical Signs" box.

This will help us to find the DNA from the previous test and recognize that we need to apply the discount for already available DNA to the charges.

Click the Create Test Request button. At this point: if you want to order an additional DNA test for this dog, click the button for "Add another test request to this submission." It will take you back to Request a New Test page where you can add another test and repeat again if you have a third test.

Click the button for "Mark the submission as Complete" which will take you to the final page. Print the submission form, sign it, and send it in by mail (with blood or cheek brush sample as appropriate). Please be sure to read the information about shipping to PennGen on the website, and use the address indicated on the form you just printed.

**IMPORTANT:** If this is a submission for tests that will use DNA from a previously submitted sample, we won’t start the testing process until we receive the paper copy of the submission form.
Penn explanation of PLN test

Paula Henthorn, Ph.D.

Testing for variant alleles associated with a risk for PLN ("DNA test") was initially developed at Penn based on Drs. Littman and Henthorn's research. That research showed that a DNA variant occurred in each of two genes, NPHS1 and KIRREL2. These genes are positioned next to each other on dog chromosome 1. The presence of these two variants on both copies of chromosome 1 indicated significantly increased risk for developing PLN (protein-losing nephropathy). In all Wheatens examined in the research study, these genes always showed the same patterns...

all dogs that were 1-1 for NPHS1 were also 1-1 for KIRREL2 (both copies each gene normal).
all dogs that were 1-2 for NPHS1 were also 1-2 for KIRREL2 (heterozygous for both genes).
all dogs that were 2-2 for NPHS1 were also 2-2 for KIRREL2 (both copies of each gene are variant).

In other words, the normal versions of these two genes were always inherited together, and the variant versions to these genes were always inherited together. Because of this, it is not known with 100% certainty which gene variant puts a dog at high risk for developing PLN, or whether or not they both act together (although, based on what is known about those two genes and proteins they encode, it is thought that NPHS1 is more likely).

Among the well over 4,000 Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier samples that Penn has analyzed since the test was introduced in 2012, there have been three (3) Wheaten Terriers with results in which both genes had different genotypes (for example 1-1 for NPHS1 and 1-2 for KIRREL2). In these cases, Penn reports the results more specifically, and discusses the ramifications of these results with the dog's owner.

Penn's DNA testing continues to test both genes for two reasons. It is not 100% certain which of the two gene variants is most important in the PLN disease process. Running two tests for each sample increases the quality control in the testing process. The websites of some commercial labs indicate that they only test for one of the genes, usually NPHS1.

Microphthalmia in SCWT: Information to Help You Make Breeding Decisions

Paula Henthorn, Ph.D.

*The following information specifically concerns microphthalmia in Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers (SCWT) and is summarized from an impressive collaborative publication (Kaukonen et al. 2018 Cell Reports 23(9):2643-2652) from the laboratories of Dr. Hannes Lohi (Department of Veterinary Biosciences, University of Helsinki, Finland) and Dr. Tom Glaser (School of Medicine, University of California, Davis).

What is microphthalmia? The term microphthalmia (Greek for small eye) refers to a condition in which one or both eyes are smaller than normal. In dogs, small eyes are seen that appear to be sunken into the eye socket. The third eyelid may be more visible than usual because the eye isn't large enough to hold it in place. Individuals with microphthalmia (humans and dogs, as well as other species) typically have various structural malformations of the eye globe (the medical term for eyeball). The lens and the cornea may be cloudy or opaque and the anterior chamber (front of the eye globe) as well as the retina (inside interior surface of the back of the eye globe) may have structural defects. Affected dogs are often clumsy,
may have difficulty with coordination, behavior abnormalities, somnolence and partial or complete vision loss. Microphthalmia develops before birth, and therefore is referred to as a congenital disease. It can occur alone or as part of a syndrome (a disease that affects multiple different organs).

**What research in SCWT lead to the DNA test?** (This is description of the research. If you are not as interested in the actual experiments, skip to the “Considerations for genetic testing” below).

The research into microphthalmia in SCWT began in 2011 when unusually small eyes were observed in three puppies from a litter of six. Three additional litters containing puppies with small eyes were eventually identified. These litters were born to three different dams and four different sires in three countries in Europe. All parents were related within an extended pedigree. In addition to microphthalmia, these puppies had gap and incomplete development of the critical tissue layers in the back of the inside of the eye globe that are responsible for vision (referred to in the paper as choroidal hypoplasia and retinal coloboma).

Eye exams (before 10 weeks of age) revealed that affected dogs had microphthalmia of both eyes in addition to eye malformations, except for one puppy that had only the eye malformations but not microphthalmia. A whole genome association study (GWAS, a standard genetic approach analyzing thousands of DNA variations across all chromosomes) was performed, using DNA from 17 affected and 12 normal puppies (confirmed with eye exams). This study identified a specific region on dog chromosome 28 where the gene involved in this disease was located. The next step was to sequence the genome (of an affected dog and compare it to the genome sequences of 340 dogs of multiple breeds. Genomes refer to all the DNA that makes up the chromosomes). This was the most efficient method to find the specific DNA change in the region on chromosome 28 that was both unique to the SCWT with microphthalmia and that also caused a change in a protein involved in eye development. This step was successful and identified a small deletion in a gene, called RBP4, that had both copies (homozygous) of the version of the gene with the deletion variant. (We refer to this version as allele “2” or RBP2del and the normal version of the RBP4 gene as allele “1†” RBP4+ (allele is the term geneticists use for the alternate versions of a gene that differ slightly in sequence). Therefore, 2-2 represents the genetic composition of dogs that have the RBP4del deletion allele for both copies of the RBP4 gene, dogs with one copy of the RBP4del allele are designated as 1-2, and dogs with both copies of the normal RBP4+ allele are designated 1-1.)

The next step was to examine the genetic composition of all the available dogs in the extended pedigree to determine the mode of inheritance. As expected, all 12 SCWT cases were homozygous for the RBP4del variant (2-2) and all clinically evaluated normal controls were either heterozygous (1-2) or had only the normal RBP4+ version of the gene (1-1). However, surprisingly, all three dams who produced the four litters (all three dams were normal by eye exam) were 2-2 (both copies of the RBP4del variant). Importantly, these normal 2-2 dams had mothers that were 1-2. This suggested that this was a mode of inheritance with some characteristics of a recessive mode of inheritance but that had a maternal effect. To study this unusual pattern of inheritance, the Lohi laboratory examined additional DNA samples from almost 250 SCWT, and found eight additional 2-2 dogs, homozygous for the RBP4del allele. Three of these dogs had normal eye exams, four had normal general health exams with no apparent microphthalmia, and one had defective development of the retinal area of the back of the eye (chorioretinal hypoplasia). The dams of six of the seven normal dogs were all 1-2 (DNA from the seventh dam was not available), while the dam of the dog with chorioretinal hypoplasia was 2-2. So, based on this data, microphthalmia is expressed only in 2-2 pups whose mother was also 2-2. (There is the caveat that less than 100% of this type of pup had microphthalmia, although all pups had some sort of microphthalmia related eye defect). They also performed very thorough examinations of the eyes of a number of clinically normal heterozygous carrier dogs (1-2) to determine if 1-2 dogs are at risk for vision loss. Of the 46 carriers that had eye exams, 37 of their mothers had DNA analyzed, with approximately equal numbers of 1-1, 1-2, and 2-2 mothers. None of the carriers had microphthalmia, and only two had chorioretinal hypoplasia and these were two were born to 2-2 mothers and were littermates of affected pups. Among the 248 dogs that were analyzed, the frequency of the RBP4 deletion variant was 14%. The collaborating laboratories went on to perform elegant biochemical experiments to understand the molecular effects of the deletion in the RBP4 gene, particularly in utero and with respect to vitamin A metabolism. #NOTE: the research did not include measurements of vision/ability to see. The clinical ophthalmology exams used in the research measured structural changes in the eye or other disease pathology but did not measure vision.

**Summary points and considerations for genetic testing**

- Identification of a small deletion in both copies of the RBP4 gene in dogs with microphthalmia provided the basis for a DNA-based genetic test.
- Microphthalmia is inherited in an unusual pattern [see the diagram below for specific mating outcomes].

**Puppies are affected ONLY if they have two copies of the RBP4 deletion (2-2) and their dam also has both copies of the deletion version of the RBP4 gene. This is possible only in matings between 2-2 dams bred to 1-2 or 2-2 sires.**

- If the dam only has one copy of the gene with the deletion (1-2), all puppies are expected to be normal, regardless of their individual RBP4 gene configuration (1-1, 1-2, or 2-2).
- It is possible for both male and female puppies to be 2-2 but not be affected [matings: 1-2 dams to either 1-2 or 2-2 sires].
- Matings of 1-2 dams to 1-1, 1-2, or 2-2 sires can produce healthy 2-2 offspring. The female 2-2 offspring produced will go on to produce healthy offspring if bred to 1-2 sires but can produce offspring with microphthalmia if bred to 1-2 or 2-2 sires.
- Carrier offspring (1-2) of matings between 2-2 dams and 1-2 sires may be at risk for vision loss (This mating is discouraged since it can produce 2-2 microphthalmic offspring).
- There are rare cases of 2-2 offspring of 2-2 dams that do not have microphthalmia (small eyes) but do have other eye defects.
- All breeding decisions should take into the account that recommendations are based on a study that included only 17 dogs affected with microphthalmia. Exceptions to the “rule” that this disease appears to follow may appear over time.
- The frequency of the RBP4 deletion allele in North America is not known. Of 20 random DNA samples stored and analyzed at PennGen, two were carriers (1-2). This strongly suggests that this disease-associated gene variant RBP4del is not restricted to European SCWT.
- Caution should be exercised to avoid losing variation in the breed gene pool while also avoiding microphthalmic pups. Notice in the diagram, that no matter the gene configuration (genotype) of a sire or dam, there is a possible mating that can be performed that does not produce affected offspring.

Paula Henthorn, Ph.D.
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University of Pennsylvania
School of Veterinary Medicine

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**SCWT Digestive Issues Survey WSU**

Washington State University School of Veterinary Medicine has created a survey to assess the medical phenomenon referred to as "the gulpies" within the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier community. Clinical signs of dogs experiencing the gulpies may include anxiety, spasmodic gagging, retching, gulping of air, excessive swallowing, inappropriate eating, increased salivation, etc. Owners on forums may associate these fits with gastric reflux, inflammatory bowel disease, food allergies, and/or protein-losing enteropathy. If you are unsure if your dog suffers from this condition, please watch the video below on our Youtube Channel which depicts common manifestations of this syndrome. This video is not inclusive, and we urge you to complete the survey if you feel that your dog may have this condition. This survey contains 15 questions. In order to be as complete as possible, please take this survey when you have access to information regarding your pet's food and medical history. The goal of this survey is to obtain knowledge that may help lead to an understanding of this phenomenon and how veterinarians can best treat it.

[https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8sWXdxdbZB7MVPfhcidXwAvB1CoR1CVLbhnXGtmSCapdktarUHED58f-wlbXXQt_x_TgC688yox886kw](https://wsu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_8sWXdxdbZB7MVPfhcidXwAvB1CoR1CVLbhnXGtmSCapdktarUHED58f-wlbXXQt_x_TgC688yox886kw)
Marcy And Josie’s Excellent Barn Hunt Adventure

On March 14, 2020, I celebrated the last day of our local Winter Barn Hunt League, and as I posted our photo on Facebook that day, I noted that this would likely be our last ribbon for a while. My plans for the next two weekends were already canceled. I had been eagerly anticipating an upcoming agility trial and I was looking forward to bringing our six-month old puppy to her first conformation show. Like all of my friends who participate in dog events, March was the start of a long string of canceled shows and trials, and as I write today, there is still much uncertainty about the future of our sport.

Our adventures in Barn Hunt began in 2016 after attending a local seminar, participating in some local practices, and quickly recognizing that my youngest wheaten, Josie (Marchwind The Girl of His Dreams), two years old at the time, appeared to have a strong interest in this relatively new sport. Earlier that year it had become apparent to me, that it would be hard and potentially impossible to earn her conformation title, and worse yet, it was interfering with the positive relationship I was so hoping to have with this lively busy girl who loved life in the way only our Wheatens can. At the time, I had never participated in any type of performance event, and I knew few people who did. Regardless, I attended a local seminar, and four years later, I have developed both a new appreciation for my dog’s innate ability to “untangle a scent puzzle,” as well as a deeper understanding of what it means to work with my dog as part of a team.

The purpose of Barn Hunt is to assess a dog's ability to find and indicate live contained rats in a “barn-like” setting. A course is built using bales of hay or straw and in addition to searching for rats, dogs are required to complete tunneling and climbing challenges. The sport measures a dog’s speed in running a course, their ability to successfully read the various scents on the course, the handler’s ability to interpret and respond to their dog’s signals, and importantly, the team’s ability to communicate throughout this activity. When you enter the course, neither the dog or the handler knows where the tubes containing the live rats, the empty tubes, or the litter tubes are hidden. Progressively more complex tunnels and challenges are introduced at each title level, and at the highest level of competition, the team must determine when they have found anywhere from 1 to 5 rats (the actual number is not known to the handler) within 4 minutes and 30 seconds. Calling a litter tube or an empty tube on the course results in your immediate disqualification. Barn Hunt provides a series of titling levels that offer increasingly more complex challenges. While Josie and I successfully navigated through the novice and open levels with confidence, like many teams, we became stuck for more than a year at the senior level when the course and the number of hiding spots dramatically increased in size (35-60 bales of hay), the tunnels have two or three turns, and the eight tubes on the course (one empty,
three litter, and four rats), creates a steep learning curve. The senior team must move quickly through the course, finding all four rats in 3 minutes and 30 seconds, execute a climb, and go through the tunnel. Eventually we successfully completed our senior title and then last year, we earned our master title. We are now working on our RATCH which requires 10 master legs.

Not surprisingly, terriers often make excellent barn hunt competitors. Importantly, however, while our terriers often have working instinct in hunting vermin, no rats are harmed in the sport of Barn Hunt, and special care is taken to assure that the rats are handled in a humane manner. Therefore, training is important to reinforce with our dogs (and remind ourselves) that there is an important balance to the game of Barn Hunt involving skill, motivation, competitive drive, and fun. As of today, more than 160 Wheaten Terriers are listed in the Barn Hunt Association registry, 11 Wheatens have earned “Master” level Barn Hunt titles, and several exceptional Wheatens have earned titles beyond this level.

To get started in Barn Hunt, it’s important to find a venue for practice and trials. In Western New York, I am fortunate to have easy access to multiple trials each month, as well as locations offering lessons and practices. Beginners will find that the opportunity to participate in practices and/or watch a trial before participating, will reinforce the rules of the game, and help teach handler strategies. Trials routinely offer instinct tests to beginners which provide a “low stakes” introduction for your dog to a rat tube, a litter tube, and an empty tube in a structured setting. Finally, did I mention that the barn hunt community is fun, supportive and welcoming? Participants take turns volunteering for various jobs during the trial, routinely organize potluck lunches, and celebrate wins and disappointments with fun awards and ribbons. Dogs of all breeds love Barn Hunt, and handlers who are used to other more competitive sports, will appreciate the more relaxed, game-like elements of this sport.

I am grateful to Eva Fowler and Deb Eldredge, two of our local Barn Hunt enthusiasts whose book Barn Hunt: A Game of Hide & Seek for Dogs, was helpful in writing this article. For further information and to find a Barn Hunt club in your area, I encourage you to visit the Barn Hunt Association website:

(\text{http://www.barnhunt.com/index.html}).

\textbf{MARCY KRAUS}
Marchwind Wheatens
Marchwind The Girl of His Dreams ACT2
RATM - "Josie"
Although not recognized as an AKC Performance Event, Canine Freestyle dancing provides a solid foundation for creating the human and canine bond of communication. It is a great complement to formal obedience and rally and is quite challenging as owners compete in either Heelwork to Music or Canine Freestyle. Heelwork to music involves close and precise heel work positions while Canine Freestyle encourages sending the dog to obstacles and communicating a thematic story with purposeful elements which may include jumps and weaves.

One of the largest international groups is the World Canine Freestyle Organization (WCFO) which has members in 17 countries and offers both live events and the opportunity to title by video judging. There are many categories from beginner to advanced for both on and off leash performers. The music is an integral part of the performance as well as communication between the handler and the dog who is an active participant.

Those planning to enter should have a basic level of obedience and observe programs at the level they want to compete at. With the added challenge of telling a story, it takes planning and patience to create a program that will appeal to the audience. Preparation for competition includes obedience, tricks, presentation skills and confidence performing in front of an audience.

Having volunteered to be a part of the Meet the Breeds at the World Dog Expo, I couldn’t resist entering a local WCFO competition with Krista in Canine Freestyle. With a large audience we began our program and unlike our obedience competitions, there was the added challenge of maintaining our pace to the music and telling a story through our interaction with one another. It was much more challenging than I had imagined and we received our first qualifying ribbon for our effort. Even though this program is not a part of AKC Performance titling events it is well worth the experience.
Imagine this... you the Receiver standing at the end of a fenced in 100 yard course behind the timers. Your dog at the start line with the Releaser holding them back as they eye the Rabbit (plastic bag). And then they are off - “Tally Ho!” says the Huntmaster as your dog runs chasing the lure to arrive in your arms.

Yes we all know wheatens are adorable and cuddly, but they are also very smart high energy dogs who need exercise and love working with their owners!

Meet FAST CAT... something your high energy athletic dog can do naturally relying on his instincts. Chase that Bunny!

FAST CAT is a relatively new dog sport. Everyone wants to declare their dog as the fastest in their breed. First offered as a titling event by AKC in 2016, FAST CAT has grown rapidly in popularity.

If you want to participate in dog sports but don’t want to spend the time or energy with lots of training, this sport is for you because it relies on the dog’s natural prey instinct to chase a lure.

CAT stands for Coursing Ability Test, a timed 100 yard dash where dogs run one at a time. The dog’s time to complete the 100 yard dash is converted into MPH. Dogs earn points based on their handicapped speed. Titles are awarded when a dog has accumulated a given number of points.

To participate in FAST CAT, your dog should be in excellent health, be at least 12 months of age, (you might want to wait until 18 months or when the growth plates have closed), and have an AKC registration number.

Before entering each event, your dog will get a brief inspection for fitness and lameness, and also to make sure the Bitches are not in season. Dogs may run without a collar or wear any type of snug flat collar. Hanging tags pose a safety concern. Clips or rubber bands may be used to keep the Wheaten Fall from impairing vision.

When instructed to bring your dog to the Release area - if you are alone ask if the club will release your dog for you and then trot down to the other end and become the Receiver. After your dog is released (Tally Ho!) you can either quietly watch them chase the lure running towards you, or yell encouragement as you desire. Whatever works better for your dog. Tip: If you are alone, bring an extra leash with you as yours will still be at the start line!

At the end of the run if your dog Qualifies you will receive their ribbon and “Dash Time”.

Use the following formula to convert your “Dash Time” to MPH.

FORMULA: 204.545 / RUN TIME = MPH

Example: The dog’s dash time is 8.14 seconds. 204.545 / 8.14 = 25.13 MPH

Now to figure out how many points your dog earned, you multiply the MPH by their Handicap which is based on their size at the withers:

18” or greater: Handicap = 1.0, 12” up to less than 18”: Handicap = 1.5 MPH × HANDICAP = POINTS

Titles:
BCAT = 150 Points;
DCAT = 500 points;
FCAT = 1,000 points; and
FCAT followed by a number (e.g. FCAT2) for every additional 500 points.

TOP 20 DOGS BY BREED BY YEAR. AKC rankings show the top 20 fastest times in MPH by Breed for a calendar year and also the Lifetime Report. To find the rankings check here: https://www.apps.akc.org/apps/fastcat_ranking/index.cfm

Spicy - GCHS CH Pinehome Merrimoor Cametodance CD RN NA NAJ CA SCN SIN RATN owned by Linda Hallas
“Fiona” - GCH CH Sandcastle’s Princess Of Far, Far Away BCAT owned by Sherri Kaze-McKenzie.

Keep in mind to be rated above each dog has to have at least 3 FAST CAT runs in a year.

To find an event near you, go to the AKC site and look under FCAT (Performance events) https://webapps.akc.org/event-search/#/search At the event you can check and see if they are offering practice runs, which are inexpensive and just for learning. The first couple of times your dog will just be figuring out what is going on and these probably won’t be their fastest times.

Please remember to only do FAST CAT if your dog is 100% physically sound and healthy. Also like any other athlete, your dog should regularly be getting exercise including running and conditioning work. Remember to warm up your dog and also cool down just like any other athlete would do. Walking can help with their cool down and also stretches like the Wheaten Greetin’ and Play Bow. If you are not sure, make an appointment with a veterinarian to get an opinion.

Will your dog like FAST CAT? If they have what is called “prey drive” I would think so. This is a natural instinctive trait in the dog to find, pursue, and capture prey. Also your dog must be okay with working away from you. Tally Ho!

Sandcastle’s Junk in the Trunk - “Penelope” Owned by Ricky Owens

SUSIE BLACKLEDGE
A JOURNEY THROUGH OBEDIENCE WITH WHEATENS

In the world of Wheatens, one's first thought might be of their wonderful, silky, flowing coat, or their impish and charming character, or their uncommon canine sense of humor. Rarely do the words “Wheaten” and “obedience” share the same sentence. However, as a dog of all seasons, the Wheaten has proven himself on the farm, in the field, at home, and yes, in the obedience ring.

The very first Wheaten to earn a CD (Companion Dog) was “Rory,” Gramachree’s Minute Man in 1965. He followed that with the first CDX (Companion Dog Excellent) in 1966. It wasn’t until 1980 that “Rian’s Captain Casey” earned the first UD (Utility Dog). Since then, Wheatens have rightly earned their place in the histories of performance events.

I began my obedience adventure in 1978 with my German Shepherd, Greta. We followed the CD with a CDX. I also put a CD on my Akita Obi Wan. Now THAT was a challenge!

My Wheaten foundation bitch, Riverrun’s Hollywood’s Debut, DeDe, earned her CD in 1984. Her first litter in 1988 produced 3 pups, the first born being “Happy Jack.” And what a happy puppy he was! I learned quickly that Wheatens wouldn’t do anything unless it was FUN. So not wanting to squelch his exuberance, I settled for a happy working dog rather than high-scoring, high-pressure perfection. Being part of an obedience club and volunteering at trials, I witnessed numerous dogs and handlers in competition. It was common for Golden Retrievers and Border Collies, among others, to always be in the ribbons. While they are highly intelligent and trainable dogs, it seemed to me that these handlers acquired those breeds specifically to earn high scores and win big. However, I chose a dog to love, and winning came second.

As Jack and I breezed through Novice, we hit a roadblock in Open, which was entirely more challenging since it was all performed off-leash. Jack was reliable at retrieving toys, but a regulation plastic dumbbell was very different to him. The method used by my obedience club at the time, perhaps still used today, was to pinch the dog’s ear hard enough to make the dog yelp, at which point you were to shove the dumbbell into the dog’s mouth with a “Take it” or “Get it” command. I was never comfortable with the idea, but to comply, I tried it once. Once. To see that I caused pain to my dog, pained me. In fact, after that, we took no more lessons and just worked on our own. We accomplished the CDX when Jack was barely 2 years old. And then there was....Utility.

In performance circles, we call this “Futility”....and for good reason. A high percentage of dogs fail in any given trial because so much is required of the dog including intense attention for non-verbal commands and cues. We took no lessons except for one weekend seminar which included Utility work, and I made this our new goal. I bought a set of practice jumps, the leather and metal articles and holding case, and white cotton gloves. I put this up in the backyard and practiced every chance we had.

One of our biggest challenges was the Wheaten in-bred behavior. Our Standard reads that the Wheaten “should be alert and show interest in his surroundings.” Ha! I knew I would never get the kind of eye-locking behavior a Golden or Border would exhibit. I accepted the fact that Jack was often one foot behind me in heeling, but his fronts and finishes were always perfect. I accepted that he sometimes did a circle going to retrieve a glove, but he always came back with the correct glove. I accepted that he sometimes stopped and
scratched himself in the middle of the articles, but when he recovered, he always remembered what his job was, and finally brought me the proper article.

Jack earned his Utility Dog title in Knoxville in 1992. We celebrated with a Mike McCartney caricature. In 1994 the AKC announced the new UDX title -- Utility Dog Excellent. To earn this title, the dog must qualify in BOTH Open AND Utility in that day's trial and must do it 10 times to earn 10 qualifying legs. I tell you, this was not easy.

There were trials where Jack would fly through Open, but miss a signal in Utility. Or he would cinch the Utility exercises, but take two commands to fetch the dumbbell in Open. There were frustrating long weekends when we came home with nothing, no UDX legs at all. At one point, I was so exhausted and disappointed, that I held the case of articles over a trash barrel, ready to chuck the whole thing. Then I remembered Winners don't quit, and Quitters don't win.

We pressed on, weekend after weekend, sleeping in my van to save money, earning one leg at a time. Jack earned his UDX in March 1995, being the first Wheaten in history to do so.

I took him out of retirement in 1998 to try our hand at the new event called Agility. That same year he earned a High in Trial at our national specialty, as well as Bahamian Champion, CD and CDX. The following year he was the first High Combined ever awarded at our specialty, as well as 3 High in Trial ribbons and a CD in Bermuda.

Jack earned his 12th and last title, Open Agility, at the age of 12 years and 10 months, with a clean run and under time. While there will never be another Happy Jack, there have been other Wheatens who have made their mark in history with Agility, Tracking, Rally, Barn Hunt, Dock Diving, and the new Nose Work events. I applaud them all! I am frequently reminded what a judge once told me: "If it was easy, everyone would be doing it." That's for sure!

Cynthia Hollis
Hollywood Wheatens
American & Bahamian CH Hollywood’s Happy Jack UDX NAJ OA Bahama CDX Bermuda CDCGC, HIC, Reg.Therapy Dog
I remember the first time I saw at Rally trial - at the Big E in Springfield MA. My reaction was “Hey, that looks like fun. The dogs and the people are having “fun.”

What makes Rally fun? You can talk to your dog. Not just give her a command (and you can give all the commands you want) but you can encourage, praise and cheer. You can do whatever you want with your hands (to include leading your dog with a flat hand though an exercise.) The first two levels of Rally - Novice and Intermediate - are done entirely on leash. So far Gracie has earned her Rally Novice Title and has her first leg (qualifying score) of the three needed in Intermediate.

Classes go from Novice to Masters and a Rally champion title can be earned. Of all the AKC titles it’s the one that has the most relationship to everyday life - the exercises reflect skills that can be used every day by an owner with a dog on a leash. I’ve been leash walking my dogs every day for the past 17 years and you need a dog who can walk on a leash, come to you, sit - a well-mannered dog. Rally is a chance to show off how well-mannered your dog is.

What is Rally? Dog and Handler (called a Team) complete a course of numbered signs which show an exercise that the pair must complete. The exercises are simple for Novice - for example right or left turn, sit, fast, slow, about turn, walking around a set of cones, come and finish (dog returns to handler’s side) and becomes more complex as you advance. Each Team starts with 100 points and deductions are made for errors. A qualifying score is 70. Teams are timed - timings are only used for placements in the event of a tie. But you can lose points for “lack of briskness” so don’t dawdle. You can talk, give commands, and use your hands to point and guide your dog through an exercise. Luring - using your hand as if you are holding a treat is a substantial deduction but holding your hand out flat to guide is allowed. I train using the command “Touch” to teach Gracie to follow my hand held out flat (with a treat in between my fingers outside the ring.

The signs tell you what you and the dog need to do. Maybe it’s the way my brain works but many of them make no sense to me. I look at them and go HUH? That’s when you pull out your phone. There are several apps that explain what the sign means. I love K9 Rally - look up your sign (each sign has a number - for instance right turn is #5) for a description, hints on how not to mess it up and a link to video demonstration of the sign on the AKC’s YouTube channel. When I moved Gracie up from Novice in the morning to Intermediate in the afternoon, I taught her the new Intermediate signs, phone in hand, in the parking lot. She’s a quick study and she got her first Intermediate leg.

What happens at a Rally Trial? A diagram of the course is available - study it! Each exercise is numbered and you need to know where you are going! Otherwise you will finish #7 and be standing there looking all over for #8! Before the start of the class the handlers (without their dogs) are allowed a 10 minute walk through of the course.

Can’t get to a trial? The AKC has just started the AKC Rally® Novice Virtual Pilot Program which enables you to hold a trial in your backyard. No need to worry about social distancing. You have your choice of five different courses, set up your course and make a video of you and your Wheaten and get a Rally Novice title from home. Try Rally, you and your Wheaten will like it!
SCENTWORK - THE NOSE KNOWS

Scentwork is a sport in which dogs are trained to recognize certain odors and to let their handlers know when they detect that odor. They can bark, paw, point with their nose or body, sit, lie down, etc. to show their handler where the location of the odor is. There is a specific search area for the dog and their handler to go search.

There are four elements which include:
1) container
2) interior
3) exterior, and
4) buried

In the container element, the odor is placed in a box, briefcase, purse, suitcase, etc., and the dog has to find the scent in that container. In interior, the odor is in or on an object in an indoor search area. In exterior, the odor is on or in an object in an outdoor search area so that the dog has to deal with air flow, weather and other distractions (people walking by, squirrels going up trees, insects, etc.) and, the buried element, is the odor in a small container which is then buried in sand or water.

There are four classes to each element and the levels have various degrees of difficulty. The classes are:
1) novice
2) advanced
3) excellent, and
4) master

What makes the degree of difficulty is the size of the search area, number of odor(s) to be hidden and the number of known odors or unknown odors for the handler, as well as the height level of the hidden odor.

You can earn a title in any of the classes if you qualify three times within the qualifying time and no non-qualifying faults.

There is also a Handler Discrimination class in which the odor is the handler themselves (odor is put on a glove or cotton ball/q-tip) and a Detective Class for those who have finished the Masters Division. Scentwork is a great bonding experience for you and your dog and, any dog can achieve good success.

SUE PETERS
“Carson”- Jendu Tongue Twister CD BN GN RAE RM RATO AXP AJP OFP SWA SCE SIE SHDN CGCA FDC TKI
AKC AGILITY DEPARTMENT INTRODUCES THE VIRTUAL ACT 2 AGILITY CLASS

The Agility Course Test (ACT) is an entry level agility event designed to introduce and welcome beginning dogs and their handlers to the AKC sport of agility.

There are two levels of ACT events - ACT1 and ACT2. ACT1 is designed for the beginning level dog to show beginning sequencing and performance skills. ACT2 requires an increased skill level shown by the additional obstacles to be performed.

In addition to showing their dog’s entry level skills, exhibitors will learn to fill out an AKC entry form, check-in at the ring, taking their dog in and out of ring, handling their dog while being judged and other information that will help them when they move on to AKC agility trials with their dog. Dogs must be 15 months old to enter these events. They do not need to be AKC registered at the time of entry.

The AKC Agility Department is excited to announce the expansion of the virtual ACT program to include the ACT 2 class. ACT 2 is the next level of AKC agility above the entry-level ACT 1. It has been one month since the ACT 1 program was announced and we have received a terrific response to it.

While many have done the ACT 1 courses at home, we have also found that training centers have also provided ring time for those that have wanted to try the ACT courses.

As with ACT 1 for ACT 2 the exhibitors will record their performance and submit it to AKC. In turn, AKC will assign a pre-selected AKC Agility Judge to virtually review and score the team’s ACT 2 performance.

ACT 2 is open to all dogs over 15 months of age and older that have not earned any AKC agility titles, except for ACT 1. Dogs do not have to have an ACT 1 title to be entered in ACT 2. If a dog already has one leg in ACT 1 they may be entered in ACT 2. They do not need to complete the ACT 1 title.

AKC will have 4 sets of pre-designed ACT 2 courses published on the AKC website for the exhibitor to choose from. As with Act 1, the exhibitor will follow the setup instructions provided, video the performance then upload the video to YouTube and submit a link with their entry form and fee to AKC. Alternatively, the exhibitor may directly upload their video file when submitting their online entry.

Once the required information is received, and the dog’s records are verified for class eligibility, the video link will be assigned to a judge for review. The judge will score the team’s performance and will provide a report to AKC. All qualifying scores will be recorded on the dog’s AKC record and applied toward the Agility ACT 2 title requirements. AKC will notify exhibitors of the results of their submission. Dogs must qualify on two different ACT 2 courses to be awarded the ACT 1 title.

This program is planned to end at midnight on December 31, 2020 and all video submissions must be received by that date and time. We are excited to offer this virtual option to our Agility ACT 2 exhibitors!

For complete details refer to the AKC Website: https://www.akc.org/sports/agility/act-program/
Benchmarks Subscription Rates

SCWTCA members USA $25/year
Canada and Overseas Members $35/year
Non-SCWTCA members USA $35/year
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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 September, 2020
issue: August 1

Advertising Rates

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Ads may be sent via email, photos 300 dpi (300 kb), jpeg format. Original photos sent to Designer, 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. ONLY CLUB MEMBERS’ PAYMENT ACCEPTED for ads of co-owned/bred dogs.

Send advertising to Helen Fraguela, fraguela@aol.com
If copy and photos are submitted by due date, draft layouts will be provided for review/edits.

Advertising payment can be made through PayPal at orders@scwtca.org or by check made out to SCWTCA and sent to Treasurer.

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<td>CH PACH Katdancer Look At Me Scamper RN AX AXJ MXP6 MXPS MJP7 MJPS PAX OF SWN SCA SEA SBA RATO TKN</td>
<td>CH Katdancer Ez To Look At</td>
<td>Katdancer Matter Of Opinion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westwhind Firewall SWN CGC TKN</td>
<td>CH Aran Nothing Ventured…</td>
<td>CH Sam Hill’s Super Soul Sunday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escapade Moonstruck Madness At Katdancer RN OAP NJP NFP SWN SCA TAN</td>
<td>CH Stratford Please Remember Me CH Stratford Hey Boo</td>
<td>CH Stratford Hey Boo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH PACH Katdancer Look At Me Scamper RN AX AXJ MXP6 MXPS MJP7 MJPS PAX OF SWN SCA SEA SBA RATO TKN</td>
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<td>Katdancer Matter Of Opinion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuirleen Wonders Of The World ACT2 SIA SCN SEN TKP</td>
<td>CH Islander’s Kiss The Girls</td>
<td>CH Cuirleen One Hot Minute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westwhind Firewall SWN CGC TKN</td>
<td>CH Whindancer’s Fireworks At Westwind GCH CH Greens Taylor's Kitten</td>
<td>CH Greenstreet Quite The Charmer Star Of The Mystical Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Star Of Mystic’s Last Dance OA OAJ AXP AJP NF RATOS</td>
<td>CH Hullabaloo The Rookie VCD1 RE GCH CH Escapade Just A Minute</td>
<td>GCH CH Celli’s Shiny And Bright AX AXJ TKN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MACH2 Rory Red King Of The Links MXG PAD MJC PJD MFS TQX T2B5 THD CGCA TKN</td>
<td>Got To Call Me Ricki Of Homer</td>
<td>Missi Liberty Wigglebutt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceili’s Miss Mischief TKA CH Dromara’s Perfect Treble Maker RE OA NAJ NF CGC TKI</td>
<td>CH Dromara’s Perfect Treble Maker RE OA NAJ NF CGC TKI</td>
<td>CH Celli’s Sister Of Fire OA AXJ APX CGC TKA Rylee Kilkelly’s Irish Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rafa The Great CGC TKE CH Dromara’s Perfect Treble Maker RE OA NAJ NF CGC TKI</td>
<td>Haymes Donegal’s Murphy Magee Rylee Kilkelly’s Irish Rose</td>
<td>CH Celli’s Sister Of Fire OA AXJ APX CGC TKA Rylee Kilkelly’s Irish Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceili’s Miss Mischief TKI CH Heirloom Anything But Ordinary Addie TKI</td>
<td>CH Dromara’s Perfect Treble Maker RE OA NAJ NF CGC TKI</td>
<td>CH Celli’s Sister Of Fire OA AXJ APX CGC TKA Rylee Kilkelly’s Irish Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heirloom Anything But Ordinary Addie TKI</td>
<td>CH Stratford Please Remember Me CH Stratford Hey Boo</td>
<td>CH Celli’s Sister Of Fire OA AXJ APX CGC TKA Rylee Kilkelly’s Irish Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballybae Morgan’s Rr Pancake TKN</td>
<td>CH Dromara’s Perfect Treble Maker RE OA NAJ NF CGC TKI</td>
<td>CH Celli’s Sister Of Fire OA AXJ APX CGC TKA Rylee Kilkelly’s Irish Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celli’s Miss Mischief TKN CH Dromara’s Perfect Treble Maker RE OA NAJ NF CGC TKI</td>
<td>CH Bryr Rose French Kiss</td>
<td>CH Celli’s Sister Of Fire OA AXJ APX CGC TKA Rylee Kilkelly’s Irish Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Bryr Rose Dominique CGC TKN CH Heirloom Anything But Ordinary Addie TKI</td>
<td>CH Bryr Rose French Kiss</td>
<td>CH Celli’s Sister Of Fire OA AXJ APX CGC TKA Rylee Kilkelly’s Irish Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Connemar Bonney Spring Training CGC TKN Knox CGC TKN</td>
<td>GCH CH Mackanne One Love One Heart CH Bryr Rose French Kiss</td>
<td>CH Celli’s Sister Of Fire OA AXJ APX CGC TKA Rylee Kilkelly’s Irish Rose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Mannion’s Pride &amp; Joy TKN Knox CGC TKN</td>
<td>CH Bonney Nip &amp; Tuckit</td>
<td>GCH CH Connemar She Moves In Mysterious Ways RN CGCA TKN Liberty Lass Sadie</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orion Trebol Spring Into Action CGC TKN</td>
<td>Liberty Lad Hunter</td>
<td>CH O’Mannion Greentree Havana’s Honky Tonk Woman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CH Acacia Orla Lil Fish Brandon</td>
<td>GCH CH O’Mannion’s Love Is Strong</td>
<td>GCH CH Orion Trebol Hot Like Me RI TD NFP ACT2 RATO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE!

GCH CH Lil'Town Katlyn Song Of Ardnacassa
CDX RE NA OAJ SCA SIN THD CGCA

I want to encourage everyone with a Wheaten to get involved in performance activities. You will have the time of your life!!

Katie started off in the Conformation ring. I showed her in Bred By class obtaining a Grand Championship on her. My heart has always been in performance activities so I decided to give it a go. There are many Performance Activities (AKC gives a definition of all of these and helps you get started on-line).

A good training school is a must. We started off in Obedience and I could see from the start Katie wanted to please me and was having a great time learning. We have earned a CDX title and are training for UDX. We then went on to Rally which was a blast. Then Agility. Katie was a natural but I was another story (getting lost on the course, my instructor finally said “Carol just follow Katie”!) Scent or Nose work came next – here the dog does all the work, you just have to read your dog’s signals. Another activity that gives us much pleasure is Therapy Dog.

Right now Katie is nursing a litter of puppies, so in my opinion she has done it all. I plan on keeping a male (Freddie) so wish me luck that he can continue in Katie’s shoes! Katie will also continue in the performance world.

Whether you compete in performance or just want to have fun with your Wheaten – Give it a try, you and your Wheaten will love it!

HAVE FUN!
Carol Shaltz

fcshaltz@sbcglobal.net
http://www.liltownwheatens.com/

Lil'Town Wheatens of Ardnacassa
A Tribute to Tige
Celebrating 15+ years of indomitable spirit

10/18/2003 - 3/3/2019

Tige had such an intensity for life he challenged his mom, Jackie Tucker, at every turn! As partners they pursued many activities that meant more to them than just the ribbons - herding, tracking, rally, obedience, agility, musical freestyle, nose work, and starring in a TV commercial. It was a lifetime filled with joy and adventure.
CH Heirloom T&T's Tige In A Shoe
CDX RN MX MXJ MJB OF
Also DDN (Detection Dog Novice) with USCSS

US CA IE CH Geragold Orla Finlandia (Kris) x CH Wheatstone Fairy Tale (Roxy)

Never a dull moment with this boy!

Bred by: Patrice Chevalier & Robert Bergman
pjcheval@yahoo.com
ZIGGY

BOW: 5 pts.
Waukesha 6-9 Puppy
John R. Boozer, Ill

BIS Puppy (x 2) &
BIS BBE Puppy (x 2)
IABCA, Dayton
Mrs. Robin Hug,
Mr. Stanley
Matsumoto, Mrs.
Jean Pero & Mr. David
Miller

BOW and NEW
CHAMPION
@10 mos.
Delaware KC, OH
Ms. Mary Jane
Carberry

BOB, OH G2
Erie, PA
Ms. Wendy Schira

BOB and G2
Indy Winter Classic
Mrs. Gloria Geringer

SELECT, BBECH,
BOBOH and NEW
GRAND CHAMPION
@ 15mos
Kentuckiana Cluster
Ms. Anne Beckwith

Bred, owned & handled
exclusively by Maggie Snow

dromarawheatens@aol.com

GCH Dromara’s Snowy Stardust
CH Stratford Top Priority “Brody” x CH Dromara’s My Wild Ginger “Mara”

# 5 Wheaten
All Breed System
3/31/20
CH Dromara’s Perfect Treble Maker
RE OA NAJ NF CGC TKA

4 Agility Titles by age 2

Bob, G1
Beginner Puppy Manatee KC
Mrs. Jean H. Meader

Bow, BOH
Palm Beach County Dog Fanciers
Mrs. Geraldine Kelly

Bow 5 pts.
Tampa Bay KC
Ms. Elizabeth Muthard

WD
Greater Panama City Dog Fanciers
Carole A. Beattie

Rally Excellent Title at age 2

Advanced Trick Title

Currently 9th Lifetime Fastest Wheaten AKC Fast CAT in 4 runs

Breeder: Maggie Snow
Owners: Susan & Robert Blackledge

Official Publication of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of America, Inc  Volume 48 Number 2  Summer 2020  PAGE 59
MACH2 Eringlo Riverdance MXB2 MJB2 CGC

"DANCING WITH DARBY"

- #2 Top Wheaten for Agility Competition 2018
- AKC Agility National Championships Qualifier 2018, 2019
- 1,000 plus of hours wonderful memories on and off the agility course, and more to come.

CH Eringlo Rise Above The Mist "Connor" x CH MACH Eringlo Playing With Fire VCD2 RE TDX MXS MJS NF "Cayenne"

Owned, loved and handled by: Janine Mroz
Bred by: Cindy Jansen, Dennis & Cindy Shea
MACH3 Rory Red King Of The Links
MXG, PAD, MJC, PJD, MFG, TQX, T2B5, THD, CGCA, TKP

- AKC Agility Invitational 2018, 2019, 2020
- #1 Qualifier in 2019 and 2020 with SCWTCA breed medallion win in 2018
- AKC Agility National Championship qualifier 2019, 2020
- Top MACH Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier 2019

"ON CLOUD NINE WITH RORY"

Owned, loved and handled by: Mary Whiting
Bred by: Linda Sprague
A Tribute to Kylie
We celebrate her long and titled life!

Kylie’s daddy, John Unruh, shared 17 years with a truly irresistible and unflappable girl. She took John on a grand adventure from conformation rings to agility invitationals and beyond.

It was quite a ride!

8/3/2002 - 3/24/2020
CH MACH5 PACH2 Heirloom Truly Irresistible
RN MXB3 MJB3 MXP7 MXPS MJP7 MJP7 PAX2 OF
CA US CH Lakas Ulmus (Elmo) x US CH Heirloom’s Truly Madly Deeply (Daisy)

Bred by: Patrice Chevalier & Robert Bergman
pjcheval@yahoo.com
Look what the Storm blew in!

Grand Champion Marquee’s Tropical Storm
GCH Marquee’s Storm Warming “Twister” X CH Marquee’s Love Potion Number Nine “Madam Rue”

“Thai”

Number Five
BREED

Number Six
ALL BREED

Canine Chronicle
1/1/20 – 4/1/20
With limited showing

Handed / Groomed and Loved by Tuesday Hanna

Greater Panama City show, Tallahassee,
5-Point BOB and a Group placement.

Thank You to Judge Douglas Windsor
for recognizing this beautiful example
of the Breed.

Marquee Wheatens
Breeder: Sonya Urquhart
Owners: Richard Seaholm, Sonya Urquhart