



▶ BECOMING A BREED CLUB... 2

ISSUE 3 | VOLUME 23 | 2014



▶ THERE'S A TICK ON THE NEWSLETTER!..... 6-7



▶ GENETIC STUDY.....5

Irish Wolfhound

Association of the Mid-South

Summer

HEALTH, WELFARE, EDUCATION, AND RESCUE

*"Each true descendant of those sires, that thing beneath the skin
That stamps an Irish Wolfhound - be he champion or pet,
The heritage, that down the years, these dogs do not forget." - Unknown*

President's Message

Greetings! I hope you all are enjoying the summer, sunshine, and the occasional cool weather that we have been having! Your board and committee members are hard at work making the IWAMS family bigger and better. Our Secretary, **Nancy Fauser**, has been reaching out to new members and provided membership cards and IWAMS car decals to all members. We hope you display them proudly. **Heather Burns**, in addition to putting together our quarterly newsletter with **Diana Vreeken**, has been working on a new website and it will be ready to roll out very soon. **Donna Pitt** has been running her own agility course (jumping through hoops) to set up a regional fun match, and we are committed to helping her. She is in need of any hard copies of IWAMS event fliers, programs, old membership lists, etc. for the past 20 years. Any IWAMS document that you saved. Please read her request on page two. Thank you, Donna for your hard work! Again, there are a lot of miles and four states between members and we encourage you to host local IWAMS gatherings in your communities. The IWAMS annual meeting, board meeting, and social will be held October 11th at the Durham Kennel Club in Durham. We want everyone to attend - see you in October!

Gretchen Straub
IWAMS President



Above, Lismore Stoneybrook "Roxie" Hart, 03-14-13
By GCH Riverlawn Exit Of Aerie - CH Stoneybrook
Lismore Gypsy Rose. Owner: Maj. **Stephen LeVan** and
Karen LeVan. Breeder: Judy Simon and Maj. **Stephen**
LeVan. Here she is winning the 12 - 18 month Bitch class
at the 2014 IWCA National Specialty in Greys Summit,
Missouri on May 1. Photo courtesy of **Karen LeVan**.

Mark your calendar! 

IWAMS Annual Fall Gathering

Durham Kennel Club, 7318 Guess Rd., Durham, NC
Saturday, October 11
11 a.m. - 3 p.m.*

**Lunch! Bring your Hounds! Bring Guests!
Speaker! Fun! Socializing!**



* Time, speaker, and details will be firmed up by email and in the next newsletter.
www.durhamkennelclub.com



Becoming An AKC Breed Club

By Donna Pitt



Dear IWAMS Members,

As I mentioned in the last Newsletter, the membership voted at last year's annual meeting to pursue recognition by AKC as an affiliated regional breed club. This will allow us to enlarge our activities to include AKC sanctioned events such as matches, rally, seminars, trials, coursing events, etc. The process required to obtain this recognition entails the compilation of information about IWAMS' activities, membership, and interests. For that, we need your input and information. I am now asking for your assistance in obtaining the information needed to proceed with submission to the AKC. **Listed below are the kinds of information we need to provide the AKC in order to proceed with recognition:**

- ◆ A history of the club, its founding, original members, meetings, activities, etc. (Joe Pitt and Heather Burns have worked on this.)
- ◆ An account of fun matches, public activities, parades, etc., documented by flyers, notices, newsletters, announcements, etc.
- ◆ Rescue and/or legislative activities documented by letters, notices, ads, etc.
- ◆ A history of Club meetings and activities which occurred at those meetings, including minutes, pictures, recollections, etc.
- ◆ A list of fun matches, with dates, sites, entries, judges, impromptu catalogues, etc. (I'm thinking of the one we held with Joel Samaha...)
- ◆ A list of meetings, elections, officers, with dates.
- ◆ Membership lists - who joined when? With names, addresses, designating whether you are a breeder, owner, judge, exhibitor (in AKC events), or interested hound owner. We also need the year you joined the Club.

If you have any information and/or documentation on any of the above from Club activities, would you please send copies to me, either hard copy or scanned and sent by email? I will begin compiling our case for the AKC and will come back to you for further information and/or documentation as activities are mentioned that we need further information on to strengthen our case. Your input is solicited and necessary if we are to proceed to AKC recognition. Thank you for your assistance.

Also, if you know the emails/addresses of members who have lapsed, would you please send that information to me? We have lost some members over the years and their input is important.

Thank you for your help. Please feel free to call me (540)544-7207 or email me: cvmdsp@vt.edu if you have questions.

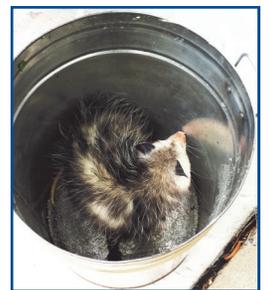
Donna Pitt

Did You Ask For A Possum Story?

By Gretchen Straub

Roxanne and Ozzie Straub woke up Easter morning not to greet the Easter Bunny, but a juvenile possum wandering around their turf! By the looks of our little neighborhood possum

(George) who was looking for his mother the day before in Ruby's (a shepherd mix) backyard, he had quite a rough night. Roxanne and Ozzie were very aware of the new visitor Easter morning long before they sprung out the back door to greet George. Ruby's persistent bark alerted us to what Roxanne and Ozzie were waiting so patiently to play with. George was still moving in circles learning how to either play dead or was really exhausted from his long night alone and was trying to soften up a bed in the ivy. Our hounds stood patiently over George, eager to play. Of course, Robb and I scooped up George and carried him off. We have learned what Roxanne can do with a chicken (!) It was a happy Easter ending for all!



Congratulations!



IWANE
founded 1934

Irish Wolfhound Association of
New England (IWANE)
Specialty Show
Boxborough, MA
Sunday - Monday, July 27 - 28, 2014

Conformation Judge: Irmgard De Haan-Levie

Puppy, 9-12 Months Dogs

2nd HOUND HILL VALKYRIE OF AERIE 08/23/2013

Breeder: Donna Brown, D. Marx & A. Benjamin.

By: GCH CH Riverlawn Exit Of Aerie -
CH Hound Hill Valley Of Aerie.

Owner: M. Martino, Donna Brown, D. Marx &
A. Benjamin.

15-18 Months Dogs

2nd HOUND HILL VANDERBILT OF AERIE

02/27/2013 Breeder: D. Marx & A. Benjamin, and
Donna Brown.

By: CH Hound Hill Sebastian -
Ch Hound Hill Valley Of Aerie.

Owner: D. Marx & A. Benjamin, and Donna Brown.

15-18 Months Bitches

1st LISMORE STONEYBROOK ROXIE HART

03/14/2013 Breeder: Stephen D. LeVan & J. Simon.

By: GCH CH Riverlawn Exit Of Aerie -
CH Stoneybrook Lismore Gypsy Rose.

Owner: Stephen D. & Karen L. LeVan.

Bred By Exhibitor Bitches

2nd HOUND HILL VALE OF AERIE 10/07/2011

Breeder: D. Marx & A. Benjamin, and Donna Brown.

By: GCH Riverlawn Exit Of Aerie -
CH Hound Hill Valley Of Aerie.

Owner: D. Marx & A. Benjamin.



IWANE: BEST IN SWEEPSTAKES

Irish Wolfhound Assoc. of New England Specialty

Sweepstakes Judge: Karen Eberl

HOUND HILL VANDERBILT OF AERIE 02/27/13

"Vander"

Breeder/Owners: Doug Marx and Amy Benjamin (PA),
and Donna Brown, Durham, NC

By CH Hound Hill Sebastian -
CH Hound Hill Valley Of Aerie

Photo by permission of Pat Reilly

Correction to our First Quarter Newsletter:

Under the picture for new CH

Quinlan's Piece of the Pattern "Min"

Owner/Breeder: Diana Vreeken & Douglas Henry, VA

The Judge was: Dr. Donald Sturz Jr.



Branigan



Owner: Lucy
& Stewart
Moneymaker,
Palmyra, VA

Branigan is
pictured at left
with Lucy upon
graduating from
"Canine 101"
(obedience) class at
Unleashed Academy
in Troy, VA. Photos
courtesy of Erika
Proctor.



Achara



Owner:
Barbara
Findlay,
Beaverdam,
VA

Achara has
attained her
AKC Canine
Good Citizen
title and is
certified with
Therapy Dogs
International!

Congratulations!



Conformation Judge: Roger Tebbutt - Caredig Irish Wolfhounds / Wales
Sweepstakes Judge: Lloyd Simmons - Lonnkyle Irish Wolfhounds / Canada

Brood Bitch

1st CH HOUND HILL VALLEY OF AERIE 12/17/2007 Breeder: D. Marx & A. Benjamin.
Sire: CH Pitlochry's Quintus Dam: Viceroy Of Aerie. Owner: **Donna Brown**, D. Marx & A. Benjamin.

Veteran Bitch (and Parade of Veterans participant)

2nd CH HOUND HILL VALLEY OF AERIE 12/17/2007 Breeder: D. Marx & A. Benjamin.
Sire: CH Pitlochry's Quintus Dam: Viceroy Of Aerie. Owner: **Donna Brown**, D. Marx & A. Benjamin.

Best of Breed: Select Bitch

CH STONEYBROOK LISMORE GYPSY ROSE 4/27/2009 Breeder: **Steve LeVan** & J. Simon. Sire: Stoneybrook Warrior Dam: Lismore Stoneybrook Mae. Owner: **Stephen LeVan and Karen Levan**, & J. Simon.

12-18 Month Dog

1st HOUND HILL VANDERBILT OF AERIE 2/27/2013 Breeder: D. Marx & A. Benjamin & **Donna Brown**. Sire: CH Hound Hill Sebastian Dam: CH Hound Hill Valley Of Aerie. Owner: D. Marx, A. Benjamin & **Donna Brown**.

American Bred Bitch

4th STONEYBROOK SUMMERHILL ASTERISK 10/23/2012 Breeder: J. Simon. Sire: Stoneybrook Lismore Saboteur Dam: Stoneybrook Lismore Agatha. Owner: J. Simon and **Bambi Madsen Rabe**.

Bred-By Exhibitor Bitches

4th HOUND HILL VALE OF AERIE 10/7/2011 Breeder: D. Marx, A. Benjamin & **Donna Brown**. Sire: GCH Riverlawn Exit Of Aerie Dam: CH Hound Hill Valley Of Aerie. Owner: D. Marx, A. Benjamin & **Donna Brown**

12-18 Month Bitches Results

1st LISMORE STONEYBROOK ROXIE HART 3/14/2013 Breeder: J. Simon & **Stephen D LeVan**. Sire: GCH Riverlawn Exit Of Aerie Dam: CH Stoneybrook Lismore Gypsy Rose. Owner: **Stephen D & Karen L LeVan**.

SWEEPSTAKES

12-15 Month Bitches

4th LISMORE STONEYBROOK ROXIE HART 3/14/2013 Breeder: Judith Simon & **Stephen D LeVan**. Sire: GCH Riverlawn Exit of Aerie Dam: CH Stoneybrook Lismore Gypsy Rose. Owner: **Stephen D & Karen L LeVan**.

12-15 Month Dogs

1st HOUND HILL VANDERBILT OF AERIE 2/27/2013 Breeder: D. Marx & A. Benjamin & **Donna Brown**. Sire: CH Hound Hill Sebastian Dam: CH Hound Hill Valley Of Aerie. Owner: D. Marx, A. Benjamin & **Donna Brown**.



Stud Dog Winner: GCh Riverlawn Exit of Aerie (far left with Doug Marx) won. Exit's get (from left): **Dinnree Celtic Justice of Aerie** (Mike Hussey), **Roxie** (Steve LeVan) and **Hound Hill Vale of Aerie** (**Donna Brown**). Submitted by Steve LeVan with permission also from Donna Brown. Photo with permission by Steve Surfman.

Irish Wolfhounds Needed For Genetic Study

Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine

The Washington State University College of Veterinary Medicine Pharmacogenomics Research Lab is conducting a study to identify genetic predispositions to adverse drug reactions.

To date, herding dogs worldwide with the Multi-Drug Resistance 1 gene mutation (MRD1) have documented adverse reactions to certain drugs. Two sighthound breeds also can carry the gene: the Long-haired Whippet and Silken Windhound, and the study is expanded to test sighthounds. Irish Wolfhound DNA samples are needed.

For a dog with this mutation, active molecules in certain drugs accumulate in the brain and become toxic, leading to coma or even death.

A normal MDR1 gene codes the P-glycoprotein protein that safely conveys drug molecules and acts as cerebral nervous tissue protective

barrier. With a mutation, this protein is not produced by the cells because the code given by the MDR1 gene to the cells is wrong.

Dogs with the mutation will experience the problem drug in their body reach the brain through the blood vessels that supply it, but instead of coming out, they pass through neural tissue surrounding the blood vessels. The accumulation of drug molecules in the cerebral nervous tissue results in high toxicity and neurological trauma and may cause death.

There may be other chemicals and drugs that cause problems through this, or similar gene mutations and the study will define those.

Further research studies may provide less toxic, more effective ways to treat cancers or brain disease.

The long term goal is to develop

genetic tests to identify dogs that are at increased risk of experiencing an adverse reaction to specific drugs.

DNA is collected by swabbing inside your dog's mouth cheek with a soft bristle brush. The brush is sent to the lab, DNA is extracted, analyzed, and stored for future study at no cost to you. At the end of the study you will receive the results of your hound's analysis.

To participate, or for information, please contact Hannah Bigelow at: hbigelow@vetmed.wsu.edu

For a list of problem drugs for dogs with the MDR1 mutation go to: www.vetmed.wsu.edu/depts-VCPL/drugs.aspx

MDR1 and Ivermectin sensitivity: www.vetmed.wsu.edu/announcements/ivermectin/index.aspx

Meeting Minutes

IWAMS Teleconference Board Meeting on February 27, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.



(Meeting minutes are recapped here for space. For the original minutes, please contact President, Gretchen Straub.)

Board members present: Gretchen Straub, President; Robb Straub, Treasurer; Nancy Fauser, Secretary; Bambi Rabe, Director-at-Large. Not present: Tamara Ritzenthaler, Vice President.

- ◆ **Treasury:** All financial records are being turned over to new Treasurer Robb Straub by Jay Levy, outgoing Treasurer. Jay will retain signatory authority in case Robb is unavailable.
- ◆ **Car Stickers:** Gretchen will research cost for creating/printing an IWAMS logo car sticker for active members. Nancy will mail one to each member, along with a new membership card.
- ◆ **Secretary:** Nancy will email all members to touch base, share/remind of them upcoming events, and notify them of the stickers and membership cards to arrive.
- ◆ **Website:** Gretchen and Robb are working with Heather Burns on revamping the IWAMS website and hope in the next quarter to have it available.
- ◆ **Fun Match:** Bambi will contact Donna Pitt regarding progress on planning a fun match in 2014.
- ◆ **Annual Meeting:** Gretchen will reserve the Durham Kennel Club hall in the fall for the annual meeting.
- ◆ **Rescue:** Bambi had questions about a potential rescue where the owner changed their mind. She stated it appears owners who have a hound(s) they no longer want attempt to sell them on the Internet instead of turning them over to a rescue organization or returning the hound(s) to the breeder. She suggested that owners provide the total health and breeder info. of a hound(s) they surrender to IWAMS rescue. Robb will develop a policy for rescue.
- ◆ **Cardiac Testing for Genetic Study:** Bambi reminded all that EKGs and ECGs are available at NCSU on Saturday, March 22 for \$175, an excellent price. Test results will be sent to the Irish Wolfhound Foundation (IWF). Those who want to participate need to contact Tamara Dunn at: ierneiw@aol.com.
- ◆ **IWAMS Letter to IWCA:** Bambi suggested that IWAMS write a letter to the IWCA with concerns about a move to not involve the local club in a National Specialty; the involvement would only include the national board. Local clubs need to be encouraged to be active in planning any show in their region.
- ◆ **Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade:** Reminder that the Raleigh St. Paddy's Day parade is Saturday, March 15, at 10 am. All are encouraged and urged to participate. The route is at: www.raleighstpats.org.
- ◆ **Adjournment:** The meeting concluded at 8:30 pm.

Ticks

By Diana Vreeken



Ticks, a nasty pest and efficient disease carriers, are arachnids, related to scorpions, spiders and mites. They have four life stages: (1) Egg, (2) Six-legged larva, (3) Eight-legged nymph, and (4) Adult. A female will die shortly after laying 3,000 to 6,000 eggs on the ground. After the eggs hatch, the larva (also called a seed tick) attaches to a host. After feeding, it molts into a larger nymph, then into an adult. The Nymphs are potentially more dangerous than the adults. Nymph season is May through August and they lurk in moist leaf litter in or near the edge of wooded areas. Depending on the species, the life cycle can be from 2 months to two years. They come in all sizes, lurking on tall grass and shrubs and they quickly let go when a moving subject comes along. They are seldom found in trees and can only crawl. Cold weather does not kill them and they are active all year long. Ticks are separated into two groups: "Hard" and "Soft". A hard tick, like the Dog Tick, have a hard shield just behind the mouth parts. They look like a seed when they are not gorged with blood. A soft tick, prefers birds and bats and are seldom found on dogs, do not have the shield, and look like a raisin when empty.

There are at least 15 species of ticks in North America, and only four are prevalent. The American Dog Tick, the Lone Star Tick, the Deer or Blacklegged Tick and the Brown Dog Tick.

AMERICAN DOG TICK:

Adults are chestnut brown with white spots or streaks on their backs. Even though they can be found throughout North America, they are abundant in the south. They are attracted by the scent of their prey.



LONE STAR TICK:

These are in various shades of brown or tan. Females have single silvery-white spots on their backs and males have scattered white spots.

DEER OR BLACKLEGGED TICK:

Adults are reddish-brown. Deer tick nymph look like poppy seeds on your skin.



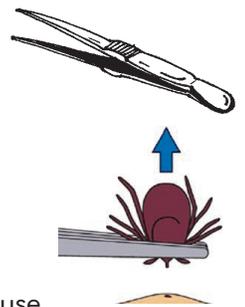
BROWN DOG TICK:

Also known as the kennel tick, are common throughout the United States. Usually found on animals, yet rarely on humans. The brown dog tick can be found indoors unlike the others, which prefer the outdoors and unlike the others, they do not do well in the cold.

TICK REMOVAL:

Ticks are usually found in the ears, neck, skin folds, between toes and other crevices. Here, the skin is thinner and the host has a harder time finding and removing them.

- ◆ Use pointy tweezers, if you must use your fingers, shield them with a tissue or paper towel. If the tick is infected, it can be transmitted onto your fingers.
- ◆ Grasp the tick as close to the skin surface as possible, do not squeeze the body, this can cause the bacteria and disease to be injected into the site.
- ◆ Pull the tick straight out with a steady, even pressure.
- ◆ No twisting or jerking the tick as this may cause the mouthparts to break off and remain in the skin, increasing the chances of infection.
- ◆ After the removal, thoroughly disinfect the bitten area and wash your hands with soap and water.
- ◆ Do not apply petroleum jelly or grease, or use a hot match to remove the tick. These remedies cause the tick to salivate and can actually increase the chance of getting a disease. Also, these methods may work on an American dog tick, but the Deer Tick and the Lone Star Tick have larger mouth pieces and have more backward pointing denticles (barbs). Deer ticks also secrete a cement substance that glues them into the skin of the host.
- ◆ Do not flush the tick down the toilet, they can still survive.
- ◆ Do not squish the tick - if they are infected, you just spread the disease.
- ◆ It is best to dump them in a jar of rubbing alcohol. Label the jar with the date and hold onto it for a while. If illness occurs you still have the tick for identification.
- ◆ Use sticky duct tape as soon as you notice the ticks latched on, if they are already biting, tweezers are your best choice to remove them.
- ◆ De-ticking clothing is best done by throwing everything into a hot dryer for 15 minutes. If ticks are in abundance in your area. Throw your dog's bedding in the dryer also.



Tick transmitted diseases are more common now than in the past for several reasons: an increasing deer population, being more active with our dogs outdoors, and building homes near the woods. It is important to save any ticks you find by placing them in a jar with rubbing alcohol in case symptoms start to show. In most cases, it takes 24 hours before a transmitted infection shows. The acute stage typically occurs 1 - 4 weeks after infection with antibiotics being very effective at this point. A dog would have flu-like symptoms. **The sub-acute or sub-clinical stage** is when any lab work done may show slight deviations from normal readings. **The chronic stage** is when the parasite is in attack mode, impacting the dog's immune system. The parasite has often lived in one or more organs of the body, making it difficult to treat.

LYME DISEASE:

Transmitted by the Black-Legged or Deer Tick. Lyme disease is an infection of the tissues that often leads to lameness. A dog may show a few if any signs but some of the more common **symptoms are:**

Spontaneous and shifting leg lameness that lasts 3-4 days sometimes accompanied by loss of appetite and depression	
Reluctance to move	Swollen lymph nodes
Fatigue	A severe case can cause kidney disease.

EHRlichiosis:

Transmitted by the Brown Dog Tick and the Lone Star Tick. Ehrlichiosis is an infection of white blood cells that can eventually affect bone marrow function including production of blood cells. **IT MOVES VERY QUICKLY. Symptoms are:**

Depression and/or lack of energy	Spontaneous Nose Bleeds	Runny eyes and nose/discharge
Loss of appetite	Bruising on gums and belly	Lameness/joint pain

ROCKY MOUNTAIN SPOTTED FEVER:

RMSF is transmitted by the American Dog Tick and the Lone Star Tick. Most dogs develop a fever within 5 days of contracting the bacteria. **Symptoms are:**

Depression	Swelling in the limbs	Discolored spots on the skin, often bruised or purplish
Lethargy	Swollen lymph nodes	Sudden bleeding occurs, often from the nose or in stools
Anorexia	Irregular Heart Beat (arrhythmia)	Blood clotting difficulty, which can lead to shock or death
Blood in the urine	Inability to walk normally, loss of coordination	Inflammation, hemorrhage, or conjunctivitis in the mucosal membranes, most commonly in the eyes

ANAPLASMOSIS:

An infection of the blood platelets that can lead to bleeding disorders transmitted by the Black-Legged or Deer Tick.

Common signs can include:

Lethargy	Neck pain or neurologic signs in some cases	Lameness, reluctance to move
Loss of appetite	Bruising on gums and belly	

BABESIOSIS:

Transmitted by the Black-Legged or Deer Tick, the Babesia parasite affects the red blood cells and has a 2 week incubation period, but symptoms may remain mild and not diagnosed for months to years. **Symptoms are:**

Lethargy	Pale gums	Enlarged abdomen	Yellow or orange skin	Discolored stool
Loss of appetite	Fever	Colored urine	Weight loss	

TREATMENT:

Drug treatment depends on the disease. Doxycycline is the drug of choice for Ehrlichiosis, RMSF, and Lyme disease. The dose is determined by body weight and given twice a day. Imizol is an injectable used for treating Babesiosis. Kidney toxicity from dehydration can arise when using this drug. Tick-borne diseases are most successfully treated when diagnosed early. As the disease progresses it can have progressively detrimental and irreversible effects on your dog, often leading to death. *Resources: Vetinfo-Symptoms of Tick Borne Disease, Tick Encounter, and PetMd.com.*

For an excellent tick I.D. chart of all stages with magnified pictures go to: http://www.tickencounter.org/tick_identification

Grand Dams

A top Shetland Sheepdog breeder reviews the key role played by dogdom's leading lady, the foundation bitch. Printed with permission by author Tom Coen.

"Breeding dogs is a creative process that combines the eye of the artist with the laws of nature. Add to that a large measure of common sense." - Tom Coen

My advice to others over the years has always been to look to the dams of the stud dogs. Tail-male charts are interesting, but they leave out a very important element of the story: the bitch.

It is the bitch who provides the complement to the sire and determines the distinction among his offspring, both in quality and producing ability.

Breeding dogs is a creative process that combines the eye of the artist with the laws of nature. Add to that a large measure of common sense. Breeding dogs is a process of building generation after generation, of constantly gaining in one area and losing in another. The breeder is like a juggler trying to keep the pins for correct type, stable temperament, and good health in the air at the same time.

The bitch is the building block utilized in the process of creative breeding. When selecting a foundation bitch or planning a breeding, there is one principal that I have witnessed as law: What ye sow, ye shall reap. If you don't want something to show up, don't start with it or add it to the gene pool. Recessive problems will slip by due to lack of information, but to knowingly add a serious problem to your program shows no common sense. You may try to close your eyes to something, but Mother Nature will provide a wake-up call somewhere up the road.

Healthy Litters, Naturally

When evaluating a bitch for breeding, there are key areas to consider: health, temperament, physical quality (phenotype), and pedigree (genotype).

The ideal bitch should be an easy keeper and a good doer. A hearty appetite that keeps her in good flesh

with no coaxing is of great importance. A bitch who won't eat, especially when she has a new litter of puppies depending on her, is not well suited to motherhood and can make your life miserable. Avoid bitches from families who require medication and supplementation to maintain their condition and fertility. The goal is to produce good-sized, healthy litters to provide selection within a creative breeding program and to keep the process as natural as possible.

We are living in a time when veterinary medicine has become quite sophisticated in the area of reproduction. Thyroid medication and hormone therapy make it possible for bitches that would not ordinarily come in season to do so and produce litters. There are tests to monitor silent or irregular seasons so that ovulation can be pinpointed and problem bitches can conceive and produce offspring. Although it is impressive that we can overcome Mother Nature and produce litters out of such bitches, I question the benefit in the long run.

In a Perfect World

Ideally, the bitch should be as free as possible from hereditary defects. To be genetically free of hereditary defects is not a possibility, but it is in this area that common sense must be employed. Don't breed bad eye checks, entropion, testicle problems, bad hips or other such problems unless you are willing to deal with more of the same. I repeat: What ye sow, ye shall reap.

The ideal bitch possesses a stable, sensible temperament with intelligence and trainability. The bitch is the role model for the puppies and in the area of temperament accounts for more than her genetic 50 percent. There is no excuse or place in the breeding program for a shy, flighty, or nervous bitch.

When selecting for physical quality in a bitch, it is important to keep in

mind which qualities are most difficult to achieve and maintain. The purchase of a foundation bitch requires extensive study,

followed by careful thought and selection. This, by the way, is not the time to become frugal. Go for the very best bitch you can find as she can save you years of disappointment, frustration, and time.

Head qualities are of great importance in the brood bitch. All will have some deficiencies, but the degree of fault is what must be considered. It is extremely difficult to correct severe lack of skull, snipey muzzle, depth of head, lippiness and certain bite problems. While on the subject of bites, be wary of a narrow underjaw, missing premolars, and inverted molars. The virtue of flat frontal bone, clean sides to the skull, tight lip line, and roundness of muzzle will definitely increase your chances of producing exceptional quality. The greater the degree of virtue your bitch possesses, the better your chances of producing a great one.

Selection, Study, Judgment

It is almost impossible to radically change body type and structure in only a few generations.

Therefore, it is necessary to select and maintain bitches that approach your mental picture of the ideal as described by the breed standard.

Correct body type is a matter of the proportion and angles of the skeletal structure. Abundant coat is a real plus in a breeding program and can enhance a good outline, but it is still only the icing on the cake. It is what's under the coat that is important, i.e., arch of neck, (continued)



Above: Tom Coen

Grand Dams *(continued)*

Selection, Study, Judgment

...a strong back, well-laid-back shoulders, long stifle, good definition of the hock joint, and sloping croup.

These are the qualities that your ideal bitch would possess - and these are the qualities that create the picture of correct type, standing and in motion. It is these same qualities that make certain individuals stand out in the huge classes. Since soundness and elegance are priorities in our program, we continually select for the curvaceous and sweeping bodylines with deep angulation and more neck. Just as the head naturally reverts to commonness so does the body and outline.

Unless you have had firsthand

experience with dogs in a pedigree, the document is of little more value than a list of names. With study, a pedigree becomes a valuable tool for creating and predicting quality. Nowhere on the pedigree does it tell which dogs were strong producers or which were producers of problems that still haunt us.

The title "champion" means very little when evaluating producing ability. It is our responsibility to study and research individuals and family lines and to choose the ones whose "look" appeals to you and whose shortcomings you can abide. The qualities that a bitch possesses should reflect the qualities of her ancestors. **She should be the physical demon-**

stration of the strength of her pedigree. Bitches who are the exception for a family rather than the rule cannot be counted on for predictability.

It is impossible to place a value on a bitch of extreme virtue and strength of a pedigree without taking into account breeder judgment. When utilized in a creative manner by an astute breeder, however, it would be fair to say her value is nothing less than the future of the breed.

Tom Coen and his wife, Nioma, live in Massachusetts, and have been breeding Shetland Sheepdogs for decades under the Macdega banner. They were the 2004 AKC Breeder of the Year Herding Group recipients.

IWAMS to Receive Grant

By Heather Burns

IWAMS is being awarded a \$750 Friends of the NC Veterinary Medical Association grant with the help of Dr. Marguerite Gleason of the Carolinas Animal Hospital and Dental Clinic. She is the NC Veterinary Medical Association Representative for the Greater Charlotte area. (See: www.carolinasanimalhospital.com)

Two IWAMS members bring their Irish Wolfhounds there when in need of Veterinary Specialist services and they proposed that the grant be used to help underwrite the cost of hound heart testing at NC State for IWAMS member/owners who may have a difficult time affording it.

As a breed, Irish Wolfhounds with Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM) have a higher survivability rate and seem to respond better to treatments than many other breeds. A diagnosis of DCM in an Irish Wolfhound does not mean a death sentence and many are able to live to old age but early detection is critical. Unfortunately, as high as 1/3 of the breed are affected by heart disease in their life, with onset between 3 – 7 years of age.

Earlier this year, Dr. Kathryn Meurs, Assoc. Dean and Director of

Research of the NC State CVM Veterinary Genetics Lab, began a study of genetic markers for DCM and heart disease for our breed. She has been instrumental in finding genetic markers for heart disease in the Boxer and the Doberman.

Dr. Frances Abrams of the Irish Wolfhound Foundation (IWF) sent the Cardiac Study parameters to Dr. Meurs, and results were shared with Dr. Bill Tyrell of Chesapeake Veterinary Cardiology Associates, who does the cardiac testing for the IWF. The IWF has been heart testing and gathering data for years.

To encourage IWAMS members who cannot afford the full discounted cost of cardiac testing (\$175), the IWAMS Board voted to underwrite half the cost for Irish wolfhound(s) belonging to club members for whom the full testing cost would be prohibitive, and expanded it to include IWAMS rescued hounds.

On March 22, 2014, the first Irish Wolfhound heart clinic was arranged by **Tamara Dunn** and held at NC State Veterinary School, and 17 Irish Wolfhounds had their hearts tested. Eight for the first time. Dr. Meurs

ultimately will need a blood sample, the pedigree, and medical records on 20 hounds that test positive for heart disease. **IWAMS hopes to make heart testing and annual event for all of our breed in the mid-atlantic region.**

To find out more, please email Tamara Dunn at: ierneiw@aol.com

More information and heart health articles are at: www.iwffoundation.org



Fiona Riley looking adorable!

Regional Events

Lure Coursing

AUGUST

9-10 M.A.H.A. @ Reidsville, NC

SEPTEMBER

6-7 D.A.S.H. @ Martinsburg, WV

OCTOBER

18-19 S.H.O.T. @ Williamsburg, VA

NOVEMBER

8-9 C.H.A.M.P. @ Leesburg, VA

Large Gazehound

LGRA

Racing Association

LGRA

Straight Race

OCTOBER

18 S.O.L. @ Camden, SC

AKC Lure Coursing & Coursing Ability Test (C.A.T.)

AUGUST

16-17 C.H.A.M.P. @ Leesburg, VA

SEPTEMBER

27-28 S.H.O.T. @ Williamsburg, VA

OCTOBER

11-12 M.A.H.A. @ Rocky Mount, NC

25-26 C.L.C.S. @ Camden, SC

NOVEMBER

1-2 Piedmont Kennel Club
C.A.T. @ Charlotte, NC

28-30 M.A.H.A. @ Reidsville, NC

AKC Obedience/Rally/Agility

There are too many Rally / Agility / Obedience events to list for our region in this space! Please go to www.akc.org/events/search and click on the "Obedience/Agility/AKC Rally" tab. Click the map states you want to search. Then choose your events of interest by clicking just above the map to the right. On the left, click "search" to see the events listed.

All Breed Health Clinic



Saturday



August 30, 2014

Durham Kennel Club Show

NC State Fairgrounds

Raleigh, NC

OFA Certifications, OFA Eye, BAER, Cardiac Auscultation, Microchip, Patellar Luxation, Dentition, Echocardiogram (ECG), OptiGen, Hemopet Thyroid Testing, Blood panels, Parvo/Distemper Vaccine Titers, Heartworm Testing, Tickborne Diseases Panel, Nutriscan Food Sensitivities Testing, and more.

WALK-INS ONLY

Registration:

8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

No pre-registration EXCEPT for the ECG clinic.

Email Anne Truesdale:

atruesdale@gmail.com

for an ECG appointment.

For a flyer go to:

www.durhamkennelclub.com

Lure Coursing

Lure Coursing is another way to have fun with your hound. Listed below are coursing groups that hold practices and competitions in the mid-atlantic region. For more information go to: www.akc.org/events/lure_coursing. If your hound is not AKC registered, consider the AKC's Purebred Alternative Listing/Indefinite Listing Privilege (PAL/ILP). This program allows unregistered dogs of registrable breeds to compete. To read how they can be registered to compete, go to: www.akc.org/reg. Consider attending a regular practice or two! Members will help make it a good experience for you and your hound.



<u>Abbreviation</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Website</u>		<u>Location</u>
A.S.F.A.	American Sighthound Field Association	www.asfa.org	Yes	National
C.H.A.M.P.	Coursing Hounds of the Mid-Potomac	www.chamlurecoursing2.org		Leesburg, VA
C.L.C.S.	Carolina Lure Coursing Society	www.carolinacoursing.com	Yes	Camden, SC
D.A.S.H.	District Area Sighthound Association	Email: windcrest2@gmail.com		Martinsburg, WV
L.G.R.A.	Large Gazehound Racing Association	www.lgra.org		National
M.A.H.A.	Mid-Atlantic Hound Association	https://sites.google.com/site/midatlantichoundassociation	Yes	Durham, NC
S.H.O.T.	Sighthound Organization of Tidewater	www.shotlurecoursing.org		Hampton Roads, VA
S.O.L.	Sighthounds on the Lam	Facebook	Yes	Camden, SC

Conformation and Fun

AKC Conformation

AUGUST

13-17 Greensboro, NC
 23-24 Huntington, WV
 29-9/1 Raleigh, NC 
 All Breed Health Clinic

SEPTEMBER

13-14 Pinehurst, NC
 20-21 Chesapeake, VA
 26-28 Millwood, VA

OCTOBER

4-5 N. Augusta, SC
 11-12 Wilmington, NC
 25-26 Leesburg, VA

NOVEMBER

8-9 Winston-Salem, NC
 14-16 Concord, NC

DECEMBER

6-7 Winston-Salem, NC



**2014 IWCA National
 Best of Breed: Select Bitch Winner
 CH Stoneybrook Lismore Gypsy Rose
 4/27/2009**

Breeder: Steve LeVan & J. Simon.

Sire: Stoneybrook Warrior

Dam: Lismore Stoneybrook Mae.

**Owner: Stephen LeVan and Karen LeVan
 and J. Simon.**

Gypsy was just 3 months out of whelp!
 Candid photo courtesy of Steve & Karen LeVan.

Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club (PVIWC) Fun Day



Sunday, September 21, 2014

**Historic Highland House
 Home of the Rebas
 5519 Old National Pike, Frederick, MD**

**Entries open: 11:30 a.m.
 Judging begins: 12:30 p.m.**

**Judge: Dane St. Clair
 FUN for EVERY Hound*!
 Puppy 3 mos. to Veteran**

Fun classes plus puppy, adult &
 parade of Veterans.

Games! Food! Raffle! Fun!
 NO Points awarded. \$5/class.

Contact Judy at:
 judithchantelouis1@hotmail.com
 (262)818-2025 to help w/food!

Contact Jodie Jeweler:
 Jodie@jewelerfamily.com
 (410)266-8062 for details.

* Non-hounds are welcome!

2014 Regional, National and International Event Calendar

Event	Date	Location	Website
Rocky Mountain IW Assoc. Specialty	Fri., Aug. 29 - Sun., Aug. 31, 2014	Greely, CO	www.rmiwa.org
IW Club of Canada National Specialty	Fri., Sept. 19 - Sun., Sept. 21, 2014	Belleville, Ontario	www.iwcc.ca
Potomac Valley IW Club Fun Day	Sun., Sept. 21, 2014	Frederick, MD	www.pviwc.org
IW Club of Willamette Valley Fun Day	Sat., Sept. 27, 2014	Canby, OR	www.iwcwv.org
IW Assoc. Delaware Valley Specialty	Sat., Oct. 4 - Mon., Oct. 6, 2014	Mohnton, PA	www.iwadv.org
Locust Grove IW Assoc. Fun Match	Sat., Oct. 18, 2014	Edwardsville, IL	berwyck@ezl.com
Northern California IW Club	Friday, Oct. 24 - Sun., Oct. 26, 2014	Petaluma, CA	www.nciwc.org
IW Assoc. of the Garden State	Sun., Oct. 26 - Mon., Oct. 27, 2014	TBA	www.iwags.org

Future North American National Specialties

2015 IWCA National Specialty	May 25 - 28, 2015	Greely, CO	
2015 IW Club of Canada National Specialty	September 18 - 20, 2015	Brackley, Prince Edward Isl. (PEI)	www.iwcc.ca
2016 IWCA National Specialty	May 2 - 5, 2016	Grey Summit, MO - Tentative	
2017 IWCA National Specialty	TBA	Upstate NY - Tentative	
2018 IWCA National Specialty	April 30 - May 3, 2018	Grey Summit, MO	

Meeting Minutes



IWAMS Teleconference Board Meeting on June 16, 2014 at 7:30 p.m.

(Meeting minutes are recapped here for space. For the original minutes, please contact President, Gretchen Straub.)

Board members present and Call to Order: Gretchen Straub, President; Robb Straub, Treasurer; Tamara Dunn, Vice President; and Bambi Rabe, Director-at-Large. Committee members present: Heather Burns, Diane Vreeken, Linda King, Donna Lawlor, and Donna Pitt. Not present: Nancy Fauser, Secretary.

- ◆ **Approval of Minutes** from last board meeting: A quorum of votes from board members with majority of "yes".
- ◆ **Officer's Reports:** President, Vice President, and Director-At-Large - Nothing to report at this time. Secretary, not present to report.
- ◆ **Financial Report:** Robb Straub provided the current budget report with a total balance of: \$15,172.42.

Committee Reports

Newsletter: Diana Vreeken requested the board meeting minutes be published in the newsletter and that new member information is passed on to the newsletter editors.

Rescue: Robb Straub reported no new rescues this year and he has a long list of applicants.

Membership: Nancy Fauser has sent out membership cards and IWAMS logos to all members.

Programs: Linda King and Donna Lawlor reported the upcoming schedule included arrangements for a guest speaker at the annual meeting and spring picnic. Additional program activity deferred to new business and Donna Pitt's organization of a regional fun match. Raised question about a program for the (nuts and bolts) steps to achieving a regional fun match.

Website: Heather Burns reported the website is almost done and needs to look into avoiding ads. The group will discuss the possibility of a small monthly fee to remove ads from the website. She needs high resolution pictures of our hounds for the website. Please email them to her at: feyconri@gmail.com

Old Business

- ◆ **Website:** Noted above.
- ◆ **IWAMS Fun Match:** Donna Pitt reported the AKC is our host club and the application process requires proof of activity in the local club. She needs to create an club timeline over the last 20 years which involves compiling documents to provide to the AKC. She will contact long standing members for any activity/membership logs/fun match fliers/parade logs/meet the breed events that may be in print and in scrapbooks to create a timeline. The AKC also wants a list of active members and how they participate i.e. pet owner, conformation, agility, lure coursing, who is a judge, who is a handler, etc. Please help her with these things if you are able. Diana Vreeken collected the newsletters for the timeline. Tamara Dunn volunteered to work with Marnie Burke, the Raleigh St. Patrick's Day parade chair, to collect a participation timeline. Linda King reported the scope of recognition has broadened. Tamara Dunn reported IWAMS needs to be involved in the AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day (in Raleigh, September 20, 2014) and will contact the AKC on behalf of IWAMS. Donna Lawlor reported that they participated with the Mid Atlantic Hound Association at Responsible Dog Ownership Day on September 21, 2013 in Raleigh. Bambi Rabe noted that IWAMS involvement in the IWCA National Specialty Show of 2013 needed to be added to the time line.
- ◆ **New Business:** Gretchen Straub reported the annual board meeting is set for October 11 at the Durham Kennel Club. The board is working on a guest speaker and will continue to reach out to the canine community.
- ◆ **The NC Veterinary Medical Association (NCVMA) Friends of the NCVMA Foundation Grant:** Dr. Marguerite Gleason, DVM of The Carolinas Animal Hospital and Dental Clinic in Charlotte offered to award a \$750 Friends of the NCVMA Foundation grant to IWAMS via Heather Burns. Heather conferred with another IWAMS patron of the specialty practice, and both agreed to suggest to the IWAMS Board that the grant be used to help underwrite half the cost of cardiac testing for irish wolfhounds belonging to any club members for whom the full testing cost (\$175) would be prohibitive. After discussion, the Board expanded the motion to include IWAMS rescued hounds. Quorum for votes, all in favor. Tamara Dunn is the club's connection to Dr. Kate Meurs, the NC State Veterinarian who opened a genetic study of heart disease in our breed and provided heart testing in March. Please refer to the first quarter IWAMS newsletter for more information. Heather will contact our Treasurer, Robb Straub, for information required to receive the grant. The board was also made aware of a \$5,000 NCVMA High Five grant that IWAMS might be eligible for and will be awarded in 2015.
- ◆ **Adjournment:** The meeting concluded at 8:30 p.m.



Gorgeous Painting

In March, the painting above was featured on a U.K. Antiques Roadshow episode at Exeter Cathedral. This painting of two Irish Wolfhounds c.1890, "coupled" together by chained collars, is by Thomas Percy Earl (1874-1947). He was one of the renowned Earl family of sporting and animal painters. The owner bought it for £1000 at auction, very dirty; about five years ago. Today it is valued at around £10,000. "Coupling" involves chaining a young hound to an old one to learn their manners, especially when learning to hunt or for learning to behave around livestock.

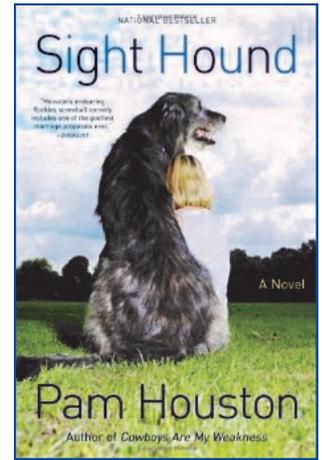
"Sight Hound"

Author: Pam Houston



Nancy Fauser recommends this book: "I was in Wilmington recently and stopped by my favorite thrift store. I found this book on the shelf and could hardly believe it. It must have been fate. It is a lovely, though

expected, sad read. Ms. Houston goes to the absolute heart of being owned and loved by an Irish Wolfhound."



Membership

- ◆ An updated membership list is included with this newsletter.
- ◆ Dues are Jan. 1 - Dec. 31 and dues statements are sent out with the annual meeting notice (usually).
- ◆ If you haven't, please send in your application and dues to our Treasurer: Robb Straub, 112 Burgwin Wright Way, Cary, NC 27519
- ◆ General Fund and Rescue donations are always welcome.
- ◆ If you know of a potential member/owner who would like the newsletter, please let Diana Vreeken know: dtchcdn@aol.com.
- ◆ Membership questions? Email Robb at: robb.straub@gmail.com.

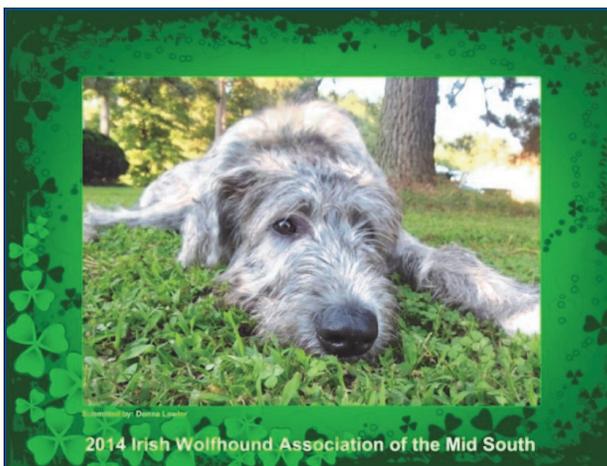
2014-2016 OFFICERS & COMMITTEES*

President:	Gretchen Straub	gretchen1969@nc.rr.com
Vice President:	Tamara R. Dunn	ierneiw@aol.com
Secretary:	Nancy Fauser	fauserne@yahoo.com
Treasurer:	Rob Straub	robb.straub@gmail.com
Director at Large:	Bambi Rabe	brabe@triad.rr.com
News Editor:	Diana Vreeken	dtchcdn@aol.com (757) 986-2222
Asst. Editor:	Heather Burns	feyconri@gmail.com (704) 856-0471
Rescue Coordinator:	Rob Straub	iwamsrescue@nc.rr.com (919) 372-9851
Programs:	Linda King Donna Lawlor	ardrhis@aol.com cordys.gammy@gmail.com
Web site:	www.iwams.org	Robb Straub robb.straub@gmail.com
Nominating Committee:	Mike Schulman Rob Straub	shumic@aol.com robb.straub@gmail.com

Join the IWAMS Yahoo group if you are an IWAMS member at:
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/IWAMS>

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 10, 2014

For the Third Quarter: July 1 - September 30, 2014



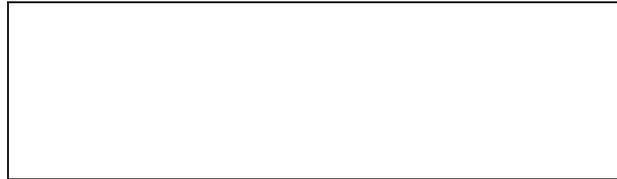
2014 IWAMS Calendars

There are a few 2014 IWAMS calendars still available for \$15 each! Each month features Irish Wolfhound(s) in a picture(s) submitted by members. To buy one, email Liz at: liz@loneriderbrewery.com with the subject line "2014 IWAMS calendar order". Thank you for making this calendar a success each year! Pictures for the 2015 Calendar will be due in September - all seasons are needed.



Irish Wolfhound Association
of the Mid-South Newsletter
c/o Diana Vreeken
4451 Adams Swamp Road
Suffolk, VA 23432

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



A Non-Profit 501(c)(7) Organization
Website: www.iwams.org



The Irish Wolfhound Association of the Mid-South

IWAMS serves Irish Wolfhound owners and fanciers in Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina. It formed in 1992 and is a not-for-profit 501(c)7 organization that encourages and sponsors education in the health and welfare of the Irish Wolfhound, promotes responsible quality breeding in unison with the standards of the Irish Wolfhound Club of America and the American Kennel Club, and provides rescue and placement for Irish Wolfhounds in Virginia, West Virginia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.