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ISSUE 5 / VOLUME 23 / 2014

Irish Wolfhound

Association of the Mid-South

Winter

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

The Texas 72 Rescue

*Submitted by Heather Burns with permission from Mary Ryan**

The effort to bring some of the seized Texas Irish Wolfhounds to be placed in adoptive homes on the east coast began weeks before it happened. Jean Minnier, the Irish Wolfhound Club of America (IWCA) and Irish Wolfhound Foundation (IWF) National Rescue Director, arranged for a 73-foot long, 18-wheel, top-of-the-line transport and the price was excellent. The transport would hold 24 hounds, with two per compartment, accessible water, and a video camera in each area so that the driver could see what was happening on the trip. The trip would be a 24-hour, 1275 mile drive from Houston to my farm in southern Virginia. However, when the date neared, things in Texas changed and there were no longer 24 hounds to transport. Originally, twelve hounds were to be offloaded here and twelve would continue to their new homes in New England.

I had seven eagerly waiting permanent homes, and Diane Hartney of the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club had five anxious adoptive homes. These numbers were further reduced to five and five and a new, smaller transport was arranged. The new transport could only hold ten hounds, and this left New England out. It was a four-horse trailer with water, the ability to be compartmentalized, and 5" of cedar savings on the floor. For a while it seemed doubtful that we could get that many interstate health certificates cleared for the hounds.

The transport trailer arrives and is directed to park in a fenced enclosure.

On Monday, October 21, ten hounds were carried on the transport in Houston to be offloaded at my farm on October 22. While we waited for the big day a lot of planning was going on. Dr. Donna Brown, PhD generously donated copies of Patricia B. Mc Connell's book "The Cautious Canine - How to Help Dogs Conquer Their Fears" for each of the new homes. Many experienced owners offered to help on the transport day even though they were not going home with a hound. Their generosity of expertise, effort, and energy was appreciated. We had eleven people present who were not getting a hound but were helping in any way they could. It is a very good feeling to be part of a united effort to do the best possible for these wonderful hounds.

TEXAS 72 RESCUE ...continued

I referred to all the helpers as "The Whisperers." We all met before the transport was expected and the action plan was reviewed. Everyone would only whisper, no normal talking, no dangling scarfs or clothing that could frighten the hounds, no moving quickly, and they would not look the hounds in the eye but look to the side. Everyone was asked to wear work aprons to hold cameras or whatever else they needed to carry, and leather work gloves to protect hands and wrists. Snacks for the hounds would be one hard-boiled egg without the shell, one inch cubes of organic lamb, 2 mozzarella string cheese sticks, and meat fingers of beef, chicken and turkey. All are easy to digest and would not contribute to bloat. Bloat was a very real possibility with the stress of the long trip. No dog biscuits as they are thought to contribute to bloat. There were buckets of water, a hose, and a pooper scooper with a covered garbage pail if needed. My Veterinarian, Dr. French, was on call six minutes away and was prepared for any medical emergencies.

One person was assigned to take a picture of each transport compartment with the hounds in it and that was good in theory, but the design of the transport did not allow for that in all stalls.

When the transport arrived, a medical team of two entered. One was a Vet Tech for 15 years and the other, a career registered nurse who has been a rescue home for Irish Wolfhounds and Greyhounds for many years. Each had their medical equipment and supplies and of those present, at least three were EMT's ready to assist if needed.

The hounds had to be carried out and would not, or could not, walk. They were quietly and slowly met by the greeters, the food team, and a helper scanning for a microchip. I thought it best to record each microchip number in case it was ever needed. I borrowed two universal scanners and we were successful in locating 9 out of 10 microchips in the hounds.

Gentle voices and calm hands were interacting with the leashed hounds. It was working beautifully until the medical team noted raspy breathing and pale gums - we had an emergency! I called Dr. French and the Vet Tech on the medical team, along with two other helpers who lived locally and knew where his office was, carried #697 "Brooke", a 4 year-old wheaten female to my SUV parked nearby. An hour later they returned without her.

After bloodwork, necessary tests, and x-rays, Dr French diagnosed her with aspiration pneumonia. She was too far gone to save and he released her from her pain. We were crying and felt terrible. All the effort and planning could not get her through this deadly problem. She vomited food she had been given before starting the trip and it went back down in her lungs, which caused irreversible damage.

We carried on with our plans and new owners made their choices by putting their martingale collar on the hound they wanted, and then put him/her in their vehicle. All adoptive homes were required to come with two people in their vehicle - one person to watch and hold on to the hound while the other drove. Because the dogs would not walk on a leash, some people were fooled into thinking their hound could not walk, and they were carried into the owner's vehicle.

My homes arrived at my farm around 8 a.m. and the transport arrived around noon as the driver became lost. If you ever visit southside Virginia, do not rely on GPS, it does not work here. Tom Hartney and the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club homes left on the journey back to northern Virginia. My new owners, their hounds, and all who helped, were on the road for their homes by 2 p.m.

The hounds that arrived were gentle. Not one hinted at biting anyone and the leather gloves were not needed at all. Out of the five hounds I placed, 3 are males and 2 Are females. Two of the males and one female are positive for

TEXAS 72 RESCUE ...continued

Heartworm. Both females previously had puppies. All of the hounds have bad teeth that need treatment and have varying tumors or cysts in their mouth or muzzle. As of this writing, two of the males have been neutered and their teeth are treated

One female weighing 62 lbs. is not strong enough for surgery but has gained about 10 lbs. Her ear infection has cleared up but her fear of people remains. Her records say 6 to 7 months old, but in reality she is 5 to 6 years old.

Sadly, the other female recorded as one year and two weeks old escaped from her new owners and ran into an oncoming car. Her forehead showed the damage and although she was taken to a Vet within minutes, her death was instant. She was in season and had puppies in the past. At the sight of any human she went into full panic mode. She broke many hearts.

The male who was 65 lbs., heartworm positive, and very, very shy has gained about 12 lbs. His BUN levels are very high and walks and half crawls in circles, counter-clockwise, at every opportunity. He is being evaluated for liver shunt. His record indicates he is two years old. To look at what is left of his teeth made me cry. They show that he chewed on the chain link enclosure for two years, at least. He is such a sweet boy. My thoughts are that he was kept in such small spaces before now, never had the chance to circle and is trying to make up for it. His owners are dedicated to doing everything possible to give him a wonderful life and the IWCA and IWF are supporting this effort. We are all praying for a cure for him, or at least, a control of symptoms. No Irish Wolfhound should have to live the way he has lived. Now he has a chance at a happy life with his two female Irish Wolfhound housemates to help him. Dr. Donna Brown has made herself available to assist the owners and we will all help him if we can.

Personally, my life is forever changed and saddened by seeing these - what should be glorious creatures - reduced to less than half of their being.

Mary Ryan

* Mary had been asked to write about the east coast transport for the Harp & Hound. H&H plans changed and she agreed to share it in the IWAMS newsletter. She serves as an independent volunteer IWCA Rescue Coordinator for Virginia.

IWAMS Donations

IWAMS has donated $4000, in addition to $300 collected from the Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade, to the Texas 72 Rescue. If you would like to help , donations can be sent to IWF Treasurer, David Milne, 150 Creek Road, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865. Or by visiting the IWF website: www.iwfoundation.org and click on the red "Donated" tab on the right side of your screen. Remember to designate your donation to the **" Texas 72".**

IWAMS Rescue Coordinator - Heather Burns

Hi all! Early in November, two Rescue Coordinators resigned in our region (Robb Straub for IWAMS and Mary Ryan who served as an independent IWCA Rescue Coordinator for Virginia) and I volunteered to fill in. IWAMS leadership agreed and pledged their support and support from IWAMS members (Y*O*U!) We are now updated on the IWCA/IWF National Rescue Directory list and on our new website (same address: www.iwams.org) for the four states we cover. We have an updated application, owner surrender info. and release form, and are reviewing the club rescue policy for any updates that might be needed.

We owe great thanks to Robb Straub, Mary Ryan, Ce Hoffman and Jacqie Stansfield for the service they gave as Rescue Coordinators in recent years, and to those who have helped around the edges. It is truly a labor of love.

IWAMS covers a large region. We may not be busy for long periods of time, but if you are willing to help with transport or a premise check, please email me:feyconri@gmail.com or call me: 757-323-5012.

President's Message

To the Membership:

Merry Christmas Everyone, and hopes for a joyful New Year!!

I'd like to start by thanking everyone for their patience as we've work through the recent transitions; many members have offered warm wishes, emotional support and constructive feedback and we are deeply appreciative. Robb and Gretchen worked hard to support the club over the past year and deserve our gratitude, because of their leadership we began building a new website and started the process to gain AKC recognition. I know stepping down was a hard decision; I want them to know they're appreciated. I've shared with them the communications I've received on their behalf; all have been concerned and supportive.

Over the past couple of months I've reached out to several past board and committee members for their knowledge and insight. I'd like to acknowledge the time, thoughts and assistance they've given, so a big thank you to Jacquie Stanfield, Joe and Donna Pitt, Heather Burns, and Bambi Rabe for the long phone calls, ideas and suggestions as we've worked through the recent changes. I hope I'm not forgetting anyone! If I am it's my failure alone.

Heather has uploaded our new website, it allows for enquires through a portal on the site and we've already been contacted by members of the community interested in the breed, rescue and the club. If you haven't had a chance to visit our new home online I highly recommend doing so, Heather has done a beautiful job. We will eventually be able to add a PayPal link, allowing for online payments of dues and donations.

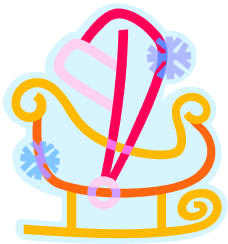
We had a conference call on Monday December 22, 2014. We'll send an email afterward with minutes from the call and updates on current projects. We'll discuss the upcoming Saint Patrick Day Parade, a spring meeting, an upcoming heart clinic at NC State Vet School for local wolfhounds and the move toward AKC Recognition and rescue. I would love to have club members reflect on these activities and plan to support the club in the areas that interest them the most. I can say our involvement in the Raleigh St. Patrick's Day Parade has become extensive over the years and it would be great to have members who could assist with set up and take down for this event.

One of our projects will be updating our rescue directory. We're putting together a rescue committee and need to identify members within our region willing to pick up, transport or foster hounds when needed. This is a critical part of our Club directive so if you feel strongly about helping hounds in need please contact us and let us know if you can help. We particularly need individuals who are willing to foster, are experienced with the breed and can evaluate the needs of the hound. This allows us to make better decisions on behalf of the hounds, ensuring they're in the best possible home.

Thank you for listening and I look forward to seeing all of you in the New Year! Hugs to your hounds and Happy Holidays!

Tamara Dunn
Acting President
Irish Wolfhound Association of the Mid-South

Caragh Burns as a reindeer, helps her dad as Santa, during the "Santa Children's Breakfast" Brunch at their church in December.



IWAMS SPRING MEETING

Upcoming Spring Meeting is in the works…

We are planning on a March Gathering in Raleigh, NC

Date – To Be Announced!

NEW LITTER

OWEN

BRIGHID

MIN

SPIFF

ELEANOR

SEPTEMBER 6, 2014
CH PITLOCHRY'S BIG BEN
&
CH QUINLAN'S PIECE OF THE PATTERN (MIN)
Min is owned by Doug Henry and Diana Vreeken

NEW ARRIVAL

Jack and Sandy Donoghue

By sheer luck I came across St Ledger Hastings after deciding I would not get another IW. Berne Frost Smith is the breeder and as far as I can tell "Dooney" is a very nice puppy dog. A charmer by nature and all boy in behavior. Here he is (at left) making nice during the initial introduction to a frequently visiting pet owned by our daughter.

Dooney

ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADES 2015

BERRIN DUNN

Happy New Year!

As you fill in your beautiful new calendars, make sure you enter one of the most fun events for Irish Wolfhounds.

It's great to celebrate the feast of **St Patrick with a parade**, and Irish Wolfhounds are always favored guests.

Note that some may be on the feast day, March 17 (like NYC's), but most are on the Saturday before, which would be **March 14, 2015** this year.

The RALEIGH Parade: has become the second largest St. Patrick's Day Parade in the Southeast and IWAMS' presence for over a decade has helped it grow. Besides guarding the Piper at the very front of the parade, we usually host a booth at the festival afterwards, where spectators can meet and learn about the hounds. The Raleigh Parade is being held this year on **Saturday, March 14th**. Contact Marne Burke: 919-872-3252 (day of parade only: 919-637-6509.)

The MOORESVILLE Parade: is **Saturday, March 7th**. A smaller but charming parade. No booth at this time. Contact Heather Burns: 757-323-5012.

If neither of these is convenient, there may be one closer to you. CHARLOTTE has invited us, but we do not yet have a liaison for the IWs with their parade committee. Would you like to be our point of contact (POC)? POCs are the people who contact the parade committee, advise IWAMS so people know they are invited, and answer questions about time/route/parking on the day.

So call your county seat or mayor's office. IWAMS country has many Scot Irish descendants and you can find Irish Festivals in March (or year round) in many locations.

Remember: You can just show up to be a spectator, but to be a part, you'll need an invitation from the parade committee or the IWAMS POC. (Or you can walk with a school/club of your choice.)

If you are interested, or once you've found your committee, you can call Marne Burke at: 919-872-3252 with any questions.

Santa Photos! Min, Millie, Erith, Owen and Brighid, Henry/ Vreeken

RAINBOW BRIDGE

Shannon Donoghue

"Shannon leaves a big hole in our hearts. She came to us via Mary Ryan after surgery to remove a rug that she had eaten along with a skin problem and malnutrition. Altogether, she was in a somewhat fragile state of health. This just goes to show that with a very typical Irish Wolfhound personality a special bond developed along with a success story. She was nine years old and very loving and sweet. We were lucky to have known her. Thank you Mary Ryan."

Jack & Sandy Donoghue

2014 Officers & Committees

President:	Tamara R. Dunn	ierneiw@aol.com
Vice President:	Donna Pitt	cvmdsp@vt.edu
Secretary:	Heather Burns	feyconri@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Diana Vreeken	dtchcdn@gmail.com
Director at Large:	Bambi Rabe	brabe@triad.rr.com
News Editor	Diana Vreeken	dtchcdn@gmail.com
Rescue:	Heather Burn	feyconri@gmail.com
Programs:	Linda King	ardrhis@aol.com
	Donna Lawlor	cordys.gammyu@gmail.com

NEXT NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS MARCH 8, 2015

REGIONAL EVENTS

AKC Conformation

JANUARY

3-4 Pendleton, SC
7-11 Fredericksburg, VA
23-25 Richmond, VA
24-25 Ladson, SC

MARCH

7-8 Harrisonburg, VA
18-22 Raleigh, NC
26-28 Concord, NC

APRIL

23-26 Morgantown, WV
25-26 Lumberton, NC

MAY

16-17 Manassas, VA
22-25 Fletcher, NC
29-31 Concord, NC
30-31 Woodstock, VA

ASFA Lure Coursing

http://www.asfa.org/event/index.htm

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.

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

2015

JANUARY

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

FEBRUARY

21-22 M.A.H.A. @ Reidsville, NC

MAY

16-17 M.A.H.A. @ Reidsville, NC

LGRA Straight Race

http:// www.lgra.org/events/schedule/

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.

IWCA NATIONAL SPECIALTY

MAY 24-28, 2015

ISLAND GROVE REGIONAL PARK

GREELEY, COLORADO

CONGRATULATIONS….

SILVER THORN'S ROSEMARY

JUDGE: JoAnne M.Buehler

Photo: Judie Jeweler

CAROLE SILVERTHORNE

"FIRST GD CHAMPION POINT"

BEST OF BREED - IRON DUKE OF WILDER

11/8/2014 Winston-Salem, NC

JUDGE: William E. Usherwood

HANDLER: Frank J. Murphy

Photo: J. & J. Photography

MARTHA ANN & JEFF TRAYLOR

BEST OF BREED - QUILMES DE SUDESTADA

11/9/2014 Winston-Salem, NC

JUDGE: Elliot B. Weiss

HANDLER: Frank J. Murphy

Photo: J & J Photography

MARTHA ANN & JEFF TRAYLOR

MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS

After discussion, a motion was duly made, seconded, and passed to publish a notice in our current newsletter stating that due to the change of the club's administration, the membership dues for the year are being waived in lieu of the member's voluntary donation(s) to the Rescue, Education, or General Fund at the member's discretion, and the leadership thanks members for their patience. The membership roll will stay intact for 2015. It is a good will gift to the membership by the leadership during this time until the club gets on track again, and in the interim any donations to the club funds are greatly appreciated. **A membership application will also be included in the newsletter for new members or those who want to pay their dues regardless.**

Irish Wolfhound Association of the Mid-South

2015 Membership (Check one): ___ Renewal ___ New

Name: _____

Street: _____ P.O.Box: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone #1: (___)_____ Phone #2: (___)_____

Email #1: _____ Email #2: _____

Occupation: _____

2015 MEMBERSHIP TYPE (Check One)

Fill in Amounts

Dues: ___ $20 Regular ___ $25 Household ___ $10 Associate ___ $5 Junior $_____

Rescue Donation: $_____

General Donation: $_____

TOTAL PAID: $_____

Are you a Breeder?: ___ Yes ___ No

Do you currently live with Irish Wolfhounds?: ___ Yes How many?: ___ ___ No

I AM INTERESTED IN (check next to all that apply):

	Fun Matches		St. Patrick's Day Parades		Newsletter
	Social Gatherings		Breed Education/Seminars		Lure Coursing
	Conformation Match		Rescue Committee		
	Other:				

If this is a NEW application for Regular and Household membership, please provide the names of two IWAMS members that recommend you. For Associate and Junior membership, provide one member recommendation. If you do not know anyone, please contact the club Membership Secretary, Heather Burns to introduce yourself at feyconri@gmail.com by email, or if you don't have email, call her at: (757) 323-5012.

Name: _____ Signature (if possible): _____

Name: _____ Signature (if possible): _____

I/we agree to abide by the current Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws of the Irish Wolfhound Association of the Mid-South Corporation. (These can be found on the IWAMS website under the "Home" tab at www.iwams.org)

Signature: _____

Please return this completed membership application along with your dues to: Diana Vreeken, Treasurer

Membership dues cover January 1 - December 31, 2015 4451 Adams Swamp Rd Suffolk, VA 23434

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

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,

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