



FAOL CU

2007 SPECIALTY
RESULTS



Visit us on the web at: www.pviwc.org

2008 PVIWC OFFICERS

| | |
|----------------|---------------------------------|
| President | Robert J. Brehl 301-602-4215 |
| Vice President | Tammy Aube 540-841-2241 |
| Secretary | Susan Morfit 301-330-0008 |
| Treasurer | Joe O'Leary 301-229-2026 |

Board Members

Judie Jeweler
410-266-8062
judie@jewelerfamily.com
Christina Kallay
410-519-5744
ckallay@earthlink.net
David and Denise Harris
410-997-7004
dbhent@verizon.net

Mark your Calendar:

February 11 - 132d Westminster Kennel Club
Show (note: there are 15 Irish Wolfhounds
entered)

ATTENTION Exhibitors:

The Judge's Selection Committee is looking for your input or recommendation for the PVIWC Conformation judge for 2010 and the Sweepstakes judge for 2009. If **any** exhibiting or active member of the PVIWC would like to submit a judge, please submit your recommendations to Linda at: ardrhis@aol.com or by phone: 434-978-2873 soonest. Many Thanks!

PVIWC Specialty Sweepstakes Critique, April 1, 2007;
From Ms. Linda Souza

I WISH TO EXTEND MY SINCERE APPRECIATION TO THE POTOMAC VALLEY IRISH WOLF HOUND CLUB FOR INVITING ME TO JUDGE THE PUPPY SWEEPSTAKES AT THEIR 20TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW. IT WAS AN HONOR AND A PLEASURE. THERE WAS NOTHING BETTER THAN COMING STRAIGHT FROM A LONG BUSINESS TRIP WITH IW WITHDRAWL AND BEING ABLE TO WATCH AND GO OVER SUCH A LOVELY COLLECTION OF YOUNGSTERS. I WANT TO THANK THE SHOW-CHAIRPERSON, DEE VAN NEST, ALONG WITH HER COMMITTEE FOR CREATING SUCH A WONDERFUL VENUE FOR THE SHOW AND PROVIDING ME WITH ROYAL HOSPITALITY. I WISH TO EXTEND MY THANKS ALSO TO RING STEWARD EXTRAORDINAIRE, PETER VAN BRUNT. MOST OF ALL, THANK YOU TO THE EXHIBITORS FOR BRINGING YOUR PUPPIES AND SHOWING WITH THE GREATEST SPIRIT OF SPORTSMANSHIP. I HOPE YOU FELT IT WAS A GOOD EXPERIENCE FOR YOUR YOUNGSTERS.

SORTING OUT PUPPIES IS A FUN BUT DIFFICULT TASK—ESPECIALLY IN THE 6-12 MONTH RANGE. SO MANY THINGS ARE CHANGING DAILY-- EVEN THE MOST PROMISING PUPPY CAN HAVE AN "UGLY" STAGE. FOR THIS REASON YOU ARE FORCED TO JUDGE THEM ON THE DAY WHICH DOESN'T NECESSARILY REFLECT HOW THEY WOULD BE PLACED IN THE FUTURE. I WILL, HOWEVER, NOT REWARD OVERLY MATURE YOUNGSTERS IF THERE IS ANOTHER PUPPY OF EQUAL QUALITY. I HAVE FOUND OVER THE YEARS THAT TOO MUCH BODY MASS EARLY ON DOES NOT SPEAK WELL FOR THE FUTURE BALANCE

Continued on Page 3

PVIWC List of Meeting & Events 2008

Jan 13 - Regular Meeting: Host, Bob Brehl's

Feb 10 - Regular Meeting: Hosts, Judah & Carla dal Cais

There is no a meeting scheduled for March; the PVIWC invites everyone to participate in the St. Patrick's Day Parades as outlined below.

Mar 1 Alexandria, VA (Saturday)

www.ballyshanners.org

- Fun Dog Show @ Market Square, 11-12pm
- Parade Division 1 steps off to begin the parade at 12:30 p.m. (In the event of inclement weather, makeup date is Saturday, March 8, 2008.)

Mar 15 Gaithersburg, MD (Saturday) 10-12:00 p.m.

www.hssg.org

Mar 15 Manassas, VA (Saturday) 10-1:00 p.m.

www.stpatparade.org

Mar 16 Washington, D.C. (Sunday) 12-3:00 p.m.

www.dcstpatparade.com

Mar 16 Baltimore, MD (Sunday) 2:00 p.m.

www.stpatrickdayparade.com

Mar 30-31 Specialty Show: held at Quiet Waters Park, Annapolis

Apr No meeting due to Specialty Show

May 11 Regular Meeting: Hosts, **TBD**

Jun 8 Regular Meeting: Hosts, Al, Jodie, & Judie Jeweler

Jul 13 Regular Meeting: Hosts, Dave & Denise Harris

Aug 10 Board Meeting Only: Host, Christina Kallay

Sep Fun Match: Bay Ridge Marina

Oct 12 Regular Meeting: **TBD**

Nov 9 Regular Meeting: Hosts, Susan & Van Morfit

Dec 14 Holiday Party: **TBD**

ATTENTION!

The premium for the PVIWC 2008 Specialty is almost ready! A particular change AKC recently made in the Rules Applying to Dog Shows, Chapter 11, Section 2 pertains to the Event Service Fee collected. Effective January 1, 2008, AKC will collect a \$3.00 Event Service Fee for the first entry of a dog and a \$3.00 service fee for each additional entry of the same dog in the regular and non-regular recordable single entry classes, in all AKC licensed and member club events. There is no recording fee or event service fee for sweepstakes, futurities, brace/team, multi-dog classes, or special attractions.

OF INTEREST to EXHIBITORS and FANCIERS

April 2-5 –Northern Neck Kennel Club, Greater Fredericksburg Kennel Club (loc: Fredericksburg, VA)

April 26-27 – Chesapeake VA Dog Fanciers Association (loc: Hampton, VA)

May 17 – Mattaponi Kennel Club (loc: Manassas, VA)

May 23-26 – Hampton Cluster – Langley KC, Gloucester KC of VA

May 31 – June 1 – Charlottesville-Albemarle KC, Inc. (loc: Charlottesville)

June 8-9 – Shenandoah Valley KC, Inc

June 21-22 – Virginia KC, Inc (loc: Richmond, VA)

July 12-13 – Shawnee KC, Inc (loc: Berryville, VA)

August 3 – New River Valley KC (loc: Salem, VA)

Around the Holidays we hear and read about ways to keep your pets (dogs or cats) healthy during the season. However, the following are habits to acquire year round.

Animals should not have access to antifreeze.

Balloons are a no no, especially if you have a hound that "eats anything".

Uncooked dough with yeast...absolutely not. The dough can still rise if ingested which may cause bloating.

Fatty foods - They are bad enough for humans. A diet that is too rich in fats can upset the GI tract and in some sensitive animals, pancreatitis may result. Say no to poultry bones, alcohol, chocolate, macadamia nuts and raisins!

Check the paws routinely (not once a month), you may desire to check them every time they come from outside. This habit will help you get into the routine of cutting those nails. Inspect the pads, but please inspect between the pads. I am surrounded by woods; oaks and pines. A little cap from an acorn can cause a dog to limp.

Here is one of my favorite habits: Stimulate your dog's brain often.

My last typed words are: Look at your animals shot records to make sure he or she is up-to-date.

AND STRENGTH OF THE DOG.

MY PREFERRED WAY TO ASSESS PUPPIES AND ADULTS IS TO LET THEM STAND FREE (WITHOUT BEING STACKED) AND TO LET THEM GAIT AT A TROT OF MEDIUM SPEED. THIS ALLOWS ME TO SEE THEIR SHAPE BOTH STANDING AND MOVING AND TO LOOK FOR THAT EASY AND ACTIVE GAIT. MY WINNERS SORTED OUT AS FOLLOWS.

6-9 MONTH PUPPY DOGS (7 ENTERED – 2 ABSENT)

1ST - #15 SKYES THUNDER (GENOVESE) – A HANDSOME RED BRINDLE WITH LOVELY PRESENCE THAT WAS DISPLAYED BOTH STANDING AND MOVING. HE WAS SHAPLY WITH A GOOD COAT AND MOTORED HIMSELF AROUND WITH A STRONG, OPEN SIDE GAIT. HIS HEAD WAS A BIT STARK AND HE COULD HAVE A BETTER EAR BUT HIS QUALITY IN SHAPE AND MOVEMENT OVERSHADOWED THESE DETAILS.

2ND - #11 GARLOW NONE-SUCH OF EAGLE (BOWERS, McDONALD) – A NICE WHEATEN BRINDLE WITH A GOOD TOPLINE AND LOVELY OVERALL SHAPE. HE MOVED WELL AND HELD HIS SHAPE IN MOTION. A TOUCH MORE BONE AND MORE POWER OF PRESENCE WOULD HAVE PUSHED HIM INTO FIRST PLACE.

3RD - #13 BLAIR PRIME NUMBER AT TARALYN (McKINNEY, HOFFMAN, CONNER) THIS PUPPY HAD A NICE SIDE GAIT BUT NOT THE POWER OR SHAPE OF 1ST AND 2ND.

4TH - #17 BLAIR'S SQUARE ROOT (HOFFMAN, CONNER) – THIS PUPPY IS A LITTER BROTHER TO THE 3RD PLACE PUPPY AND HAS A SIMILAR SHAPE WITH GOOD SIDE GAIT. HE COULD USE MORE BONE AND SIZE.

9-12 MONTH PUPPY DOGS (3 ENTERED – 1 ABSENT)

1ST - #27 PITLOCHRY'S KEYSTONE (MARX, BENJAMIN, LUTHER) A HANDSOME WHEATEN DOG WITH DARK POINTS WHO WON THIS CLASS ON OVERALL SHAPE AND SOUNDNESS. HE HAD A PLEASING HEAD WITH GOOD EAR AND CORRECT COAT. HE CARRIED HIMSELF NICELY AROUND THE RING.

2ND - #23 KINDRED CORMAC O'BELTANE (CAMEL, NEFF) A BRINDLE MALE WITH GOOD DEPTH BUT NOT WILLING TO SHOW HIMSELF OFF TODAY. HOPEFULLY, HE WILL BUILD SOME CONFIDENCE AS HE MATURES.

12-15 MONTH DOGS (10 ENTERED – 3 ABSENT)

1ST - #63 GLENAMADDA STARKEEPER ARMAGH (CARTER) THIS DOG WAS THE EASY WINNER OF THIS CLASS. HE HAD A NICE SHAPE WITH GOOD BONE AND SUBSTANCE AND MOVED AROUND THE RING EASILY AND ACTIVELY. I'M NOT SURE THAT HE WILL BE THE TALLEST DOG ON THE BLOCK, BUT HE'S BALANCED, MASCULINE AND SOUND—AN HONEST DOG. (BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX TO BEST IN SWEEPSTAKES)

2ND - #39 TALIESIN'S WALERON (SMITH) A YOUNGER LOOKING WHEATEN BRINDLE WITH A NICE SHAPE AND GOOD SIDE GAIT. THIS WAS A LOVELY DOG BUT DIDN'T QUITE HAVE THE MASCULINITY OF 1ST PLACE. IT WILL BE INTERESTING TO SEE HOW HE GROWS OUT.

3RD - #37 CONNEMARA'S FIRE AND BRIMSTONE (MORRIS, SHARPE) THIS IS A HANDSOME, DARK MALE WITH A GOOD SHAPE. THE 2ND PLACE DOG USED HIMSELF BETTER ON THE GO AROUND WHICH IS WHY I PLACED THIS DOG THIRD. I LIKED HIS TYPE VERY MUCH.

4TH - #49 CRIONNACHT CARRICKANEENA WYSE (CARNEY) THIS IS ANOTHER LOVELY MALE WITH WONDERFUL TYPE. HE IS OBVIOUSLY TRYING TO LEARN TO DEAL WITH THE SHOW RING. WHEN

HE MASTERS THIS FEAT, I THINK HE WILL BE SOMETHING VERY SPECIAL. HE IS A HOUND—
THROUGH AND THROUGH.

15-18 MONTH DOGS (3 ENTERED – 0 ABSENT)

THIS WAS A TOUGH CLASS. I FOUND OUT WHY WHEN I SAW THE CATALOG. THEY ARE ALL LITTER
BROTHERS. I TRULY WAS HAVING A HARD TIME DECIDING HOW TO PLACE THEM. IN THE END, I
JUST WENT BACK TO TYPE, SIZE AND MOVEMENT AND MADE MY DECISION. THE VERY NEXT DAY
IT COULD HAVE BEEN DIFFERENT. THEY ALL 3 HAD “HAPPY” TAILS TODAY.

1ST - #81 VANDEVENTER’S CEARBHALL O’ROS (MORFIT) A RED WHEATEN WITH GOOD BONE. MOVED
CLEAN ON HIS DOWN AND BACK AND CARRIED HIMSELF WELL GOING AROUND.

2ND - #51 ARMAGH’S FAOLAN BUSTER O’ROS (CARTER) A BRINDLE WITH A NICE SHAPE BUT COULD
USE A TOUCH MORE DEPTH. MOVED WELL ON THE GO AROUND.

3RD - #45 ATHAIR CRIONNA O’ROS (BREHL) A RED BRINDLE WITH A NICE SHAPE BUT DOES NOT USE
HIMSELF AS WELL ON THE MOVE TODAY.

AT THIS POINT, I WANT TO MENTION THAT THE DEPTH OF QUALITY IN THESE BITCH CLASSES WAS
EXCEPTIONAL. THIS BODES WELL FOR THE FUTURE.

6-9 MONTH PUPPY BITCHES (9 ENTERED – 0 ABSENT)

1ST - #10 ARD RHI’S CALIDA OF CASTLEMAINE (KING) A GORGEOUS, DARK BRINDLE BITCH WITH A
BEAUTIFUL HEAD AND DARK EYES. SHE HOLDS HER TOPLINE BOTH STANDING AND MOVING.
LOVELY DEPTH WITH GOOD BALANCE. A BEAUTY.

2ND - #22 SKYES TRYSKELLE BASTILLE (RABE, SIMON, MALONEY) ANOTHER BEAUTIFUL PUPPY—
WHEATEN IN COLOR. ONCE AGAIN, HOLDING SHAPE STANDING AND ON THE MOVE. SHE ALSO
USED HERSELF WELL GOING AROUND. VERY CLOSE BETWEEN 1ST AND 2ND.

3RD - #20 STONEYBROOK PERIDOT AT SUMMERHILL (RABE, SIMON) A RED WHEATEN WITH SUGAR
WHITE FEET AND A NICE TOPLINE. SHE HAD A GOOD THIGH AND MOVED WELL. NOT QUITE AS
SMOOTH IN LINES AT THE FIRST TWO GIRLS BUT ANOTHER QUALITY BITCH.

4TH - #6 ROCKHART SILVERWOLF KYLAH (TAMM, HARTENSTEIN) A VERY YOUNG LOOKING GIRL IN
THE CLASS BUT WHEN SHE GOT HERSELF GOING I LIKED WHAT I SAW. SHE HAD MOMENTS OF
HOLDING A VERY NICE SHAPE AND HER TYPE WAS LOVELY. HOPEFULLY, SHE WILL CONTINUE TO
DEVELOP INTO SOMETHING VERY NICE. SHE HAS THE POTENTIAL.

9-12 MONTH PUPPY BITCHES (4 ENTERED – 2 ABSENT)

1ST - #26 GORDON OF AERIE (MARX, BENJAMIN) THIS IS A QUALITY BRINDLE BITCH WITH AN
EXCELLENT SHAPE AND GOOD MOVEMENT WHETHER SHE’S STANDING OR MOVING. SHE HAS THE
RIGHT AMOUNT OF LEG TO BALANCE HER BODY IN THIS AGE RANGE. ALL OF HER DETAILS—HEAD,
EARS, COAT ETC. ARE IN THE PLUS COLUMN.

2ND - #28 ERINWOOD RAJEAN (PALOMA) ANOTHER BITCH OF EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY WITH ALL AT
SAME WONDERFUL POINTS AS THOSE OF THE FIRST PLACE BITCH. I WOULD ONLY WANT TO SEE
MORE LEG UNDER HER AT THIS AGE WITH THE TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF DEPTH SHE HAS IN HER
BODY. THIS IS STILL A BITCH OF EXCEPTIONAL QUALITY. WHAT A CLASS OF TWO!

12-15 MONTH BITCHES (12 ENTERED – 2 ABSENT)

1ST - #66 VESUVIUS OF AERIE (LUTHER,BENJAMIN,MARX) THIS WHEATEN BITCH CAUGHT MY EYE IN THIS LARGE CLASS IMMEDIATELY. SHE WAS STUNNING. HER SHAPE STANDING WAS PERFECT. HER SHAPE ON THE MOVE WAS PERFECT. I LOVED EVERYTHING ABOUT HER. SHE WAS NOT OVER DONE FOR HER AGE. SHE STILL HAD A BIT OF THE "FILLY LOOK" TO HER BUT YOU COULD SEE SHE IS GOING TO HAVE ALL SHE NEEDS DOWN THE ROAD. I WISH SHE WERE IN MY YARD. (BEST IN SWEEPSTAKES)

2ND - #62 REDTOPS CHARISMA AT BLAIR (HOFFMAN,WORTMAN,CONNER) A LOVELY GRAY BRINDLE BITCH WITH THE SHAPE AND TOPLINE I LOOK FOR. SHE MOVED AROUND NICELY HOLDING THAT GOOD SHAPE.

3RD - #68 CARRICKANEENA CRIONNACHT DARCY (FLANAGAN) A NICE STRONG BITCH WITH GREAT MOVEMENT. WOULD LIKE TO SEE HER TOPLINE HOLD A LITTLE BETTER ON THE MOVE BUT THIS DOES NOT DETRACT FROM HER OVERALL STRENGTH AND QUALITIES.

4TH - #52 PITLOCHRY'S JAGGER (MARX, BENJAMIN) A QUALITY BLACK BITCH WITH GOOD SUBSTANCE AND STRONG MOVEMENT. HER LINES DON'T FLOW QUITE AS SMOOTHLY AS THE OTHERS PLACED BEFORE HER, BUT SHE HAS GOOD STRENGTH IN HER BODY WHICH APPEALED TO ME.

15-18 MONTH BITCHES (6 ENTERED – 2 ABSENT)

1ST - #46 THUNDERWOLF'S CONNEMARA AUTUMN (SHARPE,TRASKOS,OSBORNE) A DARK BRINDLE BITCH OF LOVELY TYPE AND THE BEST OVERALL SHAPE IN THE CLASS. SHE WAS SOUND AND MOVED WELL AND WAS VERY PLEASING TO THE EYE!

2ND - #32 THUNDERWOLF TESSA OF SHANACHIE (MONAHAN,TRASKOS,OSBORNE) I SEE IN THE CATALOG THAT THIS IS A LITTER SISTER TO THE 1ST PLACE BITCH WHICH IS OBVIOUSLY WHY I LIKED HER. THE SISTERS RESEMBLE ONE ANOTHER! SHE ISN'T QUITE AS MATURE AS HER SISTER BUT SHE COULD EASILY CATCH UP DURING THE NEXT YEAR. SHE HAS A LOVELY SHAPE AND MOVES FREE AND EASY. SHE IS A VERY NICE BITCH.

3RD - #56 MOIRNE O'ROS (BREHL) A RED BRINDLE BITCH WITH A VERY NICE SHAPE BUT NOT MOVING AS SMOOTHLY AS 1ST AND 2ND. HOPEFULLY THIS WILL IMPROVE WITH MATURITY AND PRACTICE.

4TH - #110 VANDEVENTER'S CAMPBELL O'ROS (MORFIT) A RED BRINDLE BITCH WITH A NICE SHAPE THAT COULD USE A LITTLE MORE BONE. SHE WAS ALSO NOT MOVING HER BEST TODAY. I SEE SHE IS A LITTER SISTER TO THE 3RD PLACE BITCH. I FEEL THEIR MOVEMENT WILL BOTH IMPROVE WITH TIME AND MORE EXPOSURE TO THE RING.

I HAVE TO SAY WHEN MY CLASS WINNERS CAME INTO THE RING FOR BEST IN SWEEPS JUDGING, I WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE DEPTH OF QUALITY. THERE WERE MANY WORTHY WINNERS WHO COULD HAVE EASILY GONE ON TO BEST IN SWEEPS OR BEST OPPOSITE IN SWEEPS. IT WAS A FABULOUS LINEUP!

THANK YOU, AGAIN, FOR GIVING ME THIS WONDERFUL ASSIGNMENT. I THOROUGHLY ENJOYED MYSELF.

2007 Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club Specialty
Quiet Waters Park, Annapolis, Maryland
April 1 & 2, 2007
Judges Critique: Jocelyne Gagné

My sincere thanks to the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club for the invitation to judge your annual specialty. I had looked forward to this weekend with much anticipation for nearly two years, and can tell you that it fulfilled my expectations and was a delightful experience.

Dee Van Nest and her show committee (comprised of her friends and family) made me feel welcome, and well looked after! My driver and escort Christina Kally was a lovely person who greeted me at the airport and made sure I was transported safely for the next two days. And of course, who cannot do well as a judge when you have the omnipresent Peter Van Brunt as your chief ring steward! Thank you Peter for keeping me on my toes, for the great conversation, and most of all for the Westminster pens! Peter was capably assisted by several other stewards, and they all made sure the right dogs got into the ring in the right order, at the right time! I never really got to talk to the holding ring stewards, because they were operating at the other end of the ring, but I still appreciate all of their efforts. Tammy the show secretary was always available; both before and during the show to answer my questions, and make sure I had all of the right paperwork.

Thank you to the show committee and workers. All of the club members did their jobs exceptionally well so they allowed me to focus totally on my job...to judge the hounds. And this was not only my task for the two days of the show, but very much my pleasure. Thank you to all the exhibitors for providing me with the opportunity to go over your wonderful wolfhounds. The sportsmanship and congeniality of the exhibitors (with one unfortunate exception) made my time in the ring very pleasant.

My co-judge Linda Souza is a great friend, and one who I rarely get to see. So it was a special treat for me to share the judging podium with her. Linda and I have long shared a similar vision of what a great Irish Wolfhound should look like. It was no surprise to either of us after the show, to see that we had chosen pretty much the same dogs as our winners, in most of the puppy classes.

While I was a little concerned about the weather on the first day, with all the weather reports calling for a 60% chance of rain, we ended up having perfect showing weather. My escort probably wondered at the bags I carried with me to the show site on that first day of judging.... Extra jackets, rain gear, foot wear, etc. I figured if I was prepared for nasty weather, I wouldn't need to use the gear! I was right, as it remained cool but dry, and very pleasant for the dogs. The next day we saw more sun, and it was a little warmer, but again quite tolerable in terms of comfort for the hounds.

I was most impressed with the depth of quality in the bitches. This bodes well for the future of our breed. In each of the bitch classes there were sound, typical and shapely bitches who could easily have earned the number one spot on any other given day. In particular the Open and Bred By Exhibitor bitch classes had some remarkably beautiful females, who excelled in breed type, movement and condition. This speaks volumes to the dedication of their breeders and owners.

Having said how impressed I was with the bitches, I have to admit that I was a little disappointed in general with the quality of the dogs. While there were many average dogs, there were only a few stand outs. Even in the specials ring, I would have hoped for a few more high quality males that met my expectations of being exceptional. Having said all that, I was very happy with all of my major winners, and feel that these hounds were truly excellent examples of what an Irish Wolfhound should be.

Anyone who has watched me judge, or seen my own dogs, will know that movement is of prime importance to me, and often, this was the deciding factor in an otherwise beautiful class of hounds who were quite equal when standing. I have always believed that a sighthound is only as good as its legs, and we must never forget that while our wolfhounds are giants among dogs, they are still a running hound. I constantly promote that form follows function, so a coursing and hunting hound has to be built to run and dispatch its prey. This means that it has to move well, have classic sighthound shape, and because of their prey, a wolfhound also has to be a strong and powerful hound. These criteria that I apply to my breeding program, are the same ones I use when judging. I was so pleased to find many hounds of this description at the Potomac specialty, and in particular my last 4 hounds in the ring best portrayed those attributes.

News from Wisconsin

Heather and her kids are doing well; she says that Aengus, being the typical male IW, is *finally* filling out! Heather and her family are staying very active with parades, festivals, highland games, and concerts.



Here are some pictures from this year's Irish Fest, Heather says its the largest Irish Music Festival in the world! They had great weather on Friday, but Sat. and Sun. it rained all day. We know what that is like, don't we? Heather and her kids performed for an hour in the pouring rain! You have to give props to the pipers that kept their fingers from sliding on the wet chanthers!

Her wolfhound, Aengus, is doing well. She promises to send pictures soon. Heather's daughters, Adrienne, in the Wallace tartan; Ember is in the Irish National tartan; and Kylie and Heather are in Irish Green, which is their bands kilt.



MEMBERSHIP DUES NOTICES were mailed out. If you have not received your notice, please contact Joe O'Leary (contact information can be found on the front cover).

If you are interested in sponsoring a trophy for the 2008 PVIWC Specialty, please contact Carol Silverthorn.

SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS OF BLOAT IN IRISH WOLFHOUNDS: PART II

By: Jodie Jeweler

In the last edition of Faol Cu, I wrote about bloat and how dangerous it is. There are new methods of “tacking” (gastropexy) the stomach to the abdomen wall to prevent torsion, but don’t be misled into thinking this will prevent bloat. A tacked dog can still bloat. Tacking lessens the likelihood of torsion, but does not prevent it. Gastropexy can now be done via 3 small incisions on the dog’s side, or via tiny scopes, laparoscopically. Many vets recommend keeping a dog which has been recently “tacked” calm for as long as 6 weeks. Tacking involves drawing stitches from the outer wall of the stomach to the wall of the abdomen. The stitches cause scar tissue to form, which is what actually hold the stomach in place. The stitches eventually dissolve.

After bloat, your vet may check for damage to the liver, spleen, kidneys or heart. Damage to the stomach or other organs is common and may lead to life-long after-effects, if your dog survives the initial damage. Arrhythmia is not uncommon after GDV, and can be fatal, but often goes away after a day or so. DIC (disseminated intravascular coagulation) a severe side effect, is also possible. If your dog had surgery, he will probably have a large incision & need to remain calm for a few weeks. When Dylan had GDV and surgery, he was kept at the vet’s for a full week, while they did EKGs and made sure he was eating and voiding normally. He finally ate some yogurt and came home. He seemed to be uncomfortable for about 8 weeks afterwards, “guarding” his stomach, being unwilling to move fast, climb stairs or sit. Limerick, however, seemed to feel very little discomfort after his surgery, other than when he jumped (forbidden, but still!) off the bed or sofa. He spent 24 hours at the emergency clinic, never had an EKG, and I was advised that I only needed to restrict activity till the stitches dissolved. (Limerick’s incision about 1 week after surgery- notice the stitches are mostly gone, but there is bruising.)



Your dog will have a long incision outside, either stapled or sutured closed. There may be some leaking at first, but it should heal quickly. If there are any unusual occurrences, contact your vet. There may be lots of redness and bruising. Bloat can be terrifying & dangerous, but with a bit of knowledge and a lot of caution and vigilance, you can hopefully save your dog’s life.



I saw so many lovely hounds, with numerous positive attributes which are outlined in the individual critiques. However, one of the less desirable traits was the frequency of light eyes. I saw far too many hounds, irrespective of coat color, who had a light or staring eye. This is particularly disturbing in a dark dog, as it is startling. The light eye tends to ruin that typical far away, mystical look that should be embodied in the expression of our wolfhounds. While I did not penalize dogs on the basis of eye color, I do think it is important to be aware of the fact that there were in my opinion, not enough hounds in the entry with those dark, expressive eyes that so typify the look of an Irish Wolfhound. It's not a huge factor in terms of the overall dog, but it was noticeable and can detract from expression, and I think it needs some attention

PUPPY DOGS 6 TO 9 MONTHS (8, 2 ABS)

1. SKYES THUNDER (Genovese)

Red wheaten puppy, with good bone and substance. Soundest dog in this class. A nice outline, just a touch short in back length for me. Covers ground, standing and moving. Head not his fortune; too broad in backskull.

2. GARLOW NONE-SUCH OF EAGLE (Bowers,McDonald)

A light coloured brindle dog, a bit finer than the first place dog, but again with a nice outline. A sound puppy, and moving just a bit close coming and going today.

3. BLAIR'S SQUARE ROOT (Hoffman, Conner)

This puppy actually had the nicest shape in the class when standing. However, he did not move smoothly at all, and was moving very close and narrow both coming and going.

4. BLAIR PRIME NUMBER AT TARALYN (McKinney, Hoffman, Conner)

This puppy had good substance and a nice shape in profile. He was relatively sound, but not moving as well as those who placed ahead of him in this class. Coat a bit soft.

PUPPY DOGS 9 TO 12 MONTHS (3, 1 ABS)

1. PITLOCHRY'S KEYSTONE (Marx, Benjamin, Luther)

A handsome red wheaten puppy. He has the length that I like to see; covers a lot of ground. At this stage in his growth he has adequate curves, but is a little bit straight in front which restricts his reach slightly when on the move.

2. KINDRED CORMAC O'BELTANE (Camel, Neff)

A grey brindle puppy who was not too sure that he liked being in the ring at first. He did settle down. A bit finer than the #1 puppy, and was not as smooth on the go around as he could have been. This may be because he was not happy about being in the ring.

PUPPY DOGS 12 TO 18 MONTHS (13, 2 ABS)

1. WILDISLE CASTLEKEEPER QUEST (Kneavel, Bregy)

A large, substantial wheaten brindle youngster. What a beautiful neck, set well into a well angulated front and flowing into good curves. Lovely rear quarters. He used himself very well on the move, taking maximum advantage of his balanced angles and good shape to cover the ground with reach and drive.

2. TALIESIN'S WALERON (Smith)

A little bit less of this dog than the winner. He is a more moderate hound, and an excellent mover who really strides out on the go around. Another good front assembly. Good shape and outline.

3. CONNEMARA'S FIRE AND BRIMSTONE (Morris, Sharpe)

A promising young hound. He is not in as good condition as the first and second place hound. A bit thin. He is light on his feet, and nice on the go around, but not as sound coming and going.

4. CRIONNACHT CARRICKANEENA WYSE (Carney)

Another teenager with good potential. A very houndy type with great length. A good shape. A little unsure about being in the ring. Once he gets going his movement in profile is strong.

NOVICE DOGS (6, 2 ABS)

1. TALIESIN'S LIAM OF WIDEVIEW JC (Milne)

Overall the most balanced dog in this class. He is an easy mover, although a little bit close coming and going. Good

length with adequate angulation front and rear.

2. **ROCKHART HAVOC** (Hartenstein, Simon)

This dog misbehaved which made it difficult to evaluate his movement. Appears to move wide in the front, which would be consistent with his shoulders being overloaded. He is quite curvy in shape, and strong looking. He drops off behind and moves a bit close behind, but again this was difficult to determine as he was uncooperative with his handler on the move.

3. **CALYDDON SEANAN OF THOR** (Cape, Pitt)

A big substantial hound. Moderate curves. He looked better standing than moving. Relatively sound, but needs more energy on the go around.

4. **SIDHE'S DOMINO DANCER DE BURGH** (Burke)

A long, lean hound. Not the scope of the dogs who placed in front of him. Somewhat straight in front, so paddles coming at you.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR DOGS (8, 2 ABS)

1. **CARRICKANEENA BARD OF ARMAGH** (Flanagan)

This dog had a beautiful shape and outline, and he used himself to advantage on the move; covering ground with a free and effortless gait. Not a large dog, but well proportioned. Lovely head and ears.

2. **ROCKHART ELYSEE** (Hartenstein, Simon)

A larger and impressive male; he is all about curves. Great substance, giving him an impression of being a shade stocky. Also a nice mover, not quite as free moving on the go around as the first place dog.

3. **TALIESIN'S SUAILCE**, JC (Smith)

The dog had a gorgeous head and neck which flowed smoothly into lovely front quarters. Not as angulated behind. Used himself well when moving.

4. **CALYDDON PENDRAGON** (Pitt)

A large, well boned male with solid shape. Looked better standing than on the go around. Not as angulated as the first and second place dogs. Paddles in front coming at me, and was a bit sluggish on the move.

AMERICAN BRED DOGS (6, 3 ABS)

1. **KELLYKERRY PENN OF SIDHE** (Myer)

A substantial wheaten male, with great bone. Not as long limbed looking as the second place dog, but very curvy and was a great mover. Nice action in profile. Front movement could be a bit cleaner coming at me.

2. **O'LUGH BLACKWATER SULLIVAN** (Sula)

A long and tall dog who uses himself well on the move. He could display more reach in front on the move. Good shape, but drops off a bit steeply in the croup.

3. **ROSSLARE'S DUBHGHAILL O'BELTANE** (Camel, Neff)

A well shaped dog, who is a sound free mover. Smaller than the other two hounds in the class.

OPEN DOGS (10, 2 ABS)

1. **SIDHE GUINNESS OF GARDENFIELD** (Kaluza, Valenti)

A very balanced male, with good shape and substance. He has a gorgeous head and neck that flowed smoothly into his strong front assembly. Balanced with equally strong rear quarters. He settled more as the class went on, and used himself to advantage on the move. I would like to see him a bit taller.

2. **ROCKHART ENIGMA** (Hartenstein, Simon)

Another dog with beautiful curves and substance. Good action on the go around when moving. Not as balanced as the first place dog – a bit front heavy; loaded over the shoulders. He moved a bit wide in front coming at me.

3. **PITLOCHRY'S YPSILON** (Marx, Benjamin)

This is a large, leggy dog with good substance and nice type. He was not in hard condition, and did not use himself on the move as well as his outline suggests. Not too cooperative with his handler either, wanting to post when stacked and this impacted negatively on his topline. Light eyes.

4. **CARRICKANEENA SLIEVE CARRON** (Peltier, Flanagan)

Another lovely large dog, but not as well angulated in fore and rear quarters as the others in the class. Looks young yet. Has good length to him and nice bone. Good mover.

WINNERS DOG - WILDISLE CASTLEKEEPER QUEST from the 12 to 18 month dog class.

In the winners line up this dog was impressive. While still a youngster, he had the classic sighthound shape that I like to see. He drew my eye with his commanding appearance. He exuded length, in terms of body and daylight underneath him, without compromising strength. This dog covered ground well both standing and on the move; great reach and drive on the go around. In great condition.

RESERVE WINNERS DOG - SIDHE GUINNESS OF GARDENFIELD the Open dog winner. He is very shapely, with lovely curves. Moved very well. I would like more daylight underneath him.

PUPPY BITCHES 6 TO 9 MONTHS (10, 2 ABS)

1. ARD RHI'S CALIDA OF CASTLEMAINE (King)

A beautiful youngster who is balanced, with lovely curves both fore and aft. She has a beautiful gait, very smooth with good reach and drive. A lovely head with captivating dark eyes.

2. GARLOW ARD RHI NESSIE OF EAGLE (King)

A nice shape on this puppy with good bone. Not as strong behind as the first place dog. Her fluffy coat detracted from her appearance, and could probably be removed now.

3. BLAIR'S PI R SQUARED (Hoffman, Conner)

A smaller puppy with lovely curves. A beautiful package, great head, would just like a little more of her, and this may come with age. . A bit weak in the topline

4. SKYES TESS (Genovese)

A lovely wheaten bitch puppy with great black pigment. Has a nice shape with lovely stride on the go round. Could be a bit cleaner coming and going.

PUPPY BITCHES 9 TO 12 MONTHS (4, 2 ABS)

This was a tough class to judge. Two beautiful young bitches, who were close up on each other.

1. ERINWOOD RAJEAN (Paloma)

This bitch had lovely shape, and substance to match. She had a lovely head, and was beautiful both standing and moving. Powerful gait; using herself very well on the move for a puppy.

2. GORDON OF AERIE (Marx, Benjamin)

More angular at this stage in her development than the first place bitch. Still a top quality youngster. A very pretty head. Not as strong in rear as the first place bitch.

PUPPY BITCHES 12 TO 18 MONTHS (19, ABS)

What an amazing class. I have come to expect the yearling or 12 to 18 months class at specialties to be highly competitive, and this class held true to form.

1. VESUVIUS OF AERIE (Marx, Benjamin)

A very beautiful wheaten bitch. She has it all. Incredible curves with power. Well conditioned, and has a smooth and sound stride, all ways (coming, going and in profile)

2. PITLOCHRY'S JAGGER (Marx, Benjamin)

This bitch pushed the first place winner hard. Very similar in type to the winner. Not as strong in front assembly as the first place bitch. Bite less than desirable.

3. TALIEIN'S WITAN (Malone, Smith)

Another gorgeous youngster. A beautiful mover. Not quite as curvy in outline as the first and second place bitches.

4. VIOLIN OF AERIE (Marx, Benjamin)

A big girl with lots of potential. She has much to grow into, and looks like a teenager, but is very promising. Not as curvy as the dogs who placed ahead of her. I see afterwards that she is a litter sister to the #1.

NOVICE BITCHES (11, 4 ABS)

1. PITLOCHRY'S ENTRY (Marx, Benjamin)

A very shapely red brindle. She is the soundest and smoothest mover in this class, displaying the best reach and drive. Balanced.

2. LISMORE ETHEL (Simon, LeVan)

Larger than the first place winner, she is also very beautiful with much type. Her movement is just a shade less powerful than the winner.

3. RIVERSONG'S RAGGED GLORY (Patterson)

A pretty grey brindle. Very sound, but not as much reach and drive as the two previous winners.

4. TALIESIN'S LEANNAN (Renko)

This bitch is longer and leaner than the other winners in the class. She does not have as much body, but is very sound and a smooth mover.

BRED BY EXHIBITOR BITCHES (11, 1 ABS)

A class full of quality.

1. WILDISLE SPICEMATES CHARMER (Bregy)

A very shapely and curvy bitch. So beautiful both standing and on the move. She is quite sound, uses herself well on the move. Excellent condition. Lovely proportions and balanced.

2. ROCHART HERESY (Hartenstein, Simon)

Another beautiful bitch with lovely outline. Has a little less forechest than the first place winner, and is not quite as good in rear. A quality female.

3. ERINWOOD MUESLIX (Paloma)

A very well sized and substantial bitch; very impressive standing. Good length to her. Not moving as well as her structure suggests she should, turning in her right front foot, and not as effortless in her gait as the two who placed ahead of her.

4. CARRICKANEENA ARDLA (Flanagan)

A slightly smaller bitch than the other class winners. Has a little less bone, but used herself very well on the go around. She has a pretty head, but could use a darker eye. Slightly upright in pastern.

AMERICAN BRED BITCHES (9)

1. KELLYKERRY MEGAN OF EAGLE (Myer)

A very curvy grey bitch. She has an incredibly beautiful, classic head. She is long cast, and softish in the topline. Uses herself well on the move.

2. GUFFAW OF AERIE (Marx, Benjamin)

Another bitch with a gorgeous shape. Powerful quarters both front and rear. Not quite as smooth on the go around as the #1 bitch.

3. RATHKEALE'S OPAL (Call)

Classic lines on this beautiful black bitch. She is lovely on the go around, striding out with good reach and drive. She could be a bit sounder coming at me.

4. LIMERICK HANNAH SYLVERWOLF, JC (Tamm)

A lovely large grey bitch. Very easy on the go around, but could be sounder behind going away from me.

There were many lovely bitches in this class, when you looked at the line up, who were left out of the ribbons as I had to make some decisions based on the finer points... a few bad mouths, some smaller and finer girls than the winners.

OPEN BITCHES (16, 4 ABS)

1. RATHKEALE'S VENUS (Call)

This bitch has lovely shape, is well proportioned and in top condition. She just moved effortlessly around the ring, and was cleanly sound both coming and going. She has a beautiful head, and if I were to offer any criticism, it would be a wish for a darker eye.

2. ROCKHART CALAMITY (Hartenstein, Simon)

A large, substantial yet shapely bitch. She has good length and plenty of daylight under her. Very powerful, and nice side gait. A bit loaded in the shoulder and neck, and not as clean coming at me as the winner of the class; this bitch paddled very slightly.

3. ERINWOOD WEETABIX (Paloma)

Another large powerful looking bitch. Great length to her and good shape. Good mover, with good reach and drive to

her stride. A little down on her pasterns.

4. CUDAMA SANTA OF BALLYHARA (Forman)

While shapely, this bitch did not have the scope of the bitches who placed ahead of her. Slightly finer and not as curvy as the other winners. She is however a great mover, and uses what she has quite well when gaiting. Placed in the class on the strength of her movement and soundness.

WINNERS BITCH - RATHKEALE'S VENUS

Lovely shape matched with good substance. Not overdone in any way. Beautiful angulation both front and rear; well balanced. This girl moved out with incredible reach and drive, carrying herself effortlessly around the ring. She was asking for the top prize with her smooth gait and classic profile.

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH - ROCKHART CALAMITY

After the show, when I was allowed to see a catalog, I see that last year in Canada at another Irish Wolfhound specialty, this bitch was my reserve then also! It is her misfortune to come up against such quality bitches when it comes down to the Winners award. She is a lovely mover, plenty of reach and drive; great shape, good substance and size. She had to best several lovely bitches to win this award today.

In particular I want to mention that I seriously considered the Novice bitch, but she did not have the maturity of the second place Open bitch, who went reserve.

The Veterans classes at specialties are to me very special. My compliments to the breeders, owners and exhibitors who had a part in presenting six beautiful veterans today; they were all in good form, strong and obviously enjoying life. It was a delight to be able to judge them.

VETERAN DOGS (2)

1. CH. TALIESIN'S LLENLLEAWG,CGC (Malone, Smith)

This dog is holding together in marvelous shape. He is sound all ways... coming, going, and in profile movement. Excellent angulation in front and rear; a well balanced dog.

2. CH. TALIESIN'S LORCAN (Vaughn, Smith)

Another large male in good shape. Great bone and substance, a happy dog. He is feeling his age more than the first place dog, and is not quite as smooth on the move.

VETERAN BITCHES (5, 1 ABS)

1. SUMMERHILL SUNWORSHIP SADHBH (Rabe)

Hard to believe that this bitch is a nine year old. She has held together well, and outmoved her competition in this class with her free and easy gait. She moves just a shade wide in front coming at you. A very curvy bitch maintained in excellent condition. Good energy on the move. A beautiful head and expression so typical of the breed.

2. CH. TALIESIN'S AMGEAL DANA BREE (Vaughn, Smith)

Another lovely girl in beautiful condition. Also happy to be here. A very nice head. Well constructed, but not quite as angulated as the number 1 bitch.

3. CH. CARRICKANEENA RUTHNEACH (Flanagan)

This bitch has lovely curves and is incredible for a bitch over 9 years of age. She is in excellent condition. Her front assembly is not quite as good as the 1st & 2nd places bitches, being a little shallow in the sternum.

4. CH. TALIESIN'S LUAS (Smith)

Another lovely, quality veteran. She is not as happy to be here as her classmates, and seems to be feeling her age. She does have nice curves and a good outline. Did not use herself on the move.

BEST OF BREED (12 DOGS, 6 BITCHES, NONE ABSENT) - RATHKEALE'S VENUS

On this day, nothing was going to beat the Winners Bitch for me. She held it all together whether she was standing or moving, and every time I looked at her, she just presented a better picture. She continually portrayed qualities that I appreciated in terms of type, shape, condition and movement. Her beautiful sighthound outline made her irresistible to

me standing, and combined with hard condition when she moved out, she covered ground effortlessly with lovely reach and drive. She is a balanced hound, with all the requisites in her form, to be able to function as a hunter.

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX - AM.CAN.CH.ROCKHART ANTHEM (Hartenstein, Simon)

I am always impressed by the strength and power of this dog. He presents a wonderful outline and uses himself so soundly and easily on the move. He possesses great bone and substance yet moves along with a good stride. Lovely shape, and good daylight underneath him. Quite sound.

AWARD OF MERITS

CH. ARD RHI'S CLEOPATCHRA OF EAGLE (King)

A bitch of moderation; no obvious faults to this girl. Has length, and soundness. She could have moved with more enthusiasm, but presented a lovely balanced picture.

CH. TALIESIN'S LLENLLEAWG,CGC (Malone, Smith)

The veteran dog. Age has not diminished his presence, enthusiasm for the ring or his lovely shape and solid movement. I was pleased to be able to recognize this grand gentleman with an Award of Merit.

STUD DOG (3, 1 ABS)

1. CH. PITCLOCHRY'S QUINTUS (Marx, Benjamin)
2. CH. TALIESIN'S LLENLLEAWG, CGC (Malone, Smith)

Close up to choose between the two sets of stud and get.

The get of the winning stud dog demonstrated many of the positive qualities from their sire. In the end, the winners had smooth easy movement, all demonstrating good reach and drive.

BROOD BITCH (1)

1. CARRICKANEENA UISE BEATHA (Carney, Flanagan)
A pleasure to award this bitch best brood bitch. Lovely puppies behind their dam.

BRACE (2)

1. BER-D-MAR IRISH ROSIE MOSS

BER-D-MAR LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE (Roland)

2. CRIONNACHT CARRICKANEENA LYONS

CRIONNACHT CARRICKANEENA DALEY (Carney)

This was a very difficult class to judge! Two extremely well matched pairs. In the end, the more mature of the two braces, just held it together better on the move for the last go round and earned the first place spot.

BEST PUPPY - ARD RHI'S CALIDA OF CASTLEMAINE (King)

If there was one puppy I could choose to take home with me, this would be the one! She has a lovely shape, good bone, nice free easy movement, even for a baby. I could lose myself in her wonderfully expressive dark eyes.

BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR - WILDISLE SPICEMATES CHARMER (Bregy)

The Bred By dog was a solid contender, but in the end, the lovely curves of this bitch, her soundness and seemingly effortless reach and drive won her the award.

BEST HEAD - KELLYKERRY MEGAN OF EAGLE (Myer)

As noted previously in her class win, this bitch has a very typical head; lovely equal planes.

If you have an article or news to share, please feel free to submit your article to Judie Jeweler at judie@jewelerfamily.com or to me (Tammy) at elkhorniw@hughes.net. Submit any article or news that you have to share. Thank you very much and we hope you enjoy the 2007 Specialty Edition.

Coming up in the future editions:

Remembering Our Special Friends
Bone Cancer
Parade Fun