



Faol Cu

The Newsletter of the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club

Visit us on the web: www.pviwc.org

Spring 2013

2013 PVIWC Officers

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2013 Specialty Show

BOB: Ch. Kellykerry Peony of Aerie. Bred by Glenn H. Myer, Owned by Glenn H. Myer.

BOS: Ch. Riverlawn Exit of Aerie. Bred by Doug Marx & Amy Benjamin, Owned by Doug Marx and Amy Benjamin.

AOM: Ch. Ballyhara Danny. Bred by Lisa Dube Forman and Bob Forman. Owned by Lisa Dube Forman and Bob Forman.

AOM: BISS GCH Can CH Starkeeper McEnroe of Limerick. Breeder Jamie Souza –Bartlett and Linda Souza. Owner Jocelyne Gagne

BOW: Kellykerry Kindle of Aerie. Breeder Gleen. H Myer, Owner Glenn H Myer. (also best Bred by Exhibitor.)

Select Dog: GCh. Dun Myrica Lyre of Eagle Bred by Sam Houston McDonald and Samuel Even Ewing III & Dawn Wiseman

Select Bitch: CH Warwick Teacht of Aerie. Bred by Dane Emerson St Clair and Glenn Myer & Audrey E St Clair. Owners Dane Emerson and Audrey St Clair and Amy Benjamin.

Best Puppy:

Best Head: Glenamadda Starkeeper Chevonne. Bred by Susan Prokopenko and Jocelyne Gagne. Owned by Jocelyne Gagne.

Obedience Trial:

No Qualifiers in Regular Classes.

Beginner's Novice B: 1st: Taliesin's Wise Anam Cara, owned by Veronica Nienstedt, 183

2nd: Hound Hill Victoria, owned by Donna Brown, 182.5

3rd: Kellamore Starkeeper Emma, owned by Joanne Buehner Brown and Jocelyne Gagne. 182.5

Rally Trial:

Excellent B: 1st: Kellamore Starkeeper Kora CD RA NAP OJP, owned by Joanne Beuhner Brown and Jocelyne Gagne

Advanced B: 1st Ch Starkeeper Kellamore Karlotta RN owned by Joanne Buehner Brown and J Gagne. 88

Novice B: 1st Kellamore Starkeeper Emma owned by Joanne Beuhner Brown & Jocelyne Gagne. 100

2nd: Quinlan's Legacy of Ayla owned by Doug Henry & Diana Vreeken. 98

3rd: Starkeeper Kellamore Erin owned by Joanne Beuhner Brown. 96

4th: Kellamore Starkeeper Jake owned by Janet Queisser. 95

5th Glenamadda Starkeeper Connery owned by Audrey Wright. 94



Rob and the lads at the Southern MD Celtic festival (left)

Anne and Motley at the Frederick Celtic Festival (right)



THOUGHTS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Fellow Club Members,

I hope the (theoretically) warming weather finds you and your hounds well. I always look forward to spring, and the opportunities it brings to spend time with my two- and four-legged family members outdoors. I'm sure most of you do, too! While I'm on that thought, please take moment to review the list of club events that you can take your hounds to and share our amazing breed with the public.

In my first "President's column" I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone for their hard work in putting on the PVIWC specialty show. I always think of it as the kick off for spring, although the weatherman often does not agree with me J!! I know that our 26th annual show is just barely behind us, but already plans are well underway for the 27th. I encourage all club members to volunteer to help with the upcoming show. If you need to know what is available to do, please contact our returning show chair, Tammy Aube. Without her permission, I will speak for her and say that she would love to have more volunteers than she has jobs in 2014!

I also want to take some time to ask everyone to read my letter regarding the club's communications plan, if you have not already done so. It is very important that we all ensure we are communicating through the proper channels. I will try not to be too redundant, but I want to hit the highlights of that letter.

Per the PVIWC bylaws, all club communications should be sent via the club secretary. That means any type of announcement that needs to go to the membership, including invitations to events, should be sent to the club secretary, Susan Morfit, and the president, Lisa McKinney. Susan would then distribute this information to the membership. The request to Susan needs to include the specific request, such as "please send this to the board," or "please send this to the membership."

If you are performing work for a committee or subcommittee, the options you gather or conclusions you arrive at, should be presented to the committee chair. Once a committee arrives at a consensus, it is then the responsibility of the committee chair to communicate the recommendation(s) to the board or membership at the next meeting, or via the club secretary, if the urgency warrants that.

In addition to these guidelines, please be aware that final decisions on items affecting the club reside with the board or the membership. Committee chairs need to ensure that they are bringing recommendations to the club meetings for approval prior to having them announced to the club.

One additional reminder, please be aware that expenditures on behalf of the club need to be processed through the committee chair for whichever committee the expense is being incurred. It is the responsibility of the committee chair to ensure they have prior board approval for expenditures. Unauthorized expenditures will not be reimbursed, so please make sure policies and procedures are being followed.

If anyone has questions, comments, or concerns about the communication plan, or the guidelines around expenditures on behalf of the club, please feel free to contact any board member, or officer, or, of course, it is open for discussion at any club meeting.

Wishing everyone a safe and fun summer!

Lisa R. McKinney

President

Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club



If you have suggestions you would like to add for consideration for judging the 2015 Sweepstakes, please contact a member of the judges' selection committee: Linda (pvboard1@pviwc.com), Carole (pvboard5@pviwc.com), or Tammy (elkhorniws@gmail.com).



Help is still needed for the Fun Day! We need a food coordinator. The food coordinator's job is just that– organizing & ensuring that we have enough food and the right kind of food at the Fun Day. If you have minimal organizational skills, like food, and plan to be at the Fun Day, PLEASE Volunteer! We need to have people signing up to provide food & related items SOON!

Please Contact Jodie or Diane Reba.



Upcoming Summer Events!

June 1– McHenry Celtic Festival– Garret County, MD

June 9– Maryland Ave Irish Festival– Maryland Ave, Annapolis MD (very small, crowded street fair on pavement)

July 13- *Annapolis Irish Festival– Anne Arundel Fair Grounds, Crownsville MD.*

July 20- *Adams County Irish Festival– Gettysburg, PA*

August– October– Pa Renaissance Faire– MT Hope, PA

*- denotes "official" PVIWC event

Summer Reminder...

Just a gentle reminder that as the summer warms, so do our dogs. Please be careful to protect your dog's feet on hard surfaces, particularly blacktop.

Also, please remember that your car heat up very quickly in the sun, and many dogs every year of heatstroke from being left in cars, even with the windows open. If in doubt, it's best to err on the side of caution and leave your beloved friend at home, rather than take a chance on the car becoming too warm.

Bragg!

Piper earned another agility title, the MJP Master Jumpers Preferred). Though not the same as the MACH or the PACH, (the true agility "super titles") the MJP nonetheless requires ten qualifying scores from the Jumpers With Weaves class at the Masters level. A "Q" is earned at this level only for a clean run, i.e., no faults, and under the standard course time. It's pretty special to earn this title and so very rewarding to run with this wonderful wolf-hound. Go, Piper! ~ Janet Queisser

Elkhorn is claiming Bragging Rights! I entered Elkhorn's three youngsters in 15-18 months Sweepstakes under Ms. Lynne Rosebrock At The IWCA Nationals in Asheville, NC and am pleased to announce that Mor Legal War Emblem (aka Citation) placed first with her sisters, Mor Regal War Admiral (aka Mira) and Mor Cadence War Dance (aka Drill) receiving a third and fourth placement. May 1st, Mira placed third in her Conformation class. We are so pleased with the consistency of the recognition by Judges from all around the world judging Specialties: John Lewington (Australia), Dr. Frederic Maison (France), Jean Malley (England), and Jocelyne Gagne (Canada) – Oh and by the time you read this, the girls will have turned 18 months old. ~ Tammy M Aube

Rose with her Rosette for 1st place, first time running LGRA, at IWCA nationals!



Kelly is on a ROLL! In April, he earned his Rally Excellent title with placements on each leg!

In May, he earned his first CD leg and 3rd place in the class at Mattaponi- outside! ~Jodie Jeweler

PVIWC supported the entry at Mattaponi Kennel Club's All-Breed Show May 19. Ard Rhi's Aegg of Aran (aka Peter) owned by Linda King & Margaret LaRosa was Reserve Winner's Dog. Mor Regal War Admiral (aka Mira) and Mor Cadence War Dance (aka Drill) placed first in their classes and got to compete against each other for Winner's Bitch. Winner's Bitch was Drill and RWB was Mira, under Judge Lawrence J. Sinclair. BoB was Bill and Cathy Haskins dog, Drill Best of Winner's and Best of Opposite Sex was FC Carrickaneena Winds of Morning SC owned by Carolyn Purvis & Eileen M & Eileen B Flanagan Thank you Judge Sinclair!

Thanks to those PVIWC members who were there: Linda King, Carole Silverthorne, Berne Smith, Danny Martin, Janet Queisser, Jodie Jeweler, Judie Jeweler and Audrey Wright. There was good support from the mid-south club, too-Jeff Traylor, Darryl and Lynne Meeks, and Bill & Catherine Haskins. Again, thank you! Saturday, "Peter" was Winners Dog, Carolyn's "Vonnie" was BoB, Audrey's "Sean" BoS, and reserves were "Drill" & the Traylor's dog. CONGRATULATIONS!

We decided to take a trip south with our two hounds, Finn and Annora. We went through Tennessee to Atlanta, to visit our son and drop off some of his stuff, then down to Orlando to visit my parents. Our second day there, I heard my mother on the phone talking to someone about a dog. She said, "My daughter is here visiting, and I was wondering if you still wanted her to take the dog."

This got my attention, so when she hung up, I asked what that was about, as we really weren't interested in getting another dog. She explained she was talking to her friend who was a dog trainer about an Irish Wolfhound, and I remembered the story.

2 years ago when we started looking for a puppy to torment, I mean keep Finn company, my mother had told me about an elderly couple (in their 80's) who had gotten a Wolfhound puppy. They had always had Wolfhounds and when their old one passed on, they had to have another. Well you can imagine how it was with a rambunctious IW puppy and two frail, elderly owners. The daughter had been bringing the puppy to training classes, but they were discussing possibly finding him a new home. We told them we would take him, if they decided to let him go, but the daughter volunteered to take the puppy to training, and that was the last I heard about it.

It turns out the puppy did very well for the couple. After obedience training, they took him back home and he went with the couple everywhere. If they went to the post office, he went with them. If the wife went shopping, the husband and the hound waited in the car for her. When they walked him he was very quiet and careful, almost as if he understood they didn't have the best balance. Eventually life moves on though, and the wife died this past winter. For a while the husband kept the hound, taking him to her grave every week. They would both walk slowly through the graveyard together. But the husband's health wasn't the best, and he had to move out of the home and couldn't take the hound with him. Mikey was shuffled around the family, never quite fitting in, and no one really had the time or set up for him.

This didn't sound like a good situation to me, so I called Diane, our rescue coordinator. If we did get the hound, we would need to figure out the best situation for him.

We received a call back that night and were told family in another state had agreed to take the hound. I thought that was it. The next day we got a call, and it was the daughter, asking to talk to me. She explained that no one really was able to take the dog, so I told her if she wanted to ensure the best home, the club has an excellent rescue. We talked for a while about the hound, and our club, and I said we were leaving in the morning, and we could take him with us.

!5 minutes later we were driving to go pick up another hound! We met the family, and it was quite emotional for all of them. This hound was their mother's dog, and they didn't want to see him leave, but the hound was not doing well in the situation. He wasn't eating, had lost a lot of weight, and was living outside with summer coming. They wanted Mikey to be with someone who understood Wolfhounds and who would appreciate what a special dog he is. Mikey was worried, stressed, and not happy, but hopped in the car when we asked him to.

We introduced him to our two hounds by taking them for a walk together. They sniffed, and other than Annora wanting to play, got along fine. We separated them to eat, and set beds up in different areas so there wouldn't be competition, but we had a peaceful night. The next day would be the true test, 8 hours in a van with the 3 hounds!

The next morning we loaded up, and in his haste to make sure all 3 dogs were in when the door closed, Bill locked the van with his key on the seat. When he asked me where my key was I pointed to my purse in the van. So were our 2 dogs, with a bigger, nervous male locked in the van with them. In Florida in the sun. No windows open, no way to get in the van. We immediately called AAA, but they said it would be 45 minutes, and we were worried we wouldn't have that long. We shaded the car with beach umbrellas, mom called the local fire dept and Bill looked for a crowbar. The fire dept got there, but were not able to open the car. So far the dogs were fine, just watching us scramble around, but Bill was ready to break a window if they looked too stressed, or started growling at each other. Finally AAA got there, and in 3 minutes had the door open! The dogs all jumped out, Finn and Annora had to greet all the firemen still gathered around

(and half the neighborhood who had come out to watch) while Mikey went in the house to hide.

After this start, the rest of the trip went fine. We turned a lot of heads every time we stopped! When I talked to Diane, she already had a family in mind for Mikey and we met them on the drive home.



They are the perfect family for him, and he is happy, eating well and loving life again!

Photos: Bill with the 3 hounds, Mikey and An-nora in the van, Mikey in his new home



The Sad Journey, Part 1 By Lisa McKinney

When Jodie asked me to write this, I wasn't sure how to approach it, what I wanted to say, or if I even wanted to say anything. I thought about it, a lot, and am hoping that this story will help others. Please be aware that I am NOT a veterinarian, nor do I have any medical training of any kind. I am simply sharing my story and recommending that you work with your veterinarian and any specialists you choose to determine the right course of action for your dog, and your family, should you have a similar medical issue arise.

On April 14th I was in my living room with Memphis at my feet; a very typical Sunday afternoon. Memphis got up and was limping on his right front leg. He seemed to walk it off in a few minutes, but after he came back in I checked his leg. That's when I found a bump, just above his wrist, that should definitely not be there. Knowing that he has some balance issues due to his unstable rear, I was hoping that he simply sprained his wrist and there was some swelling. While I was hoping that it was something simple, my heart was sinking – I just knew it was not a sprained wrist. I've been on this sad journey before with our Wolfhound Gracie, and our Greyhound, Sammy.

Since I was leaving the next day for the Deerhound show, Bill was tasked with keeping Memphis on Rimadyl and Tramadol and making sure he rested as much as possible until I returned, still hoping that the "swelling" would be gone when I got back.

When I returned, and the "swelling" had not receded, I scheduled an x-ray. The next day the verdict was in – bone cancer – most likely osteosarcoma.

Knowing, from previous experience, that this was going to quickly become painful, I worked with my veterinarian to get the same pain protocol set up for Memphis as I had for Gracie and Sammy. Memphis was already on Rimadyl and Tramadol for his back, and Methocarbamol for his occasional neck muscle issues. Dr. B set up his Tramadol prescription so that, over time, the dosage level

could be increased as needed. A prescription for Gabapentin was also issued, with the same “built in” ability to increase it as needed.

Memphis’ breeder was given the final verdict and I began telling friends and family about the diagnosis. Mary O’Malley saw my post on Facebook and took the time to remind me of an article in the most recent “Focus”, the Irish Wolfhound Foundation newsletter, regarding Alendronate (Fosamax). After talking with his breeder, our veterinarian and trusted friends, we elected to try the higher dosage Alendronate treatment described in the article. We are 11 days into the Alendronate treatment and a status x-ray is scheduled for May 23rd. We are very fortunate that a local equine veterinarian will be coming to our home with a mobile x-ray machine to take digital x-rays. This will allow us to avoid having to lift Memphis up onto an x-ray table, which is ideal considering his back issues. The new x-rays will be shipped electronically to our regular veterinarian (Dr. B) for comparison to the x-rays taken in late April. Once we have the x-ray results, we will follow the recommendations listed in the “Focus” article as to whether or not to continue the Alendronate.

There are many other treatment options for bone cancer – amputation, chemotherapy, holistic therapies, a monthly IV therapy that uses a drug similar to Alendronate, palliative radiation and probably even others that I’m not aware of. There is even a study going on at Penn for which a recently diagnosed dog may be eligible. Each of these treatments should be evaluated and accepted, or rejected, based on what is right for your family.

I hope that no one reading this ever has to deal with the heartache that bone cancer ultimately brings, but, if you’re in sighthounds long enough, it’s almost certain that you will. With that in mind, I want share with you the advice I received from Memphis’ breeder and what I am positive is the most helpful advice I received from anyone - “no matter what decision you make for his care, it is the right decision for you, and for him, and I support it.”

Please watch for Part 2 in the next PVIWC newsletter

We send our Condolences to Van and Susan Morfit on the passing of Cearbhall.

Cearbhall babysitting Kelly



Now that summer weather is coming, it is time to refresh our memories on how to recognize & treat heat stroke.

First, remember that your dog is ALWAYS hotter than you are— his normal body temp is higher, and he has no ability to sweat except through his foot pads. He can only lose heat by panting. In an IW, this is insufficient, especially if the dog is in an extremely hot environment. Even being in water, or in the shade, your dog can overheat!

Symptoms:

- * **Bright red tongue & mucous membranes.**
- * **Excessive panting**
- * **Glazed eyes**
- * **Thick, sticky or cloudy saliva/drool**
- * **Rectal temperature over 104**

These are the preliminary symptoms. If you notice these symptoms, immediately cool your dog!

DO NOT use alcohol or ice!

Run COLD hose water over the dog, or repeatedly pour cold water on him (soaking the dog), for NO MORE than 2 minutes. Dry the dog, and get it into an air conditioned environment immediately. In 20 minutes, check the temperature again. If it has gone down, no further action is required.

If it is the same, repeat the cooling. When dog is inside, place cold, wet towels in the groin/stomach, on the head & keep the feet cool. Do not use ice. Check temperature again in 20 minutes.

DO NOT COOL the dog LOWER than 103, or it may develop hypothermia & shock!

If the temperature has RISEN, or the dog's gums or tongue are grey or purple, or the dog has vomited or had diarrhea, or is unsteady or seems worse, RUSH to your nearest vet!

Even if your dog has cooled down, get it to the vet ASAP... serious after –effects can cause death up to several days later!

Despite the warnings never to feed our dogs table scraps, many “human” foods are actually good for your dog!

Most fruits and vegetables are safe and have the same antioxidant & vitamin benefits for dogs as for you. Carrots or green beans can be added to your dog's meals to act as “filler,” helping them lose weight. Beans (including garbanzos!) are protein-rich, low fat, high in fiber –and help regulate glucose. While many of us avoid feeding grains, quinoa is healthy for dogs! Apples have fiber, vitamins & are beneficial to kidney function. Pumpkin, leafy greens and bananas can help cure diarrhea.

Kelp (available dried in health food stores) is vitamin rich and used as a “topper” to add nutrients.

Avocados, garlic & onions can be dangerous in larger quantities, as can uncooked bread dough.