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JANUARY 2022

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

HI friends! I hope you're weathering the cold and snow ok! I console myself by thinking of parades, festivals and our SPECIALTY SHOWS coming up! Don't forget to pay your dues! we've been really slack about them for the past 2 years, with one thing and another, but this year we are collecting as usual. You can pay via our website with PayPal, or mail a check to Christina Buckner, and thank our new committee chairs: Kathy Lewis: Newsletter, Elizabeth Coffel: Fun Day, Alan Coffel: Fundraising/boutique, Linda Coffel: Trophies, Amber Hennessy, Raffle, and Carole Silverthorne, Assistant Show Chair. I REALLY appreciate you all stepping up!

Speaking of stepping up and helping, our specialties are coming up! April 2- 4, in Bel Air, MD at the Harford County Equestrian Center. **WE NEED HELP!!!** If you can give us an hour, that's fantastic!

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2022 Meeting & Events can be found on the last page of the newsletter.

If you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please contact Kathy Lewis.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER (CONTINUED)

If you can give us a day, that's GREAT! ANY amount of time or effort you can devote to making OUR show a success, is good for ALL of us. For many jobs, you don't even need to be AT the show! Email me (Jodie@jewelerfamily.com) to volunteer or find out more information. As things get more "normal", more events are happening again. We are participating in the DC, Annapolis, Baltimore, Manassas St Patrick's Day Parades, and joining IWADV for Harrisburg. And we've been invited to the Shamrock Festival in DC! Watch your email FMI (*for more information*). The Spoutwood Farm Faerie Festival is 4/30-5/1, this is a fun family event. The Annapolis Irish festival is also back on, in June!

Besides all these fun events, I want to know what PVIWC can do for YOU? What do you want, what do you wish we did or offered? How can I make the club better for YOU? Please let me know! We will continue to offer a Zoom option for meetings, so no matter where you are, you can join us!

Looking forward to seeing you all at the parades and the show!

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS: *IT'S OUR PLEASURE TO HAVE YOU JOIN US!*

Michael Quigley, our newest board member

Joshua & Charice Fenton w/ wolfhound Deirdre

James & Julia Biggins w/ son Reilly w/ wolfhound Aoife

Kathryn Stonich w/ wolfhound Angrboda

HI, MY NAME IS.... *This section is for members to introduce themselves and their hounds. A short bio with/without pic of you and /or your hound would most welcome, whatever you are comfortable sharing, I would love to get to know everyone better.*



Hi, my name is Kathy Lewis, board member and newsletter committee. I'm married with two children, Ria and Nathaniel. I work for BCPS in Special Programs with autistic teens out in the general school population. I've loved wolfhounds for as far back as I can remember. When I was ready to have one of my own, I joined the PVIWC a few years before I got my first hound, Orlaith (Or-lah), to make sure I was prepared. She will be 3 yrs on the 13th of April and is an absolute joy. We walk several times a day either in the park or the neighborhood and when weather permits, enjoy spending time with her friends on play-dates racing and running. We also have an 8 yr old German Shepherd, a painted turtle and a cat. Currently, I am studying Irish language and Herbology. Dia daoibh, is mór an pléisiúr bualadh leat! (Hello everyone, it is a pleasure to meet you!)



Hi, my name is Al Coffel, vice president. I'm married to Linda Coffel and we have four children, Isaac, Elizabeth, Ezra, and Laurie. I work for a defense contractor near Fort Meade. Linda and I joined PVIWC in 1994 when we got our first Wolfhound, Chewie. We currently have five hounds, Murtagh, Lessa, Mordu, Karma, and Sofia. They love tearing around our small farm in Maryland, and sprawling all around us when we sit on the couch. Mordu and I (*picture*) recently completed our registration as a therapy dog team at KPETS, and are looking forward to visiting local schools and libraries. We also raise Scottish Highland cattle, and my son, Isaac, has a Brittany spaniel, Sparrow, whose job is to pester the wolfhounds and steal my socks.

HI, MY NAME IS.... (Continued)



Hi, my name is Jodie Jeweler, club president.

I saw my 1st Irish Wolfhound at a DC St Patrick's Day parade as a small child, and was smitten. After college I met with a breeder, but decided the timing wasn't right, and dropped the idea.

Around 1993, I decided to start searching for my dream dog, again. Went to an all-breed show at the Baltimore Armory (in a snow storm) and met the Brehls, the Van Nests, and the Hartneys, and my life has never been the same. I joined the club that June, and was immediately put on the Boutique committee.

When the Brehl's Aine had a litter, the fluffy big boy decided he had to be mine. Dee convinced my father that I HAD to take him, or he'd die of heartbreak! Thus, Dylan joined my life. My Labs, Spot and Pepper adored him, but when they both died, he was heartbroken, so I got Limerick (AKA Wickie), also from Bob. Then Dylan died, and along came Corky, followed by Kelly. All from Bob, all related! (Kelly's name meant "one after another!")

After Kelly died, I decided to wait a bit before finding my dream hound. I wanted a well-bred show/performance boy. I waited and waited. And one day, some club members approached me to rehome their 7-month-old pup, Quigley. He just wasn't a good fit for their family, but BOY! Does he fit in mine!

I have served on the board numerous times, been on various committees, and been deeply involved in the Club since 1993. I coordinate the parades and festivals we attend, and am also currently the show chair for our specialty.

SEND YOUR SHORT BIO TO: Kathy Lewis at pvboard1.pviwc.org

If you don't have internet, send it to me at 6206 Old Harford Rd., Baltimore, MD 21214. You can handwrite it and I will type it up for you! If you have a cell phone that takes pictures, have someone else take a picture of you and your hound with it and send it to me in a text message, with a short message of who you are and to expect your bio in the regular mail. My number is 410-746-3518.

What comes after saying goodbye By Susan Montgomery

We all know someday we will have to say goodbye to our wonderful hounds. As much as we want to deny it will happen, the size of our hounds requires us to look ahead and prepare for that eventuality. After that tough decision to say goodbye has been made (or made for us in the case of accident) we are faced with decisions made even harder by the stress of events. What do you do with the body of your beloved hound? If you wait until it happens, you will be scrambling to figure this out instead of working through your grief. It is much better to prepare ahead of time, with clear head.

Some families can bury their hounds on their own property, but most cannot, for zoning reasons or just logistics with the size of their hound. I have pulled together a list of options, so you can research ahead of time and have a plan in place.

- Check with your vet, do they offer cremation for dogs your size? Do they know of other vets who do? You may need to call around.
- Look for pet cremation services in your area, often they will even pick up from the vet.
- Look for livestock cremation or disposal in your area, they are used to larger animals, some even offer burial on their properties.
- Animal cemeteries, in more urban areas are an option, even if you do not bury in their space, they will know of cremation or disposal services.
- Call mobile vets, or equine vets, they will have contacts that may not be listed.
- Call animal control for your county, they will have people they call to pick up carcasses.
- Talk to other dog owners in your area, they may know someone who handles this.

Once you have your answers, prepare a list with phone numbers and contacts. Keep it with your other health docs (Anesthesia protocols, Pneumonia protocols, Bloat, etc.). It is also important to plan now if you think you would like a remembrance, a pawprint, a clipping of hair, so you can be sure to get that.

Most importantly, remember to reach out to your fellow IW owners, we understand, we want to help, and we will grieve with you.



Photographs courtesy of Linda Karmann

TEETHING

By Briget Wandruff

If you have an IW puppy that is four months old—your puppy is likely teething. Teething time is also about the time soft toys should be removed--one tear, and it's time to remove them from play. No cord or rope toys—ever—as the string from the ropes can be ingested and cause obstruction.

To help with teething a good Nylabone, organic veggie-based chew sticks, Kong Giant balls, Kong chew sticks (like the purple one in the photo) are excellent toy options for chewing. Some people like antlers or YAK cheese stick (hard as a rock). If you have more than one dog in the house like we do, make sure you have several in the toy box so they can share.

Just like teething children, pups will have an inflamed mouth, "hot" mouths, and may have a slightly elevated temperature (I feel ears morning and night every day of their lives). They may be off their food or have loose stool. All typical. Puppy people, if you have concerns about your teething pup, please send your breeder an email, text or call. You should have all the contact information in your puppy packets—don't be afraid to use it.

To cool a hot inflamed mouth we have used small-to medium size whole frozen apples or frozen raw giant beef knuckle bones. Others have suggested large whole frozen carrots. Ice cubes! Teach your pups to eat ice. For food /edible chewing in a multi pet home please have your pup in a crate or x-pen while chewing meat bones etc. We don't need to set them up for a food aggression situation. Even if they eat side by side with your other dogs, meat and meat bones are different.

Teeth are often swallowed. Found teeth are a treasure. [Copyright Briget Wandruff](#)



Photographs by Briget Wandruff, posted with permission

What You Have Is What You Know

By Berne Smith, Education Committee

I tend to equate the level of knowledge a person has in their dog breed with the level of quality in their dogs. I always look for the basics first... size, chest depth, leg length, tuck up, overall proportion, and then movement.

What I can't understand is how people who have had good hounds in the past could show poor ones now. But the answer is simply that they win. I personally have no interest in seeing a small, short legged IW miniature win. When the win means more than the breed you are on the wrong track.

I have all the respect in the world for people who have been in the breed for a long time. They have experienced all the ups and downs that can come along, but have persevered and continued to stay in the breed....not easy. Their dogs may have many good traits, such as size, coats with deep rich colors, rose ears, pigmentation, beautiful heads, straight legs, and tails carried correctly. But what if the dogs don't have the basics that created a great galloping hound, such as leg length, tuck up, and correct proportion? What if they are much too thick, short-legged and beefy? If that is the case, then for me they are just big dogs and not sighthounds.

There are people who breed the same mediocre IW type year after year....too long in the back, not enough leg, shape or size. Their dogs are good enough to win when their friend judges. So, what is the point of all this? All these folks think their dogs are "world beaters", and want you to think so also. I have even heard them telling the judge during examination of their hound what they won last week. However, no amount of winning will make their dogs better.

Bottom line is that there is now no uniformity in the IW breed. Sighthounds are long legged, and the Irish Wolfhound is the largest and tallest sighthound. When a breeder or owner's ego takes over, the breed is in trouble, and I don't know how people get out of this tunnel vision. Our breed needs better dogs.

PVIWC List of Meeting & Events 2022

UPDATED 21 JANUARY 2022

January 9 **Regular Meeting - Zoom**
February 13 **Regular Meeting – Zoom**

March 2019 St. Patrick's Day Parades and Festivals

- March 5 Alexandria, VA **POSTPONED** until later in the year
- March 6 Annapolis, MD
- March 12 Manassas, VA
- March 12 Shamrock Fest
- March Gaithersburg, MD
- March 13 Washington, D.C
- March 13 Baltimore, MD
- March 19 Harrisburg, PA

March 20 **Show Meeting**

April 2, 3 & 4 Specialty Harford County Equestrian Center, Bel Air, MD

April 3 **Regular Meeting** - Following judging at Specialty
April 29 & 30 Dills Celtic Festival, Dills Tavern, 237 Baltimore St, Dillsburg, PA
April 30 Southern MD Celtic Festival, Prince Frederick,
April 30 & May 1 Faerie Festival, Marshy Point Nature Center, Baltimore

May 10, 11 & 12 IWCA National Specialty <https://www.iwclubofamerica.org/iwca-2022>

June 12 **Regular Meeting**
June 18 Penn Mar Irish Festival, Shrewsbury, PA
June Mid Maryland Celtic Festival, Mt Airy, MD

July Annapolis Irish Festival, Anne Arundel County Fairgrounds, 1450 Crownsville, MD

August 14 **Regular Meeting**

September 3 & 4 Virginia Scottish Games
September 18 Fun Day

October 16 **Regular Meeting**

November 11, 12, & 13 Maryland Irish Festival, Timonium, MD
November 20 **Regular Meeting**

December 11 **Holiday Party – Coffel's**
December Druid Hill 5K, Baltimore, MD
December Military Bowl Parade, Annapolis, MD

Dates, Time, or location to be determined on some events.

We Need Volunteers to Host meetings.

