



JULY 2023

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

PRESIDENT’S CORNER

I was recently asked, "Why should I join a club? What can you do for me?"

I thought this was an Excellent question! What can the Club do for you? Well... a LOT!

We can help you find a Breeder. Not only will we refer Breeders, we will represent you to them. We can do home visits or just tell Breeders- we know you. You would make a great home for a Wolfhound.

We will answer questions- if for some reason you do not have a Breeder who is there for you, or you can't ask your Breeder - we are here. We have members with widely varied experiences and knowledge bases (to say nothing of a wide geographical range), so we can almost always find you an answer.

We will support you! Need a hand held at the vet? Need a decision made about food, or the best treatment option, or which vehicle suits Wolfhounds best? We are here to advise, help, and give you a shoulder.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER continued

And we will support you in positive things- I have seen other breed clubs, where the back-stabbing and criticism were rampant. People weren't happy when fellow members won at dog shows. NOT THIS CLUB! We are genuinely happy for one another, even when you beat our dog. Need a major? Ask- we will rally the gang and try to make one up for you! Need to know if a judge should be shown under? We have opinions!

We have members who have arranged puppy play dates, human social gatherings, and park walks.

We have Club "business cards" - on them, they list our breeder referral, rescue, and education contacts. We ask that you carry some with you to hand out. (Let me know if you want some!) Not only do they give people an easy reminder of our contact info, they help show that we- the club- welcome interactions and want to support the public.

The worst thing that could happen to our breed is that people think we humans are not welcoming. The worst thing that could happen to an interested person, is to get a Wolfhound, only to find out it is the wrong breed (dog or Breeder) for them. We LOVE when people join the club before getting an IW. -----Jodie

PUPSICLES

tub of plain Greek yogurt (family size)

½ C all-natural peanut butter plus some extra

1 whole banana

medium dog biscuits

Place ingredients into a bowl and blend until smooth. Prepare ice cube trays by placing a small dollop of peanut butter in each section. Pour mixture over top of plain peanut butter. Insert the dog biscuit. Freeze. Yields about 3 dozen frozen treats

Note: Any fruit your dog likes will work. Orlaith also likes strawberry, pineapple, and blueberry. Next time I'm trying plain pureed pumpkin in place of the yogurt!

No pictures from the Penn-Mar Irish Festival. Only a couple of hounds were able to make it there and we were swamped with visitors!

Celtic Fling Pictures





Extremely hot & humid day for hounds and humans. Festival folk gave us lots of ice!





Yes, that is a fan for the hounds run by a small generator! Thank you to the Wine's!

IMPORTANT NOTICE IF YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A HOUND OUTSIDE THE USA.



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB
GOVERNMENT RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

Friday, July 7, 2023

<https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/just-cdc-extends-suspension-dogs-countries-classified-high-risk-rabies/>

On Monday, the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will announce an [extension of the temporary suspension of dog imports from countries classified as high risk for rabies](https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/just-cdc-extends-suspension-dogs-countries-classified-high-risk-rabies/). The extension will not make changes to the current rules and will remain in effect through July 31, 2024.

The CDC believes the suspension remains necessary to protect the public's health against the reintroduction of the dog-maintained rabies virus variant into the United States. Insufficient veterinary controls in [high-risk countries](#) to prevent the export of inadequately vaccinated dogs, and persistent veterinary supply chain and workforce capacity shortages continue to be factors that require the extension.

[Click here to read AKC's January 25 post on the current suspension period.](#)

On Monday, the CDC will also announce a [new proposed rule](#) that outlines requirements regarding an importation system to reduce fraud and improve the U.S. government's ability to verify U.S. entry requirements and mitigate the introduction of dogs infected with rabies. If adoption, the proposed rule would mitigate the need for further extensions of the temporary suspension.

The American Kennel Club Government Relations Department (AKC GR) is reviewing the extension notice and the proposed rule, and will provide additional information in the coming days. Those needing additional information on proper importation are encouraged to call Dr. Emily Pieracci, D.V.M., of the CDC's Division of Global Migration and Quarantine at 1-800-232-4636; or email AKC GR at doglaw@akc.org.

PVIWC List of Meeting & Events 2023

UPCOMING:

August 13	Regular Meeting
September 2 & 3	Virginia Scottish Games
September 17	Fun Day
October 15	Regular Meeting
November	Maryland Irish Festival, Timonium, MD
November 19	Regular Meeting
December 10	Holiday Party
December	Druid Hill Winter Solstice 5Miler, Baltimore, MD
December	Military Bowl Parade, Annapolis, MD

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

Need volunteers to Host or to decide somewhere for meetings.

2024 PVIWC SPECIALITY SHOWS

SAVE THE DATE! March 31- April 1, 2024 (Easter weekend!) Same location in Bel Air, MD.

Judges*

Sunday: Barb Arndt (Panacea, Canada), **Sweeps:** Donna Smith, Taliesin.

Monday: Jocelyne Gagne, **Obedience/Rally:** Jean Nocilly

(* pending AKC approval.)

Sponsorships of rosettes, trophies, class placements and mementoes are available! See you there!!

IRISH WOLFHOUND PROPERTY LAWS

1. If I like it, it's mine.
2. If it's in my mouth, it's mine.
3. If I had it a little while ago, it's mine.
4. If I can take it from you, it's mine.
5. If it's mine, it must never be yours.
6. If it just looks like mine, it's mine.
7. If I saw it first, it's mine.
8. If you are playing with something else and put it down, it's mine.
9. If I am chewing something up, all of the pieces are mine.
10. If it used to be yours, get over it.
11. If it's broken, it's yours.



DAY 3 OF THE SPECIALTY (photos by Mary O'Malley)





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Malley



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For more Day 3 pictures, go to [Mary O'Malley's Facebook page](#) or [Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club, Inc.'s Facebook page](#). There are hundreds of pictures from all three days.

Have you thought about joining the Irish Wolfhound Club of America? (Sample article)

Irish Wolfhound Health and Longevity

IWCA

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Irish Wolfhounds are generally a hardy dog once grown, and the breed has few unique medical problems. They are fairly stoic, and even if they are in pain, they may be difficult to diagnose. Their rapid growth makes them prone to injury as puppies, and they suffer from the diseases common in giant breeds, some of which are serious. As a result, their lifespan is, on average, less than some breeds. Further, when they do get ill, canine specific medication is usually expensive as it is prescribed by weight. (Sometimes generic human medications can be used to reduce costs; always ask your vet if there are alternatives.)

Some of the serious health issues include:

- cancer, particularly osteosarcoma
- heart disease including dilated cardiomyopathy (often treatable)
- bloat and torsion (a.k.a., GDV for gastric dilatation and volvulus), a GI issue which requires immediate emergency care
- pneumonia, another serious emergency
- liver shunt (a.k.a., PSS or portosystemic shunt), a developmental disorder for which puppies should be screened at 8-10 weeks of age, before going to their new homes

Other issues include:

- joint issues, especially in rapidly growing puppies

- megaesophagus, a gastrointestinal problem, either congenital or acquired
- eye disorders, particularly progressive retinal atrophy
- seizures and other neurological issues
- low thyroid levels (hypothyroidism)
- Von Willebrand's disease, a bleeding disorder
- hygromas
- rear-end weakness in older dogs

Your breeder should be able to show that they have done testing for diseases known to be heritable (primarily eye, cardiac and joint diseases) and give you a family health history.

Some diseases are known to be genetic, and many are probably a combination of genetic predisposition and environment. Most of these diseases are being heavily researched, and the IWCA supports such research in several ways.

Some research is funded by donations to The Irish Wolfhound Foundation, a sister organization to the IWCA. The IWF focuses on health, education, and rescue, sponsors, and promotes scientific studies on IW health concerns, and sponsors health testing at Irish Wolfhound specialties in the US and Canada. Where relevant, the health information presented on this website is linked to the [IWF website](#) for the most up-to-date information.

The IWCA also funds health initiatives through the AKC's [Canine Health Foundation \(CHF\)](#), which allows us to leverage the activities of other breed groups and make use of the CHF process for evaluation of proposals and influence them with our needs.

The IWCA provides information on this website for the education of its readers. No information on this website should be used for veterinary medical purposes, diagnostically, therapeutically, or

otherwise. Consult a veterinarian before attempting to medically treat your dog or changing your dog's medical treatment.

Need to find a veterinarian? Start with the Canine Health Foundation's links to [veterinary schools](#) to find one in your area.

Or The Irish Wolfhound Foundation? ([Sample article link](#))

Honey helps problem wounds

Medi-honey more effective than antibiotics -- Bonn-led study to start soon.

Peer-Reviewed Publication UNIVERSITY OF BONN

A household remedy millennia old is being reinstated: honey helps the treatment of some wounds better than the most modern antibiotics. For several years now medical experts from the University of Bonn have been clocking up largely positive experience with what is known as Medi honey. Even chronic wounds infected with multi-resistant bacteria often healed within a few weeks. In conjunction with colleagues from Düsseldorf, Homburg, and Berlin they now want to test the experience gained in a large-scale study, as objective data on the curative properties of honey are thin on the ground.

The fact that honey can help wounds to heal is something that was known to the Ancient Egyptians several thousand years ago. And in the last two world wars poultices with honey were used to assist the healing process in soldiers' wounds. However, the rise of the new antibiotics replaced this household remedy. 'In hospitals today we are faced with germs which are resistant to almost all the current antibiotics,' Dr. Arne Simon explains. 'As a result, the medical use of honey is becoming attractive again for the treatment of wounds.'

Dr. Simon works on the cancer ward of the Bonn University Children's Clinic. As far as the treatment of wounds is concerned, his young patients form part of a high-risk group: the medication used to treat cancer known as cytostatic not only slows down the reproduction of malignant cells, but also impairs the healing process of wounds.

'Normally a skin injury heals in a week, with our children it often takes a month or more,' he says. Moreover, children with leukemia have a weakened immune system. If a germ enters their bloodstream via a wound, the result may be a fatal case of blood poisoning.

For several years now Bonn pediatricians have been pioneering the use in Germany of Medi honey in treating wounds. Medi honey bears the CE seal for medical products; its quality is regularly tested. The success is astonishing: 'Dead tissue is rejected faster, and the wounds heal more rapidly,' Kai Sofka, wound specialist at the University Children's Clinic, emphasizes. 'What is more, changing dressings is less painful, since the poultices are easier to remove without damaging the newly formed layers of skin.' Some wounds often smell unpleasant - an enormous strain on the patient. Yet honey helps here too by reducing the smell. 'Even wounds which consistently refused to heal for years can, in our experience, be brought under control with Medi honey - and this frequently happens within a few weeks,' Kai Sofka says.

In the mean-time two dozen hospitals in Germany are using honey in their treatment of wounds. Despite all the success there have hitherto been very few reliable clinical studies of its effectiveness. In conjunction with colleagues from Düsseldorf, Homburg and Berlin, the Bonn medical staff now want to remedy this. With the Woundpecker Data Bank, which they have developed themselves, they will be recording and evaluating over 100 courses of disease over the next few months. The next step planned is comparative studies with other therapeutic methods such as the very expensive cationic silver

dressings. 'These too are an effective anti-bacterial method,' says Dr. Arne Simon. 'However, it is not yet clear whether the silver released from some dressings may lead to side-effects among children.'

Effective bacteria killer

It has already been proved that Medi honey even puts paid to multi-resistant germs such as MRSA. In this respect Medi honey is neck and neck in the race to beat the antibiotic mupirocin, currently the local MRSA antibiotic of choice. This is shown by a study recently published by researchers in Australia. In one-point Medi honey was even superior to its rival: the bacteria did not develop any resistance to the natural product during the course of treatment.

It is also known today why honey has an antiseptic effect: when producing honey, bees add an enzyme called glucose-oxidase. This enzyme ensures that small amounts of hydrogen peroxide, an effective antiseptic, are constantly being formed from the sugar in the honey. The advantage over the hydrogen peroxide from the chemist's is that small concentrations are sufficient to kill the germs, as it is constantly being produced. As a rule, much larger quantities of hydrogen peroxide would have to be used, as hydrogen peroxide loses its potency over time. However, in large concentrations it not only damages the bacteria, but also the skin cells.

Furthermore, Medi honey consists of two different types of honey: one which forms a comparatively large amount of hydrogen peroxide, and another known as 'leptospermum honey'. Leptospermum is a species of tree which occurs in New Zealand and Australia. Honey from these trees has a particularly strong anti-bacterial effect, even in a 10% dilution. 'It is not yet known exactly why this is,' Dr. Arne Simon says. 'Probably it is a mix of phenol-type substances which come from the plant and make life particularly difficult for the bacteria in the wound.'

