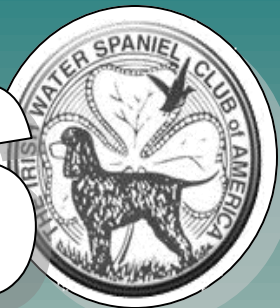


# Rat Tails



Official Publication of the Irish Water Spaniel Club of America

September-October 2010

## BLAKE

CH Madcap's Tyger Burning Bright UD RE VCD2 JH AX AXJ WCX  
5/4/96 – 7/21/10



"When you are sorrowful look again in your heart, and you shall see that in truth you are weeping for that which has been your delight" - Kahlil Gibran

2004 IWSCA Best Veteran in Sweepstakes

2003 IWSCA Best Veteran Bitch

Multiple group placements 2000, 2002

2000 #3 Best of Breed (owner handled)

2000 #5 All Breed (owner handled)

AKC All-arounder

1998 #1 Obedience IWS Delaney system

1998 #1 IWSCA top obedience dog

198.5 High Score in Open B Obedience

First IWS to earn a rally title

Owner: Karen Blessing

Breeders: Betty Wathne and Dana Vaughan

## Inside this Issue

President's Message	4	Southeast Report	12
Letter from the Judge	4	The Collectible Gene	12
Secretary's Report	6	Breeders Education	14
Delegate's Report	7	The Mia Story	15
Rescue Report	8	New Titles	16
Northeast Report	10	The Newbie Column	17
Mid-Atlantic Report	11	Dock Diving Final Report	18
Midwest Report	11	Artist in Our Midst	19

### Advertisers

Karen Blessing	Cover
IWSCOPS	2
Solid Gold	5
Just Ducky	7
Landacre	20



### Greetings from the Health & Genetics Committee of the Irish Water Spaniel Club of America.

The IWSCA has launched a Health & Genetics Survey for all IWS worldwide. The goal of this survey is to provide information to breeders to help them breed healthier dogs and to provide guidance to the IWSCA and other IWS clubs worldwide on how best to utilize their club's research dollars. The survey has been professionally prepared and it is our hope that it will identify health and genetic trends within our beloved Breed.

You can now go to IWSCA website

<http://iwsca.webs.com/>

and take the survey for every IWS that you have owned. It doesn't matter if your IWS is a Best in Show winning IWS or a beloved pet, health information from every IWS is needed. The survey is completely anonymous, so please be candid and comprehensive when answering. The survey will available for 6 months so we can have as many IWS owners participate as possible.

Your support and cooperation in this endeavor are vital to its success.



2011

**The IWSCOPS  
2011  
Irish Water Spaniel  
Calendar  
is coming!**

**Available for shipping  
in mid-October,  
Place your order NOW!**

Price still just \$25 each  
Shipping -\$5 per packet -USA

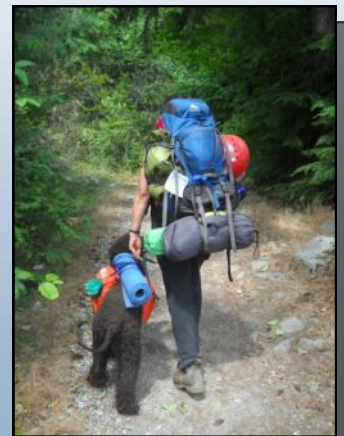
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***Don't be left  
behind!***



## IWSCA Board of Directors

<b>President</b>	Jack McDaniel	POB 1409, Bothell WA 98041, 425-486-9205 (home) 206-909-9472 (cell) 425-368-7151 (shop)	jack@aocb.com
<b>First VP</b>	Greg Johnson	2316 5 <sup>th</sup> St NE, Minneapolis, MN 55418, 612-205-0075	greg@theatreintheround.org
<b>Second VP</b>	Deborah Hughes	7 Parkway Ct., Dallas, GA 30157, 770-445-0789	ildanoch@bellsouth.net
<b>Secretary</b>	Deborah Bilardi	1930 Marion Avenue, Novato, CA 94945, 415-898-6685	cavaniwsdb@gmail.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Sandy Ascot	19755 HWY 113, Custer Park IL 60481, 815-530-0412	slascot@cps.k12.il.us
<b>AKC Delegate</b>	Evelyn Van Uden	2301 Lower Mountain Rd, Ransomville, NY 14131, 716-731-1298	irishimist@aol.com
<b>Membership Chair</b>	Jeremy Kezer	86 High Street, Amesbury, MA 01913, 978-388-1295	iwsmembers@kezer.net

## Committee Chairs

<b>Breeders Education</b>	<b>Judges Education</b>	<b>Health/ Genetic Concerns</b>	<b>Illustrated Standard</b>	<b>Standard Review</b>
Mindy Garbarino	Colleen McDaniel	Laurel Baglia	Dan Sayers	Colleen McDaniel
<b>Constitution</b>	<b>Rescue</b>	<b>Top Producers/ New Titles</b>	<b>Club Historian</b>	<b>Web Site</b>
Greg Johnson	Susanne Hogan	Liz Weaver	Florence Blecher	Deborah Hughes

## Newsletter Editors

<b>Content</b>	Melissa McMunn	3025 Green Valley Rd, Ijamsville, MD 21754, 301-831-6974	landacreiws@comcast.net
<b>Graphics, Layout and Design</b>	Jill Brennan	17147 Weaver Lane SW, Rochester, WA 98579, 206-459-0692	tierah_vizsla@hotmail.com

Opinions expressed in *Rat Tails* are those of the author or advertiser, and do not necessarily constitute endorsement by the Irish Water Spaniel Club of America, its officers, board of directors, membership, or editorial staff.

**Deadline for submission of material for the next newsletter is 10-15-10 send submissions to Jill Brennan at tierah\_vizsla@hotmail.com**

### CLUB OBJECTIVES

- To encourage members to perfect, by selective breeding, physically and temperamentally sound Irish Water Spaniels; to do all possible to promote their natural abilities & qualities;
- To encourage the organization of independent local IWS clubs in the localities where there are sufficient IWS fanciers to meet the requirements of the American Kennel Club;
- To urge members & breeders to accept the standard of the breed as approved by AKC as the only standard of excellence by which IWS shall be judged;
- To do all in its power to protect and advance the interest in the breed by encouraging sportsmanlike competition at dog shows, field trials, obedience trials and tracking tests; to do all possible to further the use of the Irish Water Spaniel as a hunting dog;
- To conduct sanctioned matches, specialties, field and obedience trials and tracking tests under the rules and regulations of the American Kennel Club.

### MEMBERSHIP

Is open to all who are in good standing with the American Kennel Club and subscribe to the purposes of the Irish Water Spaniel Club of America. Please submit completed application form to the Membership Chair with dues payment for the current year.

Dues: Checks payable to IWSCA (payable in U.S. funds)

Individual membership \$25

Household membership \$40

Overseas: Same as above but please include additional \$20 to cover international shipping surcharges

Send application with check, payable in U.S. funds, to:

**Kim Kezer  
86 High Street  
Amesbury, MA 01913 USA**



By Jack McDaniel

## President's Message

September – October



last two months in all phases of competition. The hunt test accolades just keep building, the conformation ring has yielded some fantastic results, the Obedience dogs just keep getting better, Rally is growing so fast they can hardly keep up and the Agility work is remarkable. What a great compliment to the IWS and the owners, handlers, and breeders. We have much to be proud of in all phases of our sport/hobby.

*...but all of you know the indescribable feeling of love that we experience from our furry friends...*

This has been a week of loss for several of us in the Club. I lost my little year and a half Chihuahua, Greg Siner lost Maude who was relatively young and Kathy Dassel lost Patrick who was also very young. For those people that are not in dogs it is hard to describe the feeling of loss, but all of you know the indescribable feeling of love that we experience from our furry friends. May they rest in peace.

We have had some great titles and accomplishments in the

In the last newsletter I commented that controversy is not all bad, but I think I am about to eat those words. The only controversy that works to our advantage is the one that we all learn from and make changes. Hopefully the Code of Ethics committee will put some things together that will stop the well-oiled machine. It is time we stop eating our own.

By Carol Brown.

## Letter From Our Judge

It is truly an honor to be invited to judge a part of the national specialty- and an exciting pleasure to find the quality so high in a breed I learned to love through my handling career. The

best part of all, of course, is seeing all the owners and old friends who are as wonderful as their dogs. Thank you.

## Submission Deadlines

### Issue

November –December 2010 (Holiday Theme)

January – February 2011

March – April 2011 (Nationals Information)

May – June 2011

July – August 2011 (Nationals Results)

September – October 2011

### Deadline

Oct. 15, 2010

Dec. 15, 2010

Feb. 15, 2011

April 17, 2011

June 15, 2011

August 15, 2011



## Does GMO Mean "GOD MOVE OVER"?

Solid Gold Dog food continues to produce the finest pet food for your dogs and cats. The #1 allergy of pets is soybean, #2 is wheat and #3 is corn. They make the animals chew at the root of their tails and lick their feet. Solid Gold doesn't use these allergic grains. They use amaranth, millet and barley. These grains have a history of health. In the Old Testament, Ruth is gleaning millet in Boaz' field. In the loaves and fishes story, it is barley that makes up the loaves.

In June 2010, the radio show "Coast to Coast" had a guest tell how some food has been purposely altered causing disastrous results. A farmer used to save seeds from this year's crop, to plant next year. Then, large companies began to produce Terminator Seeds. The seeds have been genetically modified (GM) so as not to be able to reproduce, causing farmers to buy new seeds every year. These genetically altered seeds are 98% soybean and 90% corn. The government has partnered with the chemical companies. The official term is Genetically Modified Organisms or GMO.

These GMO foods were tested on mice. The male mice's testicles were no longer pink. They turned purplish showing lack of oxygen. Some had cancerous tumors. Instead of 100% female mice conceiving, only 30% became pregnant. When these 30% were bred, only 10% conceived. Then these 10% were bred, zero were born. The control group was fed non-GMO food, almost 100% conceived.

When GMO alfalfa was fed to female pigs, sows, they were then bred. X-rays showed the placenta sac with the fluid, it was empty – no piglets at all. Yet the non-GMO food sows produced normal piglets.

When the guest on the radio called the chemical company why these terminator seeds were produced, she was told there were too many people in the world, and this was a form of population control. Isn't this what is the basis of the New World Order!!!

If you intend to breed your dogs, and are feeding pet food with soybean or corn, you may get zero puppies. Soybean is sometimes called lecithin.

Solid Gold used to get Alaskan wild caught salmon for our dog food. But we were informed that the area has been "fished out", we were told to use farmed salmon. Never! Farmed salmon is fed GMO corn.

The owner of Solid Gold dog food has been raising and showing Great Danes for 50 years. For 30 years, Solid Gold produced many healthy supplements, one of which was called Solid Gold Concept-A-Bitch. They FDA forbid her to produce this herbal aid to pregnant bitches. They said that conception and pregnancy were diseases and only vets should be allowed to breed dogs! The lady's vet is only 32 years old. When the lady told this to her vet, he said that this was ridiculous, he had other things to do. Also, if breeders are now forbidden to breed by the FDA, where are the future puppies going to come from?

Solid Gold doesn't use sunflower oil in its dog food. The Swedish National Cancer Institute's 10 year study found a 69% increase in cancer. Solid Gold doesn't use peas – which may cause gas; or peanuts / peanut butter a well known allergen, or avocados. Dr. Karen Halligan warns that avocados may contribute to pancreatitis.

A lady came to our Solid Gold store and bought a bag of our "Just a Wee Bit" dog food for the little dog. When asked what kind of dog she had, she replied that she didn't have a dog. She had chickens. She replied that she used to feed corn, but about a year ago, their feathers began to fall out, they developed cancer tumors and her egg production dropped considerably. Everything improved when she switched to Solid Gold "Just a Wee Bit" dog food.

### *Now for our story: Angels Unaware*

Farmer Brown was walking along a road when he heard a tiny sound. It came from a near-by box. Inside the box were some tiny puppies. All had been struck on the head and most had died. But one was still alive although her head was dripping blood. It had been a deliberate killing.

Farmer Brown carefully picked her up, wrapped her in his handkerchief and went home, where she was slowly nursed back to health. She looked to be a Border collie mix. Perhaps the mother had bred with a mixed breed dog and the owner didn't want the puppies, so he decided to kill them.

Farmer Brown named the puppy, Angel. Soon the farmer and Angel would go out and do their work. In time Angel was also about to be a mother. She has three lovely puppies.

One night, Angel was late returning home. Around suppertime, Angel came into the house carrying a towel in her mouth. Inside the towel was a new born human baby girl. Angel put the baby in her litter box, cleaned it up and cuddled it to keep it warm.

Farmer Brown had called the sheriff who quickly came out and transported the baby to the hospital.

Seems as though a young unwed girl had given birth to the baby, wrapped it in a towel, and placed it by the side of the road to die. Then, along came Angel and took the towel and baby home.

Several months later a couple adopted the baby girl. They knew the background and decided to name the baby, Angela.

In the fullness of time, Farmer Brown passed away. Shortly afterwards, so did Angel, the Border Collie mix that no one wanted.

Angela grew to be a fine young lady. This is a true story and took place in Scotland.

A phrase in Hebrews 13.2 that says "Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by this, some have entertained angels without knowing it."

Solid Gold is the only dog food company that is a member of the Organic Trade Association, the American Nutraceutical Association, the Medicinal Food Association, Nutraceutical Foods Association and the Life Extension Association.



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By Deborah Bilardi

## Secretary's Report

*Minutes of the July 14, 2010 IWSCA Board's Teleconference*

Minutes of the July 14, 2010 IWSCA Board's Teleconference

Attending Board Members: President Jack McDaniel, 1st VP Gregory Johnson, 2nd VP Deborah Hughes, Treasurer Sandy Ascot, Membership Jeremy Kezer, AKC Delegate Evie Van Uden, and Secretary Deborah Bilardi

This was a listen only conference call open to all IWSCA members.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM PDT by President Jack McDaniel. The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved unanimously.

Secretary's Report - Both letters of censure were sent, Jack confirmed one was received and USPS confirmed second was received.

Treasurers Report - Sandy sent Hemopet the \$1,000.00 check from the BEC for the Rabies Challenge Fund. Health & Genetics Survey fee has been paid for three months. The cost is \$47.00 per month and it is now on direct payment. Sandy is working with the 2010 Specialty Committee on the 2010 Specialty Financial Report.

### Committee Reports

**Illustrated Standard** - Jeremy reported that Dan will have revisions for the Standard committee to review by the end of July.

**By-Laws** - Greg needs the poll results. (sent July 26, 2010) Jack is to resend names of potential committee members.

**Rescue** - Deb H website updated, 2 rehomes now, may be 1 new rescue soon

**Top Producers** - Deb H Nothing new to report

**Historical Archives** - Jack, Florence Blecher and Lisa Schaitberger are working toward having everything cataloged and researchable. Sandy researched Iron Mountain and recommended looking at other companies. She sent information on additional archival companies to Florence.

**Website** - Deb H reported the members' only site is close to completion, the rescue site is up and working

**Specialty** - Greg is working on getting a Specialty system together and closing out the 2010 Specialty

**COE**-Jeremy reported the committee has been formed and

will be ready to work after everyone is home from summer vacation.

The Board decided to invite all Committee Chairman to join the Board Teleconference. They will then be able to give the Board reports on their committees and questions could be asked and answered. Each committee will have a Board Liaison in case the Chairman is unable to attend the meeting or needs Board input at anytime.

---

### *The Board decided to invite all Committee Chairman to join the Board Teleconference.*

The Board Liaisons to each Committee are as follows:

**Awards - Conformation Year End** - President Jack McDaniel (he wants to develop a new system)

**Awards - Year End Performance** - AKC Delegate Evie Van Uden (Deb Nezgoda and Walther Kilmer are also on this committee)

**Breeders Education** - Secretary Deborah Bilardi

**By-Laws** - 1st VP Gregory Johnson

**Code of Ethics** - Membership Jeremy Kezer

**Fundraising** - 2nd VP Deborah Hughes

**Health & Genetic** - 2nd VP Deborah Hughes

**Historical Archives** - President Jack McDaniel

**Illustrated Standard** - Membership Jeremy Kezer

**Judges' Education** - 1st VP Gregory Johnson

**Meet the Breeds** - 2nd VP Deborah Hughes

**Rescue** - 2nd VP Deborah Hughes

**Specialty** - 1st VP Gregory Johnson

**Top Producers** - 2nd VP Deborah Hughes

**Website** - 2nd VP Deborah Hughes

### Unfinished Business

**Budget Review** - TABLED

Thyroid Study – Sandy is to contact Dr. Dodds about her fees



By Evelyn Van Uden

## Delegates's Report

There is not much to report since the last Delegate meeting. If anyone has any thoughts or concerns they wish to be brought up at the September meeting please contact me.

I assume there will be a vote on term limits of board members and possibly realignment of the groups.

*... vote on term limits of board members ...*

Hope everyone had a great Summer. See you in September.

### *July 14, 2010 Board Meeting – Continued*

for the study. Jack will also contact Florence Blecher and Dr. Dodds about the billing issue.

At 6:26 PM PDT Deb H. motioned for adjournment, Jeremy seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

### **New Business**

**International Data Base** – Jack reported that IWS owners in 10 different countries are willing to support this data Base. There has also been \$2,000.00 in private donations promised for this project. Dianne Wacker, Laurel Baglia, Mindy Garbarino, Deborah Hughes, have agreed to cooperate with getting the data base going, and agree that it is a worthwhile project. Robert Lacey has offered to assist Michael Roeterdink with the development of the data base.

Jack wants to promote this data base worldwide.

A 7:00 PM PDT Executive Meeting was called to discuss a letter sent to the Board.

**Judges' Education** – Colleen McDaniel wrote a letter to the Board proposing Regional Contacts for Judges' Education requests. The Regional Contacts will be:

East Coast - Greg Siner

Southeast - Helen Howard

Upper Mid-West - Pat Morton

Northwest - Jim Brennan

California - Michelle Cummings

Jack will research how the development of JEC educational materials is progressing and get copies to the Board.

### ***Just Ducky Spaniel Training Academy***

Announcing the new assistant trainer, Karen Mulkearn



*The Academy is now taking Gun Dog application for the winter term*  
Send your Irish to South Carolina for some sun and fun where the water is fine all year round

Pamela O. Kadlec - Just Ducky Kennel  
Edgefield, SC  
spanieltrainer@yahoo.com  
803-637-2007



By Susanne Hogan

## Introducing the Regional Rescue Coordinators

### *IWS Breed Rescue*

#### *West Coast Coordinator and External Communication/Shelter Education*

**Dorothy Line** - Hi. I live in Bakersfield, California, with two Irish Water Spaniels (Jaxon and Etta), a Bichon Frise named Lillianna, and a very old, one-toothed cat named Muffin. The first IWS I ever owned, a male named Skeezi, was back in 1983. Skeezi was 3 years old when he came to live with me. He was soon followed by a little female pup in 1984 named Cianna.



I have been "rescuing" animals for as long as I can remember. Starting with those baby birds we all found as children--remember those? I admit to not having very good success with those fragile little birds but I loved each one with all my heart. After the birds came the stray dogs and cats, a horse, and even some chipmunks.

As an adult I joined the Sierra Wildlife Rescue (not to be confused with the Sierra Club). After going through their training program, I became part of the "Squirrel Squad," rescuing and raising orphaned baby squirrels. To me, there is something so holy about the relationship between humans and animals. I would not be surprised after I pass to find that they, not us, really rule the earth. They just allow us the illusion of superiority to help our fragile egos. And of course, so we will feed them.

Presently, I own a small dog grooming shop called 24th St. Haute Dog Grooming Salon. I have a bulletin board and you can usually find pictures of two or three "free to good home

dogs" pinned up on it. Knowing that, you can probably see how deciding to join the IWSCA Rescue committee would feel like a natural progression for me.

My role in Rescue, in addition to Western Coordinator, is external communications/shelter education. I look forward to working with the shelters and helping them learn to better identify Irish Water Spaniels when they see them and to work with us to find a forever home once they do. I am very excited to be a part of this program.

#### *New East Coast Rescue Lead Breeder Coordinator*

**Tara Darling-Lyon** - Though new to Rescue, I have been actively involved with Irish Water Spaniels for over 20 years. I show, do obedience, and some field. I actively breed the IWS, as well, under Tara Kennels, and have bred more than 10 litters. I have been active in the Club and am currently the Northeast IWSCA Representative.

Events happen in peoples' lives which change their situations. Sometimes this results in the need to re-home or rescue a pet. Over the years, I have had to re-home dogs which I bred. I feel it is very important for us all to work together when an



IWS needs a new family. My goal is to encourage cooperation between rescue and breeders to benefit both rescues and breeder re-home dogs. One way I would like to do this is by setting up a site on our webpage where people can find dogs in need of homes, both re-homes and rescues. Another initiative would be to encourage breeders to share a listing of folks who want IWS.



## *Introducing the Regional Rescue Coordinators –Continued*

I believe Rescue is a team event and welcome any and all help. As in many cases, time is of the essence so I would like to start by setting up a network of people that I can go to if need be. We will be surveying members to see where each of you can help. We need temporary homes, people to transport dogs, check shelters, etc. Any small part is a great help.

### *Central Area Coordinator and Website / Documentation Lead*

**Lisa Schaitberger** - I have not been in Irish Water Spaniels all that long compared to some. I adopted my first IWS in 1993 when he was a year old from his breeder. I grew up with a Brittany Spaniel (when they were still called that), English Springers, and Standard Poodles. I was attracted to the IWS because of their look and their attitude.

I currently own an IWS and a Field Spaniel. I am active with Irish Water Spaniel Club of America, Field Spaniel Society of America, Fox River Field Spaniel Club, Moraine Tracking Club, and WIIL Agility Club, to name a few. I currently volunteer my time and serve on committees for each of them. In addition, I help with the Walworth County (Wisconsin) 4H Kids dog training project. I have attended Milwaukee Irish Fest for the last 5 years with my IWS, educating people on the breed and generally responsible dog ownership. I currently live in Walworth Wisconsin, and I work in Oak Brook, Illinois, as part of the Corporate Legal Department for Newell Rubbermaid as a trademark paralegal.

My first assist in Rescue was to deliver Khillie to Nona and Harlan Noel. I acted as Midwest Rep for Lynn Musgrave during her terms as President. I have, at times, been the closest person to go view a "potential IWS" in shelters, ready to take them in if they needed to be picked up. I also have been contacted by a number of people looking for a rescue IWS, during times when there were no dogs in rescue.

I firmly believe rescue should be working with the breeders and the owners when possible and to allow them to

handle matters if it is within their power to do so. It isn't our job to blame breeders, prevent people from selling their dogs as is their legal right, or blame dog owners for bad situations - -- our job is to help the dog get out of the situation and in a safe place. We are there to help the dogs that are in immediate danger. We should be there to guide and help people connect so as to make any rescue situation as easy a transition for people and dogs as possible.



*“My first assist in Rescue was to deliver Khillie to Nona and Harlan Noel.”*

I also believe that as a network of people, communicating will be our biggest and best asset.

In the case of "puppy mills" and "auctions," I have a mixed feeling as to our effectiveness. As in puppy mills, we should be there to assist whatever law enforcement entities are trying to build a case and help assist our breed when it is needed. As to the auctions, as much as I hate to say it, we cannot go in and buy the dogs and create the market for them. As to the current "cross breed" issue that the club is grappling with, we should think very carefully and work with closely with the IWSCA Board of Directors as to breed rescue's responsibility in rescuing any IWS cross bred dog.





By Tara Darling

## Northeast Report

Sue Tapp and "Jersey" (Ch. Castlehill's Madcap Craythorne of Castlehill) won the Champion Poole's Ide Oprah O'Reilly Brood Bitch Challenge trophy for 2009. The competition was particularly stiff and the outcome was decided on the basis of the third set of criteria which is performance titles won by the Brood Bitch's offspring. It was multiple Agility titles won by Pat Morton's Quill (CH Quill O'Taoide CD, NA NAJ) that gave Sue and Castlehill the win.

On a sadder note, Quill's littermate Quay (CH Castlehill's Quay to Waterways) owned by Rich and me and Sue unexpectedly went to the Rainbow Bridge a few days after having routine surgery. She was fine at 6AM, except for being annoyed that she had to sleep in the crate and was not allowed to chase balls until she had healed. I fed her and told her she could go outside with a ball in her mouth later. The last time I saw her she was rooting through her food to pick out special treats of people cookies. When I came downstairs an hour later she was lying dead with her head on the water bowl wearing her favorite tropical flower snood from Dede. Quay was only five and had many miles as undisputed Queen of the RV ahead of her. She was the sweetest bitch we ever owned and the only one of the eight IWSs we have owned who was totally bonded to both Rich and me. She was our very special dippy doodle. We never got a good picture of her. Get pictures of your dogs whenever you can because you never know when they will be gone forever.

Thanks for all your work on rehome and rescue. Hope you can find time at Wine Country to take pictures of our Ike son, Oz.

Our two IWSCA Supported shows are coming up so be sure to enter both. Let's hope the weather turns to nice fall temps for them.

**Friday 10/1 Onondaga Kennel Club in Romulus NY Rau show.** This is part of a 4 day cluster which starts on Thursday. It has rally, obedience and agility plus conformation. This is always a great event, and as always will be hosted by Mary Su and Rich Turner. They will be a Pizza night and Pot luck and we are working on getting a Judges Education Training for club members there as well.

**The other is Morris and Essex KC Thursday 10/7 in Somerset NJ. MB-f dog show.** This is a very special show for several reasons. First it only comes about every 5 years and is done in remembrance of the original shows which Mrs. Dodge used to have at her estate. There is a box lunch given to all who enter. Morris and Essex was the host to the first five IWSCA nationals. We will have photos in the special booth of any material we have from those shows. Also this show is a who's who of dog shows, and as such will be a huge gathering of judges. It would be great to have a big turnout for them to see our dogs. I have talked with the judge and she is very IWS

friendly, and gets our breed. We will be giving out the new club trophies here, so Morris and Essex is a good chance to get one. Hope to see you guy's there!!!!

### *Quay was ... the undisputed Queen of the RV ...*

**Show News:** Topsfield MA had a small showing of dogs over the summer; With Alice Getchell's boy Mallyree Here Comes the Son taking BOB over Kim Kezer's CH Tara's Water is My Middle Name CD, JH, RN and Pam Manus's Ch Mallyree Rosa Amhara. They threw a potluck lunch with Mindy Garbarino and Judy Goonyep coming to cheer them on.

**Greenwich KC:** Tara Darling and Paul Price's Comarra-N-Tara's Gale Force took a point over Emily Pikul and Greg Siner's Mallyree Contessa at Pooles Ide, despite Tara's Wardrobe malfunction.

#### **News I left out the last time.**

Ziggy Stardust, owned by Heidi Ferris, was also one of the WC qualifiers at the National Specialty from the Northeast region (SHR, SR Realta's Casanova of Madrigal, JH, WC).

**New News:** Natalie reports that that Juliette competed today at the Dog Training Club of Chester County P.A. Sunday June 13, 2010. She picked up the 10th double Q in levels 2 and 3, scores 206 and 205, to complete her ARCHEX APDT Rally title. Juliette has begun competing for her ARCHMASTER APDT Rally title. At the Suffolk TailWaggers trial at Bayshore, New York July 24,25, Juliette successfully picked up 3 ARCHMASTER legs. She had 7 placements in 11 runs and finished each with a big smile. She was able to acquire a new toy for each placement and spent the ride home happily squeaking her prizes. Today, July 31, she competed at the Blue Ribbon Trial in Andover, N. J. She picked up 2 more ARCHMASTER legs with 6 runs and 5 placements with 2 perfect scores of 210. Juliette competed with a lot of Labs and Golden's and as usual was the only IWS. She is filling Jared's shoes but in a feminine manner. 5 legs down, 5 more triple Q'd's to go for the title

**Happy Note:** I was able to place my first East Coast rescue into a new forever home. Mia is now living with Kelly O'Neil and Mike Walker and a fellow IWS boy named Shea. This is truly a happy ending. Thanks to all who helped make it possible. Especially Susanne Hogan for hand-holding me though my first rescue. (See Mia's story.)

We have a new Champion, Evie Van Uden's Ch Tara's IM Gone With the Wind - call name Tara. She got her second major at the New Castle shows.



By Hannah Loonsk

## Mid-Atlantic Report

### **Congratulations to Janne and Dede!**

Janne had a litter of puppies on July 15, 2010. The dam is CH Ballyhoo's Janne O' Bachlach, CD JH RN U-SHR CGC and the sire is CH Mole End Hold That Tiger CD JH TD AX OAJ VCD1 U-Ag2. There are seven puppies, five boys and two girls. One of the boys is available. Below is a picture of them at four weeks of age.



### **Way to go, Marilyn, Mickey, and Shayla!**

Ballyhoo's Juicy Plum (Shayla) obtained her RA with qualifying scores at Maryland Blue Crab Cluster in July and finished on August 7 at the Blue Ridge DTC. Shayla and Mickey are both moving on to Rally Excellent this fall.

Got news? Please email it to Hannah at hannahlo@comcast.net.

By Susan Sarracino-Deihl

## Midwest Report

Summer is in full swing in the upper MidWest. A few stalwarts have braved the heat and humidity to show outdoors. Others have been busy in agility.

### **Conformation:**

Show entries have been small in the MidWest this summer, but we have another Group Placement for an IWS. On July 25<sup>th</sup> Debbie Patterson showed her lovely Corteo to another group placement. In addition, the Waukesha Kennel Club shows had a small, but lovely IWS entry. Points were shared by everyone for the two days.

### **Paper Cities Kennel Club, July 25, 2010**

Gr 4 Poole's Ide Corteo du Tidemark o:Debbie Patterson

### **Waukesha Kennel Club, Saturday, July 31, 2010**

WD, Open 1 (0 pts) Beaufield's Down to the River Riley o:Linda and Kent Harrison

WB, Open 1 (2 pts) Catanka Into the Woods

o: Ruth Bruskiewitz

RWB, Open 2 Whistlestop Bright N Beautiful

o: Signe Holz & Ron Halvorson

BOB, BOW Catanka Into the Woods

BOS Beaufield's Down to the River Riley

### **Waukesha Kennel Club, Sunday, August 01, 2010**

WD, Open 1, (0 pts) Beaufield's Down to the River Riley

WB, Open 1, (2 pts) Whistlestop Bright N Beautiful

RWB, Open 2 Catanka Into the Woods

BOB, BOW, (2pts) Beaufield's Down to the River Riley

BOS Whistlestop Bright N Beautiful

### **Agility:**

Two MidWest members have been active in agility this summer.

### *We have a new MACH team...*

We have a new MACH team – Jen Weaver and Ch MACH Mole End Inflated Ego XF. Brag is Jen's second MACH dog as his mother Drina got her MACH three years ago this same month. Liz reported "Watching Jen run Brag is always exciting as his speed and enthusiasm keep them constantly on the edge of disaster but they somehow still manage to make it look smooth and easy. Hard to explain. The two runs of his double Q are below. He also qualified for Nationals with the same run."

Secondly, Susanne Hogan reported that her Wiley - Poole's Ide Halmark TD JH NA – now sports a new title to add to those already earned. On Aug. 14 Wiley earned his Novice Jumpers title.

**Hot off the presses:** Susanne Hogan's Wiley (Poole's Ide Halmark TD JH NA) earned his Novice Jumpers title today at the Siberian Husky Club of America agility trial in Manhattan, Illinois. Good dog!

Congratulations to all the MidWest exhibitors in conformation and agility!



By Grattan Foy

## Southeast Report

This is my first time writing for the Southeast group so bear with me. First I would like to thank the group for allowing me to be one of the regional reps. There is one thing so say about the South this summer, HOT. However our Irishers have still been able to get out and make a statement.

A couple of weeks ago a large group gathered for the Salem Virginia Cluster. This was a five day circuit that had in attendance Deborah Hughes, Helen Howard, Jodi Lamp, Missy McMunn, Teresa & Brad Williford, Wayne Murray, S. Schultz, E. Shultz, Natalie Weissman and Shona Ensign ( three weeks after giving birth to her third child)! The results are listed below. One night there was a match in Salem where Brady aka Ildanoch Elusive Dream made his debut into the confirmation show ring and took home Best in match. The following weekend I took my girl Luna aka Ch. D 'locks Lunar Eclipse NAP NJP NJ out of maternity leave and into an agility trial where she finished her Novice Jumpers Title. We are all looking forward to a cooler fall and hoping to connect again at some shows.

Wed:

**W/B ILDANOCH ANNA LIVIA ON BLOOMSDAY** - Anna

Thurs:

**W/B ILDANOCH ANNA LIVIA ON BLOOMSDAY**-Anna 1pt  
**RWB CASTLEHILL'S STERLING SOFIA RN.**-Sofia

Fri:

**W/B/BW OVERLOOK'S JOI DE VIVE**,---Jenny (4pts)

**WD/OS ILDANOCH ELUSIVE DREAM**,---Brady  
**RWB ILDANOCH DREAMER**-Cale  
**SEL CH TARA'S WATER BARONESS CD RA.**-Teagan

*One night there was a match in Salem where Brady aka Ildanoch Elusive Dream made his debut into the confirmation show ring and took home Best in match.*

Sat:

**BOB CH TARA'S WATER BARONESS CD RA** -Teagan  
**BOW/OS ILDANOCH ELUSIVE DREAM** -Brady (5pts)  
**W WAYBAR'S AIN'T NOBODYS BIZNESS** -Bizzy 5pts  
**R OVERLOOK'S JOI DE VIVE**- Jenny

Sun:

**BOB CH TARA'S WATER BARONESS CD RA**-Teagan  
**BW/OS ILDANOCH ELUSIVE DREAM**.-Brady (4pts)  
**WB LANDACRE'S LOVE YOUR EVERY COLOR**-Blossom 4pts  
**RWB OVERLOOK'S JOI DE VIVE**-Jenny

By Janet Krogh

## The Collectible Gene

I am a dog collector. I know I was born with the collectible gene. If you don't have that gene, you know it and you can skip reading this article. In fact, if you don't collect things, you find that any kind of collection is abhorrent to you. Dust bunnies, chachkis.

Knick-knacks are not your thing. That is okay. I understand. We can still be friends.

Dogs and collectibles seem to go together like salt and pepper, mustard and catsup, Christmas and New Year's. They just do. Go to any dog show in the country and you will see vendors with crowds of people surrounding the collectible tables, eager to buy the latest and greatest dog item. I think I started collecting dog paraphernalia when I was a child because I loved dogs and knew I could never have many real dogs so I started collecting. I could fulfill my love of dogs vicariously with collectibles. I am ashamed to say that I still

have a ridiculous amount of dog stuff from my childhood that is worth nothing but memories. Anyone for a worn booklet from the Walt Disney's "Big Red" movie? "

*Dogs and collectibles seem to go together like salt and pepper...*

Somehow, if you are a collector and you see something made with your breed, you are drawn to it. It brings a smile to your face and a special emotional rush. Do you buy it? What do you do with it? Who knows but it is fun to purchase, fun to look at, fun to add to your collection.

The Irish Water Spaniel collectibles are even more challenging because they are rare and when found, bring you that Eureka



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## The Collectible Gene – Continued

moment. At present there are a great many Irish Water Spaniel collectors in the club. Some like the early books referencing IWS, some are drawn to the children's' books. Others prefer the oil prints, watercolors, or ink drawings. Many like figurines,



jewelry, wood items, clothing, or dishware. The Specialty show is always a great source for anything IWS. One of a Kind, Limited Edition, or "Rare" are certain to bring out the cut throat, gleeful, competitive nature in all of us.

A good collector is said to "not know what they are looking for, but when they find it, they know it." Part of the enjoyment is just the hunt. Where can you scout out the next hidden treasure? There is mystery to what is lurking around a corner in a dusty, run down antique shop. Try to remain calm while haggling a price with the proprietor of a shop who hasn't a clue to why you are so excited on your new found find. Ebay has been a gift from heaven for collectors. Just a mouse click and you can get in the game of bidding with anonymous collectors from around the world.

A good collector becomes a connoisseur, a snob, an expert in what they are looking for, in what they like, what they won't buy, what they will pay. It doesn't matter if you buy high-end or low, what matters is you found it, you enjoy it, and you appreciate your collection. You might prefer a year, a style or a certain genre.

It is also said that good collectors buy only for their own enjoyment. Resale value? Who cares? Remember all the Beanie Baby collectors who were going to finance their children's education with re-sold Beanie Babies? Never happens. Remember that painting found in the attic on Antiques Road Show that brought wealth to an unsuspecting couple? Good TV, but rare. You should enjoy your collection because you like it period. No excuses, no apologies, no

regrets.

Is there a goal or a finish line to a collection? Possibly but probably not. I do know that I have completed my collection of the original Nancy Drew Book series. I don't want or need any more. And I do know that I have not reached my goal in finding all the AKC dog breeds in figurines. Surprising, after a lifetime of collecting, I have never found some breed figurines that I would like in my collection. I still look, I still hope. And is there a decent American Water Spaniel figurine to be found on this planet? As far as my collection, I quit counting after I reached 500 dog figurines. With so many new AKC breeds added each year, the goal post keeps moving and don't get me started in trying to find all the dog breeds in different colors. I am not even close.

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*A good collector becomes a connoisseur, a snob, an expert in what they are looking for...*

Boxes, baskets, shelves, cabinets, walls. Where do you find the space to display or store all your collectibles? It is also said, that you can always find room for more "stuff".

I don't know about that. After watching TLC's series of The Hoarders, I am not so sure that I want to go crazy with my collectibles. I try to keep parts of my house "dog free" of collections. Remember the movies "Best in Show"? Easily my house could become a shrine to the dog. In fact, I joke that I have enrolled in the 12 Step Program for Collectibles. As I get older, I realize that my sons won't be fighting over who gets my Styrofoam Cup Cozy from the 1985 IWS Specialty Show. At the Specialty shows, I try to walk past all those adorable IWS eyes looking out of me from plates, cups, earrings, ornaments, tiles, belts, and scarves. I must say the new excess baggage fees have caused me pause in bringing too much extra home. My bookshelves are bulging with dog books, my closets are packed with IWS Specialty trinkets, my walls are covered with dog prints.

My glass cabinets can't take anymore. There is a difference between crammed and displaying. I know that at some point, I have clearly crossed that line. But, I don't give up, I slog on knowing that the next town I visit, the next new shop I enter, a dog collectible will call to me and I will most undoubtedly cave to the impulse of buying even though I try to suppress the urge. I know I can't help that I was born with the collectible gene.



By Mindy Garbarino, Chairman

## Breeders' Education Committee News

Anyone who watches TV knows what I'm talking about. On comes a commercial for a drug. You hear a list of all the wonderful health benefits this drug will bring you, but then towards the end of the commercial comes the often shocking disclaimer.... may cause life threatening side effects such as heart attack, kidney failure, liver failure, stroke....., and sometimes even the words "or death"! Usually these are recited in a monotone, machine gun fast blast.

Now let's talk about annual vaccination of our dogs. Serious side effects can, and unfortunately sometimes do happen. There have been reports of immune related issues, temperament issues, allergic reaction, the list goes on and on. Now what if it was proven that a single Rabies vaccination, reportedly one of the more reactive vaccines, provided immunity for a minimum of 7 years and perhaps even a lifetime!

Well that's what the "Rabies Challenge Fund" (RCF) is all about and is out to prove. Led by Dr. Ronald Schultz, Chairman of Pathobiology at the University of Wisconsin School of Veterinary Medicine and Primary Investigator for the RCF. The Rabies Challenge Fund is a project currently being conducted to determine the duration of immunity conveyed by the rabies vaccine. The goal of this project is to prove that the duration of immunity is far longer than has been the common belief and thereby extending the required interval for rabies boosters from the current 1 or 3 year interval (depending on state law) to 5 and then hopefully to 7 years. And the chances of your own dog being one of those statistics of adverse reactions due to vaccination will be dramatically reduced!

In support of this extremely important project, the Breeder's Education Committee has recently made a \$1000 donation to the Rabies Challenge Fund. We received a very nice thank you note and an autographed picture of Rin Tin Tin! OK you "youngins" probably never heard of Rin Tin Tin, but he was a famous German Shepherd Dog and even had his own TV show in the 50's.

You can learn a lot more about the RCF by logging onto their website:  
[www.rabieschallengefund.org](http://www.rabieschallengefund.org)

I'd also like to once again extend an invitation to all our club members that have an interest, to join the Breeder's Education Committee. You don't have to be an active breeder to join the committee. If you are interested in any aspect of breeding, we invite you to join. You can learn about how your breeder came to make the decisions she/he did when breeding the litter that produced your puppy, or perhaps you're interested in learning more about health and the health testing protocol we have put into place that helps ensure we are breeding healthy Irish Water Spaniels. Or maybe you are thinking about one day becoming a breeder yourself. We welcome you and urge you to join! Applications are available on the RattailsOnly list, or please don't hesitate to contact me directly and I will gladly e-mail you an application.



**Thank you for supporting the Rabies Challenge Fund**  
[www.RinTinTin.com](http://www.RinTinTin.com)



## Her Wish for a New Forever Home Come True

Mia, a 5-year-old unspayed bitch, came into Rescue in July. Her family gave her up because they had no time for her and lost their home due to the economy and downsizing. Her breeder was not able to take her back, so Rescue and I stepped in. First off, the family had never left her before and they were very sad giving her up. It was quite a traumatic event for her to come to be left with me.



She was my first Rescue but I have done several Rehomes before. I have to say Rescues are very different. When you Rehome one you have bred, they seem to know you when they come back. Mia was terrified with the strange house and people, and the fact that her previous owners were crying didn't help. It took her several days to warm to us, with long walks and lots of balls. Thank God for balls, as she didn't eat much the first few days with us and didn't like our cookies at all. We slowly introduced her to our guys, who, one at a time were OK, but Mia never did warm up to being a pack member. She was very well-trained when we got her but shy with men. She is a real cuddle bunny and would give big kisses and drop the ball for you to play with her.

Along comes Kelly, Mike and Shea--a wonderful couple with a IWS already who wanted to open their home to a new IWS to play with Shea. They came to meet Mia and it was love at first sight for the group. Mia played ball with Shea and enjoyed an afternoon of belly rubs. Mia came back to my house after the visit to be spayed and microchipped and recover. After 2 weeks of healing and a bit of work to get her over the shyness, she was ready to go to her new forever home.

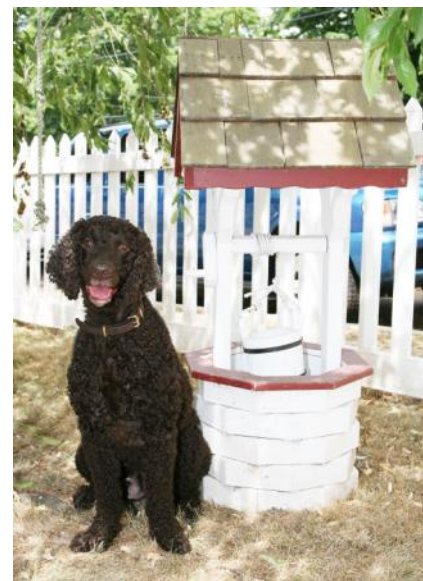
I would like to share this most recent report I received from them:

*Mike, Shea, Mia, and myself headed down to our favorite pet-friendly New Orleans style cooking...celebrating officially since Mike worked on Friday night. One-quarter mile before our destination, Mia popped her head up from under the seat to check it all out. This is HUGE for riding in the car. Dinner was pretty good--we sat in the corner (if there is a corner outside in the yard) and Mia laid down under the seat, but barking 1 or 2 times when she saw new feet. Shea and Mia were treated to steak tidbits which apparently were Yummy! After dinner, we headed to the dog-friendly beach.*

*THIS WAS THE BEST CAPPER OF THE NIGHT. 15 Dogs all jumping in the surf, playing ball, and meeting and greeting each other. It was beautiful to see Mia so happy at the beach. It was like ice cream without the calories. We played for about 45 minutes and got back in the truck with two soaking wet poochers. Mia's face was covered in sand and she couldn't have been happier. The ride home she even poked her head out the window for maybe 3 minutes. We'll take it! So, with two squeaky clean doggies, we all sit relaxing with what is left of the evening."*

So wishes do come true. Mia has found a wonderful forever home. Thank you, Kelly and Mike for opening your heart and home to this lucky girl.

A special thank you to Susanne Hogan who held my hand through this and to Stephane O'Reilly who found us Kelly and Mike and has agreed to mentor them.





# New Titles – May and June

Titles - May 2010

Name/Sire/Dam	Sex	DOB	Owners/Breeders
<b>Champion</b>			
CH Castlehill's R Audacious Vision CD RE OA OAJ NF CH Whistlestop Ropin' The Wind VCD2 MX CH Castlehill's Keeping The Magic CD RN	B	11-Feb-06	Susan G. Anderson & Susan Tapp & Randal Byrd Susan Tapp
CH Tara's Im Gone With The Wind CH Mystic Torin CD CH Tara's Just Add Water RN	B	7-Apr-06	Evelyn Van Uden Mindy Garbarino & Mrs. Tara Darling-Lyon
CH Whistle Stop Winds Of Change TD CH O'Malleigh's Mr. W S Action RN CH Whistle Stop's The Wind Moriah CD RA JH	D	24-Oct-08	Debra Nezgoda Colleen McDaniel
<b>Companion Dog Excellent</b>			
Cuardach Way To Fly Byrd CDX RN CH Catwalks Special Case CD RA JH CH MACH Madcap's Way To My Heart UD RE JH MXP MJP XF	B	11-Apr-06	Brenda Farmer & Micheal Farmer Stephanie O'Reilly & Betty Wathne
<b>Obedience Master 1</b>			
CH Irish Mist Fistful O Dollars VCD2 UDX OM1 RE MX MXJ CH I.M. The Cat's N Jammer Kid RE CH Pinebank Doitagin Imkimswick CDX RE AX AXJ NAP NJP NFP	D	27-Jun-02	Cynthia Rathbun Evelyn M Van Uden & Susan L Bell
<b>Rally Excellent</b>			
CH Jaybren's O'B The One For Me CD RE CH Fynder Freethinker CH Jaybren's Maggie May CD	B	18-Jun-06	Holly N Bauman Jane Bonner & James F Brennan
<b>Junior Hunter</b>			
Realta Malarkey JH CH Muddy Waters Happy-Go-Lucky Realta's Lust For Life Vida" UD RE JH OA NAJ"	B	14-Aug-07	Dr. Joshua Scholnick Rosemary J Sexton
<b>Senior Hunter</b>			
CH Whistlestop's B All U Can B CD RN SH CH Ildanoch's Casablanca CD RN JH CH Realtas Bob'n O'Whistlestop UD RE JH OA OAJ NAP NJP	D	27-Mar-06	Colleen McDaniel & Deborah Hughes Colleen McDaniel
<b>Novice Agility</b>			
Ballyhoo's Light My Fire NA NAJ NF CH Realtas Galileo CD TD SH CH Ballyhoo's Janne O'Bachlach CD RN JH	B	31-Mar-08	Christine Bartos Dede Selph & Judith Goonyep
<b>Open Agility</b>			
Beaufield Bright Idea OA NAJ NAP NJP CH Beaufield John Barleycorn CD SH CH Beaufield Call Me Kilmaree	D	2-Aug-03	Jean Haley & MARSHALL BELLVILLE Jr. Bridget Kvarnlov & William Paine & Martha Paine
<b>Agility FAST Open</b>			
Cuardach Makes My Heart Soar RN OA AXJ OF CH Castlehill's Magic Moment CDX CH MACH Madcap's Way To My Heart UD RE JH MXP MJP XF	B	30-Mar-08	Stephanie O'Reilly & Jeff Rife Stephanie O'Reilly & Susan Tapp & Betty Wathne

Titles - June 2010

<b>Rally Advanced</b>			
Cuardach Way To Fly Byrd CDX RA CH Catwalks Special Case CD RA JH CH MACH Madcap's Way To My Heart UD RE JH MXP MJP XF	B	11-Apr-06	Brenda Farmer & Micheal Farmer Stephanie O'Reilly & Betty Wathne
<b>Junior Hunter</b>			
Realta Rosario Cooper JH CH Whistlestop's Hula Balloo CDX RAE JH CH Realtas Supernova CD RN MH	D	14-Feb-07	Patrice Dodd & Russell Dodd Rosemary Sexton
<b>Novice Agility Preferred</b>			
CH Muddy Waters Great Expectations CD RAE AX AXJ NAP XFD CH Mole End Wing And A Prayer CD NA CH Muddywatersbagladyo'birdhill CDX		5-May-00	Jody Dushkes Diane L Wacker
<b>Novice Agility Preferred</b>			
Poole's Ide Hallmark TD JH NAP CH Oak Tree's Irishtocrat CD CH Poole's Ide First Water CD JH	D	1-Dec-02	Susanne Hogan Gregory M Siner
<b>Open Agility Jumper</b>			
Mole End One And Only OAJ NF Castlehill's Journey Downunder CH Mole End Incandescent MX AXJ OF	B	13-Nov-06	Elizabeth Weaver & Jennifer Weaver Elizabeth Weaver & Jennifer Weaver



By Maria Nation

*The Newbie Column:*

## Life and Death and the IWSCA

*Auggie and I take a walk around the property. It is a slow walk – he is no longer the fleet athlete he once was – and I can notice much at this snail's pace. I see the apples on the trees are ripening and some have fallen. I don't throw any for Auggie; he isn't interested, although chasing apples has been one of his favorite sports for the fourteen autumns that we've lived here. Even three weeks ago his eyes lit up and he stiffly pounced on a tiny apple as long as I threw it right in front of him where he could see it. My heart both aches and delights in seeing the duality: an old, stiff dog barely able to run but, in my memory, the elegant powerful male streaking to make the catch. I take a left to walk around the field and naturally he follows me. After fourteen years together he trusts me without consideration – it is one half of our bond. And today I will call the vet to take his life away. That is the other half of our bond.*

After two years of observation the Newbie sees the rhythm of the IWSCA as it is played out on the forums: Like dogs in a dog park it is mostly innocent fun. But then a slight is uttered, or even a perceived slight, and the pack tears into rumble mode. Sides are taken. Old wounds are remembered. Teeth, once more, are bared. People have said that “dog people” are dog people because they can't get along with humans. Observing the forums, I wonder if this is true. Even as we bemoan the fact that we aren't getting along – we just can't seem to get along.

*The puppy was an emergency replacement after the freak death of my first dog. He arrived in a friend's plane, flown up to Massachusetts in a muck bucket strapped into the co-pilot's seat. My friend said that the landing was interesting because the puppy started scrambling out of the bucket to kiss his face so he had to hold him down with one hand and land the plane with the other. I remember being on the tarmac, watching the little plane on the horizon and wondering what the pup would look like and how it would feel to hold a new one when I was so devastated by my recent loss. Could I love him just as much? At the dog park he would sit on my feet, too shy and gentle to*

*play with the rambunctious big guys. Their barks made him anxious. I worried that he never played until he found a partner a few weeks later: a tiny puppy one-tenth his size. He finally played with gentle gusto. For the rest of his life “gentlemanliness” would define his nature. I named him August because that was the month he came into my life and took on the task of repairing my heart.*

*I named him August because that was the month he came into my life and took on the task of repairing my heart.*

The Newbie is too “newbie-ish” to know the history of wounds that cleave the club or to remember who is on whose “side” or to fully understand the controversies that suddenly cause the usual battle positions to be taken. Surely there are philosophical differences – that is to be expected. But there is so much more that unites us: a shared love of dogs, and this breed in particular. The unique needs of this rare breed, the quirks of the Irish temperament, and the health issues that plague them. Surely there are more common interests that can unite us than there are differences to fight over, right?

*Auggie has been my constant companion through a bad break up, a move to the country, my mother's death, a marriage and*





## The Newbie Column – Continued

devastating divorce, and a myriad of dramas, triumphs and comedies. This morning the fourteen years we have shared seem to have flown past with a speed that is bewildering. He smells now because of the cancer in his mouth, but I kiss him anyway, and bury my head in his brown curly coat to tell him I love him. He is nearly deaf but I think he hears me. As I carry him up and down the steps his body is a sack of bones but we share the knowledge of the physical being he once was. In every way he is less and less the embodiment of himself and more and more the spirit of himself as I remember him. After today his spirit will be freed of the body that is failing him. Making this decision is killing me yet I will make it to spare him the pain that will never alleviate and that he endures with mind-

### *My mother once said that dogs were tragedies waiting to happen...*

*boggling stoicism. My mother once said that dogs were tragedies waiting to happen and I believe this is true. Dash, our Irish "pup" is already two. (Where did that time go?) She knows something is up because she no longer teases Auggie to get him to play with her like she used to. He sleeps in the doorway so no one can pass him without his knowing and she has learned to carefully step around him, quiet and tender. She is sweet and smart and faster than an arrow. She doesn't know, and I push out of my head, that a different reality – Auggie's reality of this morning – awaits us both one day. But*

*right now the promise of her life lies out ahead of us both and her seemingly boundless youth is a tonic to my sadness.*

Someone wrote on the forum that there have been a number of "giants of the breed" who have left us this year. Even the Newbie can see this. Each rainbow bridge announcement signals another champion's empty collar is placed in some special spot; the devastated owner left to wonder how the years went so quickly as she or he washes the food bowl for the last time. And for every rainbow bridge announcement posted there are dozens of other dogs lost. Like Auggie they may not have been recognized in the show ring but they were champions of our hearts, perfect companions who gave a million things more than they took. It is at these moments of grief that the Club gets it right. We put aside our differences and come together to give comfort. Hovering over the differences that cause the teeth to be bared in the human dog park that is the IWSCA is this ultimate shared reality: One day we are all going to lose our best friend. It is a unique sort of loss and can't fully be shared with folks who aren't "dog people." Ironically, it is the "ones who can't get along with humans" who will give us the most heartfelt words of comfort and the most honest understanding when we stand on the living side of the bridge and wave goodbye to our best friend. It would be nice to think that we could remember this as we bare our teeth in a hastily written post that unleashes a chorus of growls and hurt feelings. Alas, it probably won't happen. Perhaps the best we can do is remember that when we need it most, our brothers and sisters in this club will open their hearts, regardless of our differences.

## Spring Fun Jump at Lilypons Water Gardens

Sunday, April 10, 2010 at 4:30 pm

BIG AIR NOVICE FINALS									
Name	Name	Breed	Sex	Age	Hometown	Title	JUMP #1	JUMP #2	SCORE
Liz Sherman	Seeker	IWS					12.02	13.10	13.10
Melissa McMunn	Blossom	IWS					8.00	11.04	11.04
BIG AIR JUNIOR FINALS									
Michael Roekoclink	Mickey	IWS					15.08	13.08	15.08
Carolyn Lathrop	Fem	IWS					13.00	13.06	13.06
BIG AIR SENIOR FINALS									
Jose Munoz	Rugby	IWS					17.00	18.00	18.00
Wendy O'Leary	Rocket	IWS					15.06	17.00	17.00
BIG AIR PRO FINALS									
Robert Polzin	Lizzie	IWS					17.06	15.10	17.06
Elissa Kirkegard	Gail	IWS					16.02	17.04	17.04



By Cathy Shelby

## Artist in Our Midst - Jill Brennan

After an issue's absence, I'm back twisting arms of our artist member's to join in the fun of bringing their art to our membership. It's been a tough summer finding people who can spare time for this sort of thing, so I thank Jill Brennan for being my subject this edition. (For some reason, I seem to be able to twist arms better on the West coast than the East.) If you know an artist in your part of the country, please help me out by encouraging them to talk with me and/or bring them to my attention for future columns.

Most of us know Jill as our superb newsletter editor or that tall gal that tries to keep Jim Brennan on his toes with his IWS. What most don't know is that her talents run deeper. Jill began taking watercolor and acrylic painting lessons at age 9. She clearly liked to paint so when her parents thought it important to take lessons, she didn't object. Oil painting classes followed, along with graphics and photography courses in high school and into college. Jill has a college minor in graphic arts, and works in marketing for an engineering firm.



Jill employs her art skills in both her "real" job and in her doggy "hobby". Ah, so how has this manifested itself in the doggy end of things? Jill has created the logos for both the Trail's End Vizsla Club of Oregon and the Rainier Sporting Dog Association, as well as doing all the design and layout for Rattails.

Like many working artists, Jill tries to accept that her art mostly has to be incorporated into her day job and through the newsletter needs.

It's not easy to find time for fun outlets outside beyond these two. However, she has been doing some black and white sports photography of sprinters and jumpers using her Yashika 35mm camera. Jill is of the "old school" much preferring this camera to her digital.

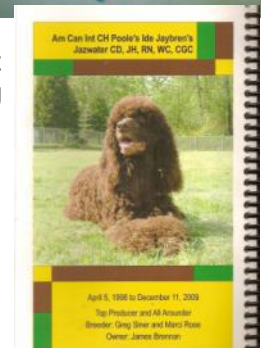
When asked about special moments relating to her art, Jill tells the story of entering a water color painting in the Open Class at the State Fair when she was ten years old. The class was open to paintings in All Mediums for All Ages and hers earned a "Reserve" award. There were about 60 entries and winning "Reserve" was akin to winning second place. Seems like a nice affirmation of her young talent. Soon after being hired to her IWSCA newsletter position, she received a note from a board member remarking that "this is the nicest looking newsletter I have ever seen". In her work world, the greatest moment came when she was hired by the first employer to do marketing. While she didn't realize it at the time, she had found her perfect job, one that combines her love of writing, graphic art work, and photography. That was thirteen years ago. She remembers her father telling her that she would need to love her professional work because she would be spending a third of her life doing it.

Other sound advice came from a high school teacher who told her that if she loved what she did, she would not have to "work" a day of her life. Jill listened to both and despite some difficult-to-work-with deadlines that sometimes create very long work weeks, she finds nothing sweeter than having one of her proposals win a big contract. Clearly, these moments remind her of how much she gives to what she does and it's because she does love the job.

Jill has more painting education on her mind, but further training might have to wait until retirement. While watercolors are at the top of the list, she looks forward to oil painting again. Her painting in the late '80's through the mid '90's was mostly of landscapes and vizslas (she was yet to meet and marry Jim who added IWS). Impressionistic painting interests her and while vizslas are "regal subject matter", she allows that IWS and their antics would better lend themselves to this style of painting.

Jill doesn't currently have a website, she does do commissions and requests for advertising, often for friends or friends of her handler. Seems that she finds her graphic design comes in quite handy.

Currently, Jill has two IWS living with her. Molly at age 12 and Presley, age 2. For those that were present at Jim and Jill's wedding after an IWSCOPS show 11 years ago, it was a very special, and funny, moment when Duncan, Am/Can/Int'l CH SHR Jaybren's Donnchadh Donal AM/CAN CDX, SH MX, NAJ AE NG OJ CGC TDI accompanied them to the "alter". Jim had spent three months training Duncan to carry their rings in a basket. When he was asked to bring the rings to Jack McDaniel during the ceremony, he was distracted by two young boys and chose to roll in the grass with them instead. As any IWS worth his salt, he did eventually deliver the rings, but in his own way. Additionally, Jill belongs to the Vizsla Club of America, Trail's End Vizsla Club of Oregon, Puget Sound Vizsla Club, Rainier Sporting Dog Club and the Society of Marketing Professionals. She's served on the IWSCOPS Board of Directors and of course, is the current IWSCA Newsletter Editor.



# Landacre Crew Reaches New Heights



IWSCA News Editor  
17147 Weaver Lane SW  
Rochester, WA 98579

Address label here