



The Scarlet Letter

The Golden Triangle Irish Setter Club,
Inc

May 2006



Spring is upon us....flowers are blooming, the sun is shining..., well, .*maybe*.. and the dog shows move outdoors ! I think that we are all ready for the smell of fresh air and the spring flowers !

Our history for the month.... While updating our club's bank account, the bank accessed our original paperwork from the state. Our club became incorporated on March 8th, 1976, which gave us our 30th anniversary. Congratulations and "Happy Anniversary" to the Golden Triangle Irish Setter Club INC. I think 30 years is a lot to be proud of for a small group. And we forge on!



Specialty Updates;

MAY 06 - The closing date for entries will be here soon...May 10th to be exact. Ribbons will need to be ordered, entries cataloged, and the hospitality and each "job" needs to be finalized. A menu of ham bbq's, pasta salad, snacks, water, pop and dessert has been decided. **Members are being asked to donate desserts.** Let Mary know what dessert you will be sending / bringing, and what your choice may be. Joan and Mary have tables, Joan is taking care of the paper supplies. Deb & Skip will send a large coffeepot, creamers and coffee.

If there is anything that you think we need or have forgotten, please contact Coleen or Mary. It's been a group effort in getting this organized. We have all learned a lot, which will make the next one easier. A big applause goes out to everyone. Once again, a group of people working together to make it work. I am very proud to be a part of this club...as I am sure we all feel that way.

All raffle basket items should be in Mary's possession by now. Please continue to sell as many tickets as possible prior to the show date. The club voted to spend "up to" \$100 towards our raffle baskets. Anything needed to "finish" the basket will be purchased.

Catalog ad sales are coming along. The deadline for the ads is May 1st to Dee. Be sure to get your ads in asap.

Both the raffle and the ads are generating funds, as we had hoped. Next year should be better yet. Thank you to Dee and Judy for handling both of these events.

JULY 06 – The trophies are almost complete. Judy Drotar will again be the show secretary, giving us a "breather" after getting this May one together. Final details need to be put into place. Think about which "job" you would like to do. Once again, a group effort to be proud of!

ISCA National Specialty - once again, all basket items should be in Mary's possession as soon as you can get them to her. It will make it easier to see what items we have and what we may need to purchase to "finish" the basket. We are very pleased so far with our Pittsburgh themed basket. Items for this basket need to be to Mary by the first of June. We will be off to Michigan on June 12th. Mary designed a fun ad for the national catalog that was submitted.

WEBSITE;

The site is progressing nicely. Most of us have our little "blurb" about us and our dogs. If you are one who has not, please write a little about your dogs and yourself. Get them to Mary. There are a few details we would like to see on the site yet, but it is better to complete one section at a time. The "blurbs" are what need finished at this time. We are very pleased with having all club info online and at our fingertips. As announced back in December's Scarlet Letter, once the site was up and running, the newsletter and all club info will be posted. Isn't it nice to not worry about phone calls, emails and snail mail??? It seems everyone finds this is working out without any problems. No one has yet to say that they have not received any information or not have access to it. The lines of communication are flowing as we hoped they would. Tammy does a fine job in keeping our site information current, as we submit it to her.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

A get well card has been sent out to Marilee Larson, who is the contact person for Rescue in the parent club. Marilee was hospitalized, but is now recuperating at home. Our well-wishes go out to Marilee.



New Membership Applications;

We are pleased to announce that Jean Hutchinson has sent in her dues...and is staying with us. (deadline, per current bylaws, is April 30th)
Yeah.....Jean!

A family application has been submitted for Sally O'Neil and her 13- year old son, Davis. Davis has been learning to work in obedience and is ready to do conformation. Sally has had several breeds throughout the years, while her first Irish Setter as a young girl came from none other than Ruth White. They have decided that they need an Irish Setter in their family to be a companion to their two older Weimeraners. Sally made an inquiry several months ago, through our new website, of interest in obtaining an Irish puppy that Davis will begin to show in the conformation ring. We are thrilled to announce that the Davis family will have a new member from the "Courtwood" family and Sue Hahnen. The new little girl will be with them in about a month. Following by-laws protocol, their membership will be voted on next month. The Davis' are sponsored by Deb & Mary.

Rescue;

We are pleased to announce that we do not have any dogs in rescue at the present time. Coleen is *extremely pleased* to announce that Wagner is "vacationing" with her while dad, Bill, is away. Wagner and Bill are both thriving !! What a happy story and a great life for Wagner! All rescues should be so lucky.

Our website is featuring a rescue from the Irish Setter Club of Ohio again this month.



Dog News;

Henrietta announced that her "Katie" had a very successful hunting season getting pheasants. Congratulations to Katie !!!

Joan's "CH Kenobi's Just Do It", Dewey, has done it...killed his 5th chicken, which has ended Joan's career of raising chickens, with one lonely

chicken left on the frontlines. Colonel Sanders will need to go elsewhere for his chickens. I guess some sort of congratulations needs to be extended to Dewey for being a successful hunter and very "birdie". Although, Joan is not happy with this category of Dewey's success !!

Coleen is pleased to announce that her Spinone Italiano puppy that she handles and co-owns, has received her second major, one of 5 points. This little girl's name is "Sweetbriar's Brilliant Gem" aka Ruby. With a name such as Ruby, this makes her a "red dog", right ?? Ruby is owned by Dan and Dana Graff and now has both majors. (the other being a 4 point major). Congratulations !

"Get Well" wishes are extended to "Creed", who owns Coleen, and to Chauncy, Joan's latest rescue. Creed has been not well, and has been diagnosed with thyroid problems. He is on meds and is fine and happy. Chauncy has had another surgery, but is recovering well for an old girl!

On the Medical Front;

Canine Epilepsy Research Breakthrough

Updated March 2006: Dr. Yuri F Melekhovets, Laboratory Director of HealthGene Corp., Toronto Canada, has announced that his group has located the gene responsible for producing inherited epilepsy in canines. HealthGene Corporation is the largest private veterinary DNA diagnostic and research laboratory in Canada. DNA-based testing, for animal infectious and genetic diseases. HealthGene now is studying the various mutations that produce different forms of epilepsy in different breeds. Dr. Melekhovets requests that owners of dogs with epilepsy submit blood samples to further research. Samples should come from dogs which have been medically diagnosed with epilepsy or have had symptoms of epilepsy for at least two years. Two vials of blood samples per dog should be sent in lavender topped tubes, together with a pedigree and brief health history (whether it has seizures, when they started, whether they are mild or severe, and what type of diagnostics have been performed). Send the samples by FedEx, using HealthGenes account number (#238368138), using FedEx's International Airway bill with the following information for "Shipment Information";

- a) Commodity description: "Canine Blood Samples for DNA testing";
- b) Total declared value for Customs is \$1.00;
- c) international first;
- d) 3 copies commercial invoice
- Send vials to this address: HealthGene Laboratory, 2175 Keele Street, Toronto, Ontario, M6M 3Z4 Canada. Dr. Melekhovets may be contacted at; telephone: 905-669-5399; fax : 905-669-2235; email: dr.melekhovets@healthgene.com
- Source <http://www.cavalierhealth.org/epilepsy.htm>

Miscellaneous tidbits;

The subject of feeding and maintaining weight on our dogs has been brought up from time to time. It was suggested at our meeting to print the recipe for "Fat balls". It is disgusting, but it works. Feed it raw. DO NOT try to cook it. I freeze part of the recipe, and thaw as needed, a few days at a time. I make them about the size of a tennis ball. Feed two at a time.

Fat Balls

5 lbs. Hamburger
1 box Total cereal
10 oz. Wheat germ
10 eggs
1 cup of molasses
10 packs of Knox gelatin

And a bit of humor, from George;

Dog writes to Heaven

Dear Heaven: Why do humans smell the flowers, but seldom, if ever, smell one another?

Dear Heaven: When we get to heaven, can we sit on your couch? Or is it still the same old story?

Dear Heaven: Why are there cars named after the jaguar, the cougar, the mustang, the colt, the stingray, and the rabbit, but not ONE named for a dog? How often do you see a cougar riding around? We do love a nice ride! Would it be so hard to rename the "Chrysler Eagle" the "Chrysler Beagle"?

Dear Heaven: If a dog barks his head off in the forest and no human hears him, is he still a bad dog?

Dear Heaven: We dogs can understand human verbal instructions, hand signals, whistles, horns, clickers, beepers, scent ID's, electromagnetic energy fields, and Frisbee flight paths. What do humans understand?

Dear Heaven: More meatballs, less spaghetti, please. Dear Heaven: Are there mailmen in Heaven? If there are, will I have to apologize?

Dear Heaven: Let me give you a list of just some of the things I must remember to be a good dog.

1. I will not eat the cats' food before they eat it or after they throw it up.
2. I will not roll on dead seagulls, fish, crabs, etc., just because I like the way they smell.
3. I will not munch on "leftovers" in the kitty litter box, although they are tasty.
4. The diaper pail is not a cookie jar.
5. The sofa is not a 'face towel'. Neither are Mom and Dad's laps.
6. The garbage collector is not stealing our stuff.
7. My head does not belong in the refrigerator.
8. I will not bite the officer's hand when he reaches in for Mom's driver's license and registration.
9. I will not play tug-of-war with Dad's underwear when he's on the toilet.

10. Sticking my nose into someone's crotch is an unacceptable way of saying "hello".
 11. I don't need to suddenly stand straight up when I'm under the coffee table.
 12. I must shake the rainwater out of my fur before entering the house, not after.
 13. I will not throw up in the car.
 14. I will not come in from outside and immediately drag my butt.
 15. I will not sit in the middle of the living room and lick my crotch when we have company.
 16. The cat is not a 'squeaky toy' so when I play with him and he makes that noise, it's usually not a good thing.
- And, finally, My last two questions...
Dear Heaven: Why do humans only have 10 Commandments and dogs have 16?

enjoy.....

Club News and Reminders;

Mary has been in contact again with AKC concerning our bylaws and the update. She has been assured that they are being reviewed and we should be hearing from them soon, with either necessary changes or that they are approved as submitted.

The next meeting will be held on May 26th, immediately following our specialty. As we know, that is at the Laurel County Fairgrounds site. A representative from the IAMS company will be at our meeting with a presentation. We extend a big thank you to the IAMS company for donating an assortment of products to put into our dog basket. Mary and Coleen spoke with the IAMS people at the Harrisburg shows, making arrangements for the products and scheduling the speaker. I sat through their presentation and found it quite interesting.

Golden Triangle Irish Setter Club, Inc.

President – Coleen McGee	Vice-President – Ruth White
Treasurer – Deb Lawrence	Recording Secretary – Mary Hummert
Board Member (Ways and Means) Joan Fiser	
Corresponding Secretary – George Towle	
Rescue – local – Sally Stewart	PR – Judy Roberts
National – Joan Fiser	AKC Liaison – Dee Hasley

