



# The Scarlett Letter

The Golden Triangle Irish Setter Club, Inc  
November 2008



**T**hanks for time to be together, turkey, talk, and tangy weather.  
**H** for harvest stored away, home, and hearth, and holiday.  
**A** for autumn's frosty art, and abundance in the heart.  
**N** for neighbors, and November, nice things, new things to remember.  
**K** for kitchen, kettles' croon, kith and kin expected soon.  
**S** for sizzles, sights, and sounds, and something special that about.  
That spells THANKS for joy in living and a jolly good Thanksgiving.

- Aileen Fisher, *All in a Word*

November has arrived with a chill in the air and early snowflakes. Be thankful for family, friends and our dogs.

## Dog News

*Congratulations to;*

*Conformation~~~~*

### Aliquippa:

>Dee and Judy and "James", *CH Sweetbriar's Diamonds Are Forever, JH*, for going BOB both Saturday and Sunday.

>Davis and "Brody", *Beaubriar Signature Etched in Emrock*, for going WD & "Bailey", *CH Courtwood Always Bailey,CGC*, for BOS on Saturday. On Sunday, "Brody" RWD and "Bailey" was BOS.

>Linda Scopa and "Jada", *Captiva's Catalina Race to Ohkom, RN,CGC*, for WB and BOW both Saturday and Sunday.

### Cumberland MD:

>Bob, Shirley & Holly Semich with "Rhett", now *\*CH Kenobi Never Miss A Beat*, for WD/BOS both Saturday and Sunday, along with BOW on Saturday for back to back majors to finish! "Rhett" was handled both days to WD by Coleen and Holly went back in the ring to go BOW/BOS. Way to go!! This is the Semich family's first Champion. How exciting!

>Davis and "Bailey", *CH Courtwood Always Bailey, CGC* for BOB and a Group 4 both days.

>Davis and "Brody", *Beaubriar Signature Etched in Emrock* for RWD on Saturday.

>Karen and "Triton", at the Albany KC shows in MA, is now \**CH Cumbrian Trinity*, who went WB/BOW for the major to finish on Saturday. On Sunday, "Triton" went BOB over a top 10 Special. Can't get any better than that!

*HUGE congratulations to our newest club Champions, "Triton" and "Rhett"!*

#### Potomac ISC Specialty, Leesburg VA

This was a one day show with enough entries for a 5 point major. It poured down rain but it didn't dampen our members' puppies from getting placements:

>Sally Evans and "Quincy", *Courtwood Quennel*, for 4<sup>th</sup> in sweeps and 2<sup>nd</sup> in regular 6 - 9 mos. Puppy classes.

>Sally Evans and "Dugan", *Saxony Boutonnière*, for 2<sup>nd</sup> in Open Dog.

>Davis and "Brody", *Beaubriar's Signature Etched in Emrock*, for 2<sup>nd</sup> in sweeps and 4<sup>th</sup> in regular 6 - 9 mos. Puppy classes.

>Coleen and "Bea", *Courtwood Quilting Bee*, for 1<sup>st</sup> in the 6 - 9 mos. Puppy class for both sweeps and regular class.

>Deb & Skip with "Claire", *Courtwood Cobblestone* for 3<sup>rd</sup> in sweeps (12 - 15 mos) and 4<sup>th</sup> in regular 12 - 18 mos. Classes.

As always, thanks to Coleen for handling "Dugan", "Quincy" and "Claire", along with her girl, "Bea", to these specialty class placements.

*Rally~~*

#### GTOTC - Cheswick

>Linda Scopa and "Buttercup", *CH Ohkom's Shimmering Angel*, for her second leg towards her RE

>Linda Scopa and "Jada", *Captiva's Catalina Race to Ohkom, RN, CGC*, for her last two legs for her RA.

>Deb and Skip with "Ian" *Touchstone's Chills 'N Thrills, CGC, TT*, for his second leg towards his RN. A HUGE thank you to Linda Scopa for her help and expertise to work with a difficult and challenging dog, and to accomplish getting this leg. Thank you, Linda for taking him on the course.



PR - Judy Roberts

Birthdays

Mary Hummert - 21<sup>st</sup>

Joan Fiser - 22<sup>nd</sup>

Happy Birthday !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



Dee & Judy wish to thank the members for their thoughts and prayers for Dee during her illness and continuing recovery.

We have two new columns starting this month. One will be "from the dog's point of view..." and the other "Time for Reflection...." The first one listed is for light laughter and enjoyment. If you have anything that would fall under funny little dog stories, please submit it to Deb. The second is one that Judy will provide each month. Any ideas or thoughts for Judy's column can be sent to her. This one is a bit more serious and will provide inspiration for us all.

*Time for reflection~~~~~*

Our newest column as submitted by Judy Roberts;  
a favorite Hymn;

"We are one in the spirit; we are one in our Lord.  
We are one in the spirit; we are one in our Lord.  
And we pray that ALL unity may one day be restored.

We will work with each other; we will work side by side.  
We will work with each other; we will work side by side.  
We will guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.  
And they know we are Christian's by our love.  
And they know we are Christian's by our love."



From the dog's point of view~~~~~



## Doggy Dictionary

**LEASH:** A strap which attaches to your collar, enabling you to lead your person where you want Him/her to go.

**DOG BED:** Any soft, clean surface, such as the white bedspread in the guest room or the newly upholstered couch in the living room.

**DROOL:** A liquid which, when combined with sad eyes, forces humans to give you their food. To do this properly you must sit as close as you can and get the drool on the human.

**SMIFF:** A social custom used to greet other dogs, similar to the human exchange of business cards.

**GARBAGE CAN:** A container which your neighbors put out once a week to test your ingenuity. You must stand on your hind legs and try to push the lid off with your nose. If you do it right you are rewarded with margarine wrappers to shred, beef bones to consume and moldy crusts of bread.

**BICYCLES:** Two-wheeled exercise machines, invented for dogs to control body fat. To get maximum aerobic benefit, you must hide behind a bush and dash out, bark loudly and run alongside for a few yards. The person then swerves and falls into the bushes, and you prance away.

**DEAFNESS:** This is a malady which affects dogs when their person wants them in and they want to stay out. Symptoms include staring blankly at the person, then running in the opposite direction, or lying down.

**THUNDER:** This is a signal that the world is coming to an end. Humans remain amazingly calm during thunderstorms, so it is necessary to warn them of the danger by trembling uncontrollably, panting, rolling your eyes wildly, and following at their heels.

**WASTEBASKET:** This is a dog toy filled with paper, envelopes, and old candy wrappers. It is important to evenly distribute its contents throughout the house before your person comes home.

**BATH :** If you find something especially good to roll in, humans get jealous, and they use this degrading form of torture to get even. Be sure to shake only when next to a person or a piece of furniture.

**LEAN:** Every good dog's response to the command "sit!," especially if your person is dressed for an evening out. Incredibly effective before black-tie events.

**BUMP:** The best way to get your human's attention when they are drinking a fresh cup of coffee or tea.

**GOOSE BUMP:** A maneuver to use as a last resort when the regular bump doesn't get the attention you require ... especially effective when combined with the sniff. See above.

**CHILDREN:** Short humans of optimal petting height. Standing close to one assures some good

petting. When running, they are good to chase. If they fall down, they are comfortable to sit on.

**LOVE:** A feeling of intense affection, given freely and without restriction. The best way you can show your love is to wag your tail. If you're lucky, a human will love you in return.



## **Events and Activities**

Lottery Fund raiser - Please contact Dee for your tickets. 10% of the profit goes to the Trophy Fund. You can pick them up at our meetings also.

Home Interior Candles - Orders will be delivered at the November meeting. Let Deb know if you need to get your order another time. Profits from this fundraiser are designated towards the purchase of our large raffle item for the specialties. Congratulations to our members for making this fundraiser a HUGE success! Our profit amount from this sale is more than quadruple of our expectations!!

Santa Photos - December 6, 12:00 till 5:00 at Brenkle's greenhouse, Butler. Proceeds from this goes towards the Bite Suit. Photos are \$5.00 each. If you go past a Dollar Store please stop in and look to see if that store has the photo card frames with Christmas designs because Joan only has three boxes with 8 in each and we really go through those. We should have at least 100 cards. Last year we did over 80 photos and our totals increase each year.

Annual Christmas meeting/party - this year the party has been moved from a restaurant to a home. Deb and Skip have offered their home since it is big enough for everyone. The date is Saturday December 27 with an arrival time of 3:30. Having an earlier arrival time will be more convenient for travel times for members attending. The Chinese Gift exchange is a big hit and we'll offer it to those who want to participate. Last year was a \$15 minimum. A menu will include members bringing a covered dish. The gift exchange and menu will be further discussed at the November meeting.

We have two raffles baskets for Christmas. One is at Joan's Pet Wellness and Training Center, Butler. The other is at Sue Rosko's grooming shop, PAWS-ITIVELY PETS in Pittsburgh. Drawings will be on December 20<sup>th</sup> at each location. Proceeds from these raffles will help defer costs of the National Rescue Gift Bags. The basket at Joan's will also be on display the day of our Santa Photos at Brenkle's greenhouse. If you would like to purchase a ticket or two on either basket, contact Joan or Sue. Tickets are \$1.00 each, 7 / \$5.00, 20 /\$10.00. The baskets contain an array of doggie items, including dry food and canned food, collars, flexi-leads, sweater, books, toys, toys and toys, treats, shampoo, crate pad, Christmas candle, and many more items. Thank you to Joan, Coleen and Deb for donating the items in the baskets. Happy Holidays to two lucky dogs!

## **Specialties 2009**

MSDA - We will again be supporting the entry of Irish Setters for the Saturday, February 28th show under judge, Jim Fankhouser. Trophy items will need to be purchased. Finding bargains should not be hard to do. Sunday's judge will be Maureen Day. We will advertise our specialty shows in their catalog. This should again, be a nice weekend.

Memorial Day weekend - A list of Judge and Sweepstakes judges for the 4 days have been chosen. Dee has sent out the requests and contracts to those judges and we are waiting on their responses. George reports that after the signed contracts are returned from those who accept the assignment, then the required

paperwork can be sent to AKC. Chair persons for committees are beginning to be set. Deb will chair the trophy committee with Coleen co-chairing. Coleen has some trophy ideas she is researching. Coleen will chair hospitality.



ISCA National 2009 - Reservations have been made by those who are planning to attend.

If you have not yet decided, you can get the information from the ISCA website. The latest MEMO has a more detailed schedule of events, also.

Joan has made arrangements with Jan Zeich for the Rescue decals we will help to sell. They are \$6 each or 2 for \$10. Joan has received them. If any members are interested in purchasing any, please contact Joan.

Laura, in Baltimore, is doing her own little fund raiser for the Nationals in June. "Bailey" is being fitted for a couture cape, courtesy of a friend. "Baltimore Bailey" will be mainly represented with "sponsor" medallions on the edge. "Bailey's" Pitch is "Love and Support for Sale". Fortunately he's a big dog so maybe they can sell lots of medallions. Mom will be creating the medallions and pitching the Nationals with each one. Laura has told me that her and "Bailey" are already having fun with their campaign.

Deb has already received some donated items for the Pittsburgh themed basket to support the EISA raffle. A list will be compiled as items are donated. Right now we have 2 Pirates tees and a cap, and a Steelers hooded poncho. Please keep your eyes open for unique items and sale items. Our basket has always been a hit and we have reputation to uphold!



## Rescue

Another Happy endings story. A young female was found in running loose.. After all resources were exhausted by the family that found her, we were contacted to pick her up. Through the course of circumstances that had transpired over several weeks, a new forever home was found. The puppy then was placed in a home with other Irish setters and a family that has always had Irish setters.

We are very fortunate to not only have few rescues come through our club, but that the ones we do have, are placed very quickly and in great homes!

More Happy Endings - Laura reports from Baltimore that a Great Dane that came through the Vets office where she works, was placed as a rescue and he is thriving. Laura has now begun taking part in rescue and home visits for any breed that needs placed.. Her experience with "Bailey" has warmed her heart to helping wherever she is needed.



From the Rescue side.....

My rescue thoughts this week.....

Remind me, please, why I'm going to do this once again.

Everyone has to consider an additional pet, no matter how crazy life is... who doesn't want another friend.

Surely I could find a hobby that doesn't include picking up piles in the yard.

Cause I just believe I'm brighter than this...

Unless,, Maybe I'm not

Everyone has their shortcomings,,, Guess I'm just a sucker for those lost souls.

Happy Thanksgiving All,,,

Before we get into any of the Thanksgiving stuff,,, I have a bone to pick about last month's column.

Mom celebrated my 7th birthday on Halloween. Even with her paperwork I refuse that 7. Mom talked with Aunt Coleen and she had a little better thought on it. So after lots of talking,,, Mom has agreed that on Halloween I was only Six (6). We do this all the time... sit and talk things over and come to a general consensus.

I stated my case of "no gray hairs,,, I'm still willing to drag that stray cat off the garage roof if I could only get close enough. I can rumble with Ruby like a pup, I can take a trash can down and spread it in the yard, if Mom fails to secure the lid. Let's just say I had lots of back-up information on my side to state my case. And honestly, I wanted it. I don't want to be 7... I want to be 6. Wouldn't you rather be 40 than 50? I'm finally loving my Life. And I want to live every moment I have. So don't start thinking of me as "middle aged" ... I'm a cute, fun, active 6.

Opps,,, guess I got a little verbal on the age thing. Mom just reminded me,, "Nobody is sending you anywhere Crazy Boy. You get to enjoy your great life no matter what your age is,,, Just calm it down. And you don't need to tear the trash up to prove it... 😊 Now, tell the people what you are thankful for,,, that's what they want in this article... they are seeking a Thanksgiving message."

Hmmm, how do I begin sharing my list of what I am grateful for? Well first off, I'm sitting on the big green chair chewing on a yummy dental bone collecting my thoughts. Guess I should be grateful for that right off the bat.

I'm very very thankful for my new medications... I'm not itching on them. And Mom can throw away the crazy prednisone and the sleepy benadryl. I just love the new meds. I'm just ME without ITCHING... I'm really happy and grateful for a new idea about making me "well."

So, back to Thanksgiving, a few thoughts come to mind,,, Initially I'm thinking Mom will bring home all those leftovers from the family Thanksgiving dinner. Yes, she will put them in the big food processor, and divide them out in very small portions, so not to upset Ruby and my tummies. But we will see it all going in,,, it's ALL good. Maybe just a tablespoon here and there with that damn "healthy dry food". Either way, we will enjoy it all the same. 😊

So, since I have to complete my homework I think I will simply go with our usual day.... I really am thankful for each and every one of them.

I don't know what goes on in other houses with dogs, but in THIS house we have a definite plan. Our late day is about how the three of us enjoy our time together. First,, Ruby and I go outside and rumble. Lots of barking and wrestling. We know Mom is inside cooking up dinner for us. She puts our rice on to cook or whatever she's gonna use to trick us into eating the "healthy dry food." For Mom, glass of wine, checks messages, working emails and such. Did you know my Mom has business at home even after the vet? She's a big multi tasker... 🤖 Then we get the back yard call "ANYONE WANT DINNER?" In dog language that means "who can get on the top deck faster?."

Two bowls down with something always yummy. Whatever Ruby leaves behind is my dessert. Ruby know's she has a limited time or I will roll in. 😊 Mom watching us tackle the dinner bowls means it's now "her time." So I'm going to say right now... That's something else I'm grateful for... I'm thankful that My Mom finds "her time" I'm really grateful for that. She deserves it, even though it's brief.

Mom gets about 20 minutes to settle and relax and then it's about us again,,, the love part. We hear the music finding it's way to the deck while we finish dinner. WE ARRIVE,,, MOM WE ARE READY FOR LOVE. Do I ever get tired of drinking lots of water and Mom taking a towel to my face to clean the drips and the whole time saying "did you enjoy your dinner,,, did you have a good drink? let's clean that face, Give me my kisses." Maybe it's me but I think I'm what they call "spoiled" every night. I guess here I should be a bit embarrassed that Ruby knows how to have dinner and a drink and does not need all the clean up. She just rubs her mouth on the carpet. Not me,,, I love the clean up and kisses.

The rest of the night is all about the three of us. We settle in the living room, sometimes take it out back to wrestle, some of it is letting Mom sing to us,,, and of course we, at times, eavesdrop on her phone conversations. We show up for rubs,,, Ruby often nestles on the back of the big sofa,,, I wander around as much as I want stopping often in front of her to give a "shimmy shake and get a kiss". Yep, another thing to be thankful for... I'm thankful that every time I offer a shimmy shake Mom accepts it like it's the first time and I am rewarded each time with a kiss on the nose as she takes my ears in her hands and wraps them around my muzzle. It's simply something I can count on each and every time. Most times she finds a song to share with me.... I really love that too. She's always smiles as she finds a new song for just ME.

When night is done, Ruby and I know when Mom say's it's "Bed Time" and we honor that. We let her shut everything down and follow her to our bedroom. We never question Bed Time. Did you know when I decided I liked her clothes closet to sleep in she took the doors off, removed her shoes (no clue what she did with the shoes) and put bedding in there to make it comfy for me. Hmm another thing I'm thankful for. Mom now has no doors on the closet and digs her shoes out of a basket every morning.

When we have a good night (when I sleep all the way through) I awake to Mom greeting with a pat on the bed. "Come here my Beautiful Bailey Boy"... Let's just say every time Mom offers the bed, I seem to land on her... I never fail to land on a leg, foot or arm... and then I hear "ouch". But, without fail, every morning she invites me again and again and again. I often wonder why she does that. One morning, when I landed on her and she was rubbing my big head, and welcoming our day, she told me a story.

Mom remembered a day when her Shannon could no longer jump on the bed. No longer strong enough to make mistakes and she still loved her. Know what? She mentions Shannon often,,, between you and me I think she still loves her. Did you know my Mom has a tattoo on her back of her Shannon? It's a shamrock with a halo. That's true Red Dog Status 🐕. Maybe, if I play my cards right,,, I'll get a tattoo one day.

I wonder if Mom tells me these things because, it possibly means, she knows better than me, there will be a time that I cannot. So she welcomes my crazy train, of which, I am a very proud Conductor.

My Mom is a true lover of life and the antics of her dogs. Cherish the crazy times, picking up messes or taking a bruise to a leg,,, because there will be a time that Ruby and I don't make that mess or have the strength to create a bruise in play. So as crazy as it seems to me,,, I think she cherishes all of it.

So guess I want to share with all the dogs out there "Be Thankful for every single thing that is offered this Thanksgiving,,, It must be from Love,, Why else would our Mom's be doing it?"

Signing off... One Very Grateful Bailey... I think I'm really clear what Thanksgiving Is... That's every day in a forever home isn't it? When someone shows, no matter what else they have to tackle that "you are first" I never thought about it,,, but I am really "first".

P.S. Just want to send a special thanks to you red girls for finding my "Place". I would never have known how special I am if you didn't get me here.



### **Our latest rescue~~~~**

I find it ironic the topic of the article on Irish Setters in the newest Gazette. This is the third time that the topic fit a similar situation. Karolyn McAteer's title is "Choosing a Puppy Buyer". She talks about it, of course, from a breeders' stand point, but it sure fits into the circumstances of this rescued puppy that I have had for a short time in my house. Karolyn talks about researching the breed to see if it is for you. She explains the challenge of an Irish puppy and the time and training it takes to have not only a happy puppy, but a happy family. Puppy buyers go to a local dog show. They find dogs that are well-behaved and already trained. Like Karolyn writes, they aren't born that way. We all know it takes time and patience, and usually several years to get a well trained and well behaved Irish Setter. I'm sure this is true about many breeds. This beautiful little girl that has been with me is a perfect example of not researching the breed. Our puppies are beautiful and grow up to be beautiful adult dogs, but we all know that it is not always an easy road. It's funny what this puppy's body language and reactions to everyday living has "told me". We did know that she was tied outside, and that was obvious to me. It took a few days to have her feel confident to walk through my door, where I no longer had to pick her up and assure her that it was "okay". She adjusted to life here rather quickly, still "telling" me her story along the way. I took some photos as soon as we were home. A few days later, I took more. Only after loading them into my computer and looking at them, did I realize the difference in her. The pictures that were first taken actually showed the sadness in her eyes. Her body language showed the same, as what one may see with a lonely child. Lovely little "Tula" now has a sparkle in her eyes, a wagging tail and has adjusted into a typical 5 month old Irish Setter puppy. She barks and jumps and zooms around the house. Skip taught her to play, tossing those favorite stuffies and her bringing them back to "do it again". She was a mere 34 pounds, and we can see the weight she has gained. It's amazing how much her coat grew in a week, showing me that a good dog food does have the advantages that we are told. I am a firm believer in "things happen for a reason". This same little girl ended up connected with us twice, ending with finding her a wonderful forever home. She will get the life she was meant to have as a rollicking and happy Irish Setter. I have also learned a lot about dealing with these little lost souls. God Bless the people who take them in on a regular basis to get them that wonderful home. God Bless the people who take them as part of their family. I personally thank Joan and Sally Stewart for taking on this challenge as their favorite part of working with the Club. This is definitely an emotional area of responsibility. As we prepared to have little "Tula" leave us, I

knew when her new mom would come in a few days, I would have tears as she left. It's hard not to get attached. ~~~~Deb

**\*\*\*news update\*\*\*** We have been contacted from "Tula's" new mom. All is coming along and hurdles have been made concerning conquering some of "Tula's" fears. She has settled in and taken over the boys and the house. They are very happy with their new family member.

## **Club News and Reminders**

"Happy Endings" - We are very pleased to announce that we were contacted through our website from a family in OH looking to purchase a puppy. They had just lost their 10 year old male. A request was sent out on the setters post and many responses came back immediately. The family's information was forwarded privately to those that fit the request, and through the networking, we have received a lovely email stating that they have found that "perfect puppy" with a thank you for our help. Best wishes to that family.

Club Apparel - Inquiries have been made from a few members about the availability of Sweatshirts. Sweatshirts are forest green with our logo embroidered over the heart. These are Jerzee brand (or the equivalent) and are \$19 each. If you want to order the club gold polo, these are \$22 each. If you would like to order either or both, get your information to Joan with a check made out to "T SHIRTS & SEW ON" by the Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> meeting. Orders will be made periodically, as needed. If no orders are placed now, we will do an order after the first of the year.

2009 Dues - Annual dues notices will be mailed out this month. Please take note of changes/updates made to dues notices. There has been an increase to \$30 family and \$20 individual. Payments are to be made by check or money order. No cash will be accepted. The deadline is January 31<sup>st</sup> and is to be returned to George by that date.

Nominations - The nominating committee has been chosen. Judy Roberts is the chairperson, with Skip Lawrence and Sue Rosko on the committee and the alternates are Lisa Edwards and Sally Evans.

Holly Semich has chosen Rescue as the subject of her Senior Project. She presented her ideas at our October Meeting. It was agreed that the club will support her in this endeavor and Coleen has agreed to be her mentor throughout her project. She will keep us up to date on her plans and final project. She will let us know her date, sometime late March. For those without children, PA now requires the seniors to do a project for graduation. We are pleased to help Holly.

**PLEASE NOTE LOCATION CHANGE:** Our next meeting will be at Dee and Judy's for their annual thanksgiving feast, Thursday Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>. Arrival time is 7:00 p.m. PLEASE RSVP by Sunday, so they know how much food to prepare. The monthly board meeting will be at 7:00, so those arriving at 7:00 may have their dinner and mingle, and the general meeting will begin following the board meeting.



## The Golden Triangle Irish Setter Club, Inc



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

Newsletter - Deb Lawrence  
Editing - Coleen McGee & George Towle  
"From the Rescue side...." - Laura Williams  
"Time for Reflection..." - Judy Roberts  
"From the Dog's Point of view..." members' submissions  
"Dog News" information provided from members  
ALL articles welcomed!

