



Newsletter of the
**Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier
Club of Southern California**
Volume III
Number 2
Winter 2004

SCWTCSC WOOF
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WOOF is a publication of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Southern California. Opinions expressed in the articles are not necessarily those of the Editor or the Officers and Board Members of the Club. Published Quarterly. Annual Subscriptions \$10.00 Single Issue Price \$3.00

REMINDERS

We are still saving fur for our Colony Dog Support fund. We need clean, matt free, debris free fur. So next time your pup has a haircut think of Tryptophan, and save the fur. Jim Cohen is chairing our Fur Drive. We will be raffling off a pillow made of our dog's fur at the next Great Western on Saturday, June 26, 2005. You can drop it off with Jim at any meeting or at shows with either Jim or any of our board members.

Annual Club dues are now due. You can contact our membership chairs Michael and Marc if you didn't get your renewal reminder at membership@marchael.com

Our bi-annual Eye Clinic will be held Tuesday February 17th at the home of Beverly and Eli Streicher. This will also be our February meeting. Dr. DaSilva will be there to check your dog's eye so they can be registered with CERF. This event is held every two years and is recommended for both breeders and pet owners. There will be more information in the February Meeting Announcement.

The Los Angeles Pet Fair at the Orange County Showgrounds will be in April. If you would like to volunteer to help man our booth and/or bring a dog please contact Rose Clime at moondance_scwt@yahoo.com. Later in the year there will also be a second Pet Fair at the Pomona Fairgrounds. This is a well attended event and it helps show our breed to the public and provide accurate information on the breed.



**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE
MERRILLEE FORD**

You Never Went Away

*I hear your footsteps on the path and feel them in my heart,
For you are not really gone; we are not really apart!
I still hear your joyful bark, greeting me when I come home,
I feel your gentle tongue, and know that I am not alone.*

*The few precious years we shared, the joy we knew together
Were everlasting moments that can never die, not ever!
For you were all the world to me, your love was pure and true,
Indeed, you were the greatest friend that my heart ever knew!*

*So run and leap across the fields, be strong and free once more.
Romp with your friends, and dance with joy, the way you did
before...
I shall feel your joy and peace, and gratefully I say
That deep within my heart I know - you never went away!*

*If you want praise—die,
If you want blame—marry.*

A borrowed saw cuts anything.

However long the day it ends with night

A new year is ready to welcome us all. It is the time to reevaluate our dogs' health, training, and their needs. Should I enter a new class or continue my training as is. Is the dog aging and when was the last time he saw his vet?

For the year ahead we are planning a eye clinic in February. In May we will hold a grooming seminar and June it is show time again with Great Western and our own Specialty Show. We welcome a new club Secretary in Marc Boyer and are looking forward to his learning the ropes. A lot of time and effort goes into holding a show and, in general, keeping the club affairs flowing smoothly. We are here to serve you all, and I hope if you have any ideas for improvement in club affairs you will let one of the board members know.

Are you ready for a new challenge? We are, and I decided to enter the Palm Springs shows for the first time. This year I decided the boys were willing and able to show in the new Rally Obedience so we are polishing our skills and hopefully we won't be too embarrassed in the ring. This is right up Wheaten alley as it is all on lead - you can talk to the dogs as you go. There are no jumps in the beginning level, and they are ready to show off their skills if I can keep us on track.

Best wishes to you all in 2005 and hope to see you in the ring.

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IN THE KITCHEN WITH KARLA

*Reminder: these are for your dogs to enjoy!

New Year Drops

1 1/2 cups wheat germ
1 pound cooked boneless chicken
2 garlic cloves
1 cup low - salt chicken broth
2 cups whole wheat flour
1 cup yellow corn meal
Garlic powder
Preheat oven to 350°



In a large blender or processor gradually puree the chicken and garlic, slowly adding the chicken broth. Transfer the chicken puree into a large bowl. Mix in the wheat germ. Slowly add the flour and corn meal until the dough becomes stiff. Knead the dough 3-5 minutes. Let it rest for 5-10 minutes. Split the ball of dough into 4 sections and on a lightly floured surface roll the dough into a hot dog shape. Wrap each “dog” in plastic wrap and place in the refrigerator for about 30 minutes. Slice into very thin chips. Place the chips on a lightly greased cookie sheet and brush with the glaze (see below) and sprinkle with garlic powder. Bake for 25-40 minutes. Halfway through baking turn the cookies over. As the cookies cool they will become hard. Leftover dough can be frozen for up to 3 months.

Glaze

Beat 1 egg. Brush lightly on each cookie before baking.

Every dog is bold at his own house door

WHAT'S IN A NAME

When choosing your pet's name, anything goes. We have named our pets since the days of the Pharaohs. Leather collars and hieroglyphic reliefs show the ancient Egyptians took inspiration from many sources: the animals appearance (White Cloud), its lineage (The Third), its abilities (Fierce Hunter), or its companionship (Good Friend).

One syllable names are popular since they tend to be easier for the pet to learn and therefore respond to, Any name that might sound similar to a word that you'll teach your pet as a command should be avoided. When you do chose a name stick with it so that your pet can learn and become a family member as quickly as possible.

Often the dog's registered name will have nothing to do with his call name. People often will call the pet a name they love but perhaps were unwilling to call a child, Agatha, Miner, Sam or Huck Finn for example. The easiest place to look for ideas is where new parents go - a baby book. Some call their dog after their favorite author or a character in a favorite book. With Wheatens coming from Irish heritage many owners have used Irish names for their dogs.

Here are some websites you can check. Some give info on the heritage, origin and meaning of names also.

- www.bowwow.caom.au
- iVillage.com/pets/petnames
- www.dogomania.com/dog_names.shtml

According to the iVillage site these are the Top 50 most popular pet names in the United States.

Rocky	Dickens	Bonnie	Mickey	Lily
Sierra	Bryan	Jasmine	Amber	Mariah
Ginger	Muffin	Jasper	Ace	Molly
Clare	Cinnamon	Felix	Monica	Sammy
Thekla	Oliver	Buster	Willie	Max
Wilson	Prince	Mackenzie	Princess	Andrea
Storm	Kiki	Duke	Hermione	Carly
Ziggy	Rex	Jonathan	Duchess	Fido
Cody	Seth	Sebastian	Madison	Case
Daisy	Lucy	Zoe	Hudson	Jack

MOTHER KNOWS BEST



Dear Mom,

We just got a puppy and my breeder said I must teach the dog to use a crate. How and why do I do this?

Thanks, Denny

Dear Denny,

Here is a little-known fact for new dog owners: Most dogs *like* crates. To them it is their haven, their den, their “home away from home” home. Although many owners are reluctant to train their puppies to use a crate, doing so can ease the housebreaking period, help puppies to travel safely, and give them a place to comfortably retreat for some peace and quiet. Here are some crating tips.

- Most puppies quickly come to consider their crate - especially when it's padded with a towel or pillowy liner - a den. And since, by nature, dogs do not like to soil their dens, using a crate during housebreaking can help teach when and where it is appropriate to “go.”
- It is important to purchase or build a well-ventilated crate that gives your dog plenty of room to comfortably stand up, lie down, and turn around. If the crate is too big for the puppy, install a divider so that the puppy only uses half the crate. (If the crate is too large, the puppy may eliminate in one end and sleep in the other.)
- Timing is everything. Although many puppies make it through the night, they should only stay in the crate for a few hours at a time during the day.
- Although most puppies learn quickly, they cannot always control their urges. Should your puppy soil his crate, do not harshly reprimand him, but quickly take him outside and praise him for going in the correct place.
- Finally a crate should never be used as a punishment, but should be encouraged as a place for your puppy to relax, sleep, and get away from the world.

Dear Mom,

We went to a dog show and in taking the crate out of the car and unhooking the bungee cord my husband and general, all-around unpaid kennel helper almost lost an eye. Please remind your readers to be careful when using these devices. We went out and purchased a ratchet-locking strap that works just as well, but won't blind us in the process of attaching our crate to its dolly.

HOW TO COUNT POINTS AT A DOG SHOW

For a dog to become a Champion, a total of 15 points with 2 major wins (3 points or more) is needed. The majors must be won under two different judges. At least one other judge must award some points.

How to figure points for Winners Dog and Winners Bitch

To figure your points, count the dogs competing in the regular classes of your dog's sex. Then compare that number to the point schedule (this can often be found in show catalogs). The number changes annually based upon previous year's entries in your area.

For example:

Total of class dogs - 6 Winners Dog (6 dogs = 3 points)
Total of class bitches - 5 Winners Bitch (5 bitches = 2 points)

Tips:

When counting dogs in competition, you count only dogs who are present that are defeated. Dogs that are disqualified, dismissed, excused or have all awards withheld do not count. Also, any class dog that is moved up to Best of Breed is counted as a Champion, and not a class dog.

How to figure points if your class dog or bitch goes Best of Breed

Count regular class dogs in your sex, plus move ups and Champions of both sexes entered for Best of Breed competition. Absentees do not count.

Example:

Total of Class	Total of Champion	Total points earned
dogs - 6	dogs - 5	Winners dog goes BOB (6 class dogs plus 9 Champions - 15 total = 5 points
bitches - 5	bitches - 4	Winners Bitch goes BOB (5 class bitches plus 9 Champions - 14 total = 4 Points

How to figure points if your class dog or bitch goes Best of Opposite Sex

Count class dogs in your sex plus all Champions and move ups, only of the same sex, that competed for Best of Breed.

Total of Class	Total of Champion	Total points earned
dogs - 6	dogs - 5	Winners Dog goes Best of Opposite Sex (6 class dogs plus 5 Champion dogs - 11 total = 4 points
bitches - 5	bitches - 4	Winners Bitch goes Best of Opposite Sex (5 class bitches plus 4 Champion bitches - 9 total bitches = 3 points

How to figure points for Best of Winners

Count points for Winners Dog, then for Winners Bitch. Whichever is awarded Best of Winners will receive the highest number.

A man was flying from Seattle to San Francisco. Unexpectedly, the plane stopped in Sacramento along the way. The flight attendant explained there would be a delay, and if the passengers wanted to get off the aircraft, the plane would re-board in 50 minutes.

Everyone got off the plane except one gentleman who was blind. The man had noticed him as he walked by and could tell the gentleman was blind because his seeing eye dog lay quietly underneath the seat in front of him throughout the entire flight. He could also tell he had flown this very flight before because the pilot approached him, and calling him by name, said "Keith, we're in Sacramento for almost an hour. Would you like to get off and stretch your legs?" The blind man replied, "No thanks, but maybe my dog would like to stretch his legs."

Picture this: All the people in the gate area came to a complete standstill when they looked up and saw the pilot walk off the plane with a seeing eye dog! The pilot was even wearing sunglasses. People scattered. They not only tried to change planes, but they were trying to change airlines!

True story...Have a great day and remember...Things are not always as they appear.

- A list of pet-friendly hotels and motels outside your area. Several web sites list them, including www.petfriendlytravel.com and www.petswelcome.com.
- Phone numbers suggested by the AVMA: a local boarding facility and one 30 to 90 miles away; local animal control, police, fire and health departments; local animal shelters; Red Cross chapter; local ASPCA and humane society and U. S. Department of Agriculture Missing Pet Network, www.missingpet.net.
- Photos of your dog in case he becomes lost, including some of the two of you together to prove ownership.
- "Comfort items," such as toys and treats.

The American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals will send free rescue stickers to anyone sending an e-mail message to: beprepared@aspc.org or by calling (212) 876-7700. One caution: owners should be sure to remove the stickers if they move to avoid needlessly risking firefighters' and other emergency workers' safety. Also to keep them current with the number of pets in the home.

*Reprinted from "Your Dog" Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine newsletter

Find More Resources In Booklets And Online

These organizations offer information on disaster planning for pets:

- The Federal Emergency Management Agency has a site specifically for kids, www.fema.gov/kids/petkit.htm, which includes a video.
- The American Veterinary Medical Association has produced a booklet, "Saving the Whole Family," with support from the American Veterinary Medical Foundation and the Iams Co., www.avma.org/disaster/saving_family.asp
- United Animal Nations, an advocacy and educational organization, lists pet preparedness tips on its website, www.uan.org and a "Shelter Disaster Plan Handbook," based on its Emergency Animal Rescue Service's work in more than 50 disasters. You can order online on call (916) 429-2457.
- The ASPCA offers tips on its "Pet Care" pages at www.aspc.org.
- The Humane Society of the United States has a downloadable booklet, "Disaster Preparedness for Pets," at www.hsus.org.

PLAY IT SAFE: STOCK TWO WEEKS OF SUPPLIES*

Experts in disaster differ on the amount of food and water to have on hand for animals in the event of an emergency. Government agencies usually advise three days of supplies before they can step in with help, but it's overly optimistic if widespread devastation occurs. What's more, their efforts are generally directed toward people, not pets.

United Animal Nations, which sponsors a network of 2,000 trained volunteers who rescue animals during disasters, recommends playing it safe with enough supplies for two weeks. Pack them in a waterproof container, so you can provide for your dog whether you evacuate or can remain at home.

One vital item to have on hand: "The number of the nearest veterinarian," said Scott Shaw, DMV, a specialist in emergency and critical care at Tufts.

Check with the veterinarian in advance about plans to evacuate the clinic and his or her backup. Identify an alternate veterinarian clinic 30 to 90 miles away and check to see if it provides boarding, the American Veterinary Medical Association advises.

Other essentials to store:

- A two-week supply of drinking water and a bowl. Check the expiration date on the water bottles or jugs and replenish as needed.
- A two-week supply of food that your dog regularly eats - a disaster isn't the time to change his diet - a manual can opener, dish, and spoon. If he likes canned food, buy it in small, pop-open cans if available. You may not have access to refrigeration.
- Scoop and plastic bags for waste disposal.
- Cleaning supplies, including soap for washing the food bowl, paper towels and bucket.
- An extra tag to write down your temporary address if necessary.
- A first-aid kit, including a pet first-aid book, cotton balls, bandages, gauze pads and rolls, surgical tape, antiseptic wipes and ointment, tweezers, scissors, instant cold pack, disposable gloves, rectal thermometer and hydrogen peroxide for cleaning wounds.
- Blankets and towels to wrap your dog if he becomes ill or injured, or to shield him from wind and flying debris.
- Medications and copies of medical records.
- A nail clippers, comb, and brush.

Kitchen Konformation

A few of us have been joking about a new proposal for dog competition. We call it Kitchen Konformation. It is a combination of conformation, obedience, agility, herding, and rally. Some of the events include:

1. Table grabbing: who can get to the middle of the table first for a quick grab at something?
2. Dishwashing: the dog who washes the most dishes in 10 minutes wins.
3. "Leave it" trials: for dropped food and garbage bags. Increasingly difficult test culminate with week old fish leftovers.
4. Fastest down for treats: A resounding smack of the belly on the floor earns bonus points.
5. How about counter surfing events?; This is an agility trial. The dog who avoids the hazards of spilling the bags of flour to get to the garlic butter wins.
6. Frozen food scarfing: dog who manages to swallow frozen sticks of butter fastest wins. Bonus points for the dog who chooses frozen bacon over frozen peas.
7. Stealth trials; dog who manages to snag a tasty morsel from the counter without alerting owner or competing dogs wins.
8. What about surfing in general?: Start in the living room and slide into the kitchen to arrive at the refrigerator door in a perfect sit for treats. Solid movement, gait, and angulation are important in this event.

9. Refrigerator herding: stand in front of refrigerator and bark until some human comes along to force the reefer to disgorge treats.
10. Scent discrimination: check the fruit and vegetable drawer to find the most rotten produce. For bonus points separate the meat from the vegetables.
11. General agility: most points to the dog who can most sneakily weasel his way around all those legs under the kitchen table to scarf dropped food as the family dines.
12. Texture discrimination: points go to the dog who can chew the crunchy parts of lettuce and discard the damp leaves. Bonus points to the dog who eats the pulp of the tomatoes, but leaves the skins.
13. Taste discrimination: the dog who can distinguish between low fat yogurt and sour cream gets 10 points.
14. Spaghetti testing: dog who identifies al dente wins.
15. Sweeping: dog who vanquishes the broom first wins.
16. Fire detection: first dog to alert handler to the fire in the barbeque grill wins.
17. Coat evaluation: dog/handler team with the most fur in the butter wins. Dogs blowing coat will be the most successful in this trial.
18. And finally, oven checking: points to any dog who checks the oven and lets his owner know that the cookies are burning.

May the lilt of Irish laughter lighten every load,
 May the mist of Irish magic shorten every road,
 May you taste the sweetest pleasures that fortune ere bestowed.
 And may all your friends remember all the favors you are owed.

WHEATENS AND CHILDREN

What can you do to ensure the best outcome when your Wheaten interacts with children? Even people who don't have children will need to be prepared for their dog to interact with children of friends or relatives.

The first thing to consider is whether to have your dog and the child interact at all. It may not be best to have a young child that is fearful of dogs exposed to a jumping and kissing Wheaten. For some dogs, a child may seem threatening because they tend to stare more, have quicker movements, higher voices, and are more unpredictable in their actions.

Small children should never, ever be alone with any dog, no matter how reliable the dog has been before. Young children don't recognize when they may be in trouble with the dog. Therefore, adults must always be on hand to supervise the interaction.

What you can do with your dog for success around children:

- Socialize your dog to children as much as possible by taking him to places where there are children such as playgrounds or taking him on walks during times when kids are getting on or off the school bus.
- Have the dog in a sit or down position when introduced to the child.
- Remove the dog from the presence of children if he starts showing signs of becoming uncomfortable, such as panting, flattening his ears back, or attempting to leave. Give him a safe place to be away from the children such as in a crate in another room.

Things to teach a child when they are around dogs:

- Always get permission before petting a dog.
- Pet a dog on the chest or on the neck under their chin.
- Never hug an unfamiliar dog.
- Don't look in the dog's face.
- Don't run, throw objects, or scream while around a dog.
- Don't take toys away from a dog.
- Don't wrestle or play tug or war games with a dog. Instead play games like hide and seek.
- Don't approach dogs that are sleeping, eating, or a bitch caring for puppies.

Reprinted from AKC Public Education Information

- Neutered males cannot develop testicular cancer and have a lower risk if developing prostate disease.
- The AKC welcomes spayed and neutered dogs to participate in all phases of obedience, tracking, herding, lure coursing, earthdog, agility, Canine Good Citizen testing, and junior showmanship, as well as most field work.

An experienced breeder is your best source of information and advice on the intricacies of breeding. You will find many in our club that are experienced and more than willing to help give you advice.

*Reprinted from AKC Customer Service

WHY IS MICROCHIPPING RECOMMENDED?

The microchip is completely safe for companion animals at any age and will last for the lifetime of the pet. It is slightly larger than a grain of rice and is placed just under the skin, by injection, by a veterinarian.

Experience has proven that microchipped pets have the best chance of recovery because a microchip is permanent and easily scanned. Tattoos are a good form of identification, but they may be difficult to find and may fade or blur over time. Collar tags are a quick way to identify a lost pet, but because they are often missing from recovered pets, it is recommended that they are used as a *secondary* form of identification. No one expects to lose his or her pet but sooner or later the unexpected may happen. Thousands of pets are lost each year. "Lost Pet" signs posted throughout our neighborhoods and intersections serve as constant reminders that a pet is missing and the owner needs help finding their beloved pet.

Animal shelters, humane societies, rescue agencies, animal control officers, and veterinarians are increasingly and routinely scanning found pets.

To get started ask your veterinarian about microchipping your pet. The AKC Animal Recovery Program (CAR) was founded in June 1995 to help reunite lost pets with their owners. As a not-for-profit organization and affiliate of the AKC, CAR is dedicated to providing lifetime recovery services for microchipped and tattooed pets. CAR maintains a central identification database and provides recovery services 24-hours-a-day, 365 days-a-year. For more information, visit www.akccar.org.

Moe and Sam

Two ninety year old men, Moe and Sam, have been friends all their lives. It seems that Sam is dying, so Moe comes to visit him.

"Sam," says Moe, "You know how we have both loved showing and then judging dogs all our lives. Sam, you have to do me one favor. When you go, somehow you've got to tell me if there are dog shows in heaven."

Sam looks up at Moe from his death bed and says, "Moe, you've been my friend many years. This favor I'll do for you."

And with that Sam passes on. It is midnight a couple of nights later. Moe is sound asleep when a distant voice calls out to him, "Moe... Moe..."

"Who is it?" says Moe sitting up suddenly. "Who is it?"

"Moe, it's Sam."

"Come on you're not Sam. Sam died." "I'm telling you," insists the voice. "It's me, Sam!"

"Sam? Is that you? Where are you?"

"I'm in heaven," says Sam, "and I've got to tell you, I've got some good news and some bad news."

"Tell me the good news first," says Moe.

"The good news," says Sam "is that there are dog shows in heaven."

"Really?" says Moe. "That's wonderful! What's the bad news?"

"You're judging next Saturday."

Like the warmth of the sun
And the light of the day,
May the luck of the Irish
Shine bright on your way.

SCWTCSC RESCUE 2004

Cassie



Debbie Bloom, our Rescue Chairperson passed along some photos showing a few of the dogs that were placed in new homes in 2004.



Triscuit
"Before"



Triscuit
"After"



Bennigan



Willie

SHOULD I BREED MY DOG?

At some point, every dog owner is faced with the question: To breed or not to breed? If you are considering becoming a breeder, please keep in mind the following.

- Responsible breeders embrace the belief that each new litter should represent an improvement over the last.
- Responsible breeders are aware that each breed has an official standard or written description of how the ideal dog looks, moves, and behaves. They are careful to only breed dogs that meet this standard.
- Responsible breeders give careful consideration to health issues, genetic concerns, temperament, soundness and appearance.
- Responsible breeders know that every dog - however wonderful as a companion - has certain flaws or weaknesses and that it is important to find a mate that can complement strengths and help eliminate the weaknesses.
- Responsible breeders plan ahead to be sure each puppy they produce will be placed in a safe, loving home suited to its needs.
- Responsible breeders accept responsibility for the puppies they produce throughout each puppy's lifetime and are always available to answer questions and provide information to the puppy's new owners.

As a responsible owner, you may consider spaying or neutering your dog. What exactly is spaying and neutering? Spaying is the surgical removal of the dog's uterus and ovaries. Neutering refers to the surgical removal of the male's testicles and spermatic cords.

Many breeders offer puppies for sale with the stipulation that the dogs be spayed or neutered when they reach the appropriate age. This is one way for breeders to ensure breed improvement by only allowing dogs they determine to be of breeding quality to reproduce.

If you decide that breeding is not for you or your dog, please consider having your dog spayed or neutered to prevent accidental breedings that result in unwanted litters. Here are some other considerations:

- Spaying a female or neutering a male is not dangerous and does not change a dog's temperament or cause weight gain.
- Spayed females are often healthier and live longer than unspayed females.