



# FAOL CU

2010 SPRING EDITION



Visit us on the web at: [www.pviwc.org](http://www.pviwc.org)

## 2010 PVIWC OFFICERS

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Carole Silverthorne, 540-338-8916  
Jodie Jeweler, 410-266-8062

## DOG SHOW in POTOMAC VALLEY! SPREAD THE WORD

The 2010 Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Specialty will be held at a new location! This year the PVIWC Specialty will be at The Turf Valley Resort - just off Interstate 70 on US 40 in Ellicott City, Maryland. For more on the new site, please visit them at: <http://www.turfvalley.com/hotel/attractions.shtml>

We encourage you to patronize their many fine facilities. We look forward to seeing you, your hounds, family and friends this year.

## IT'S A RALLY TIME!

February 21st, 2010, PVIWC is presenting a workshop on AKC Rally specifically for Irish Wolfhounds. This workshop will introduce you to the basics of this fun sport.

WHERE: At the Capital Dog Training Club, Garfield ave. Silver Spring, MD, February 21, 9-1:45. The cost is \$10.00 per person (if you come to watch, there is still a fee). We still have room for a few people, so let Jodie Jeweler know ASAP if you are interested!

Information on Rally can be found at: <http://www.akc.org/events/rally/>

Directions to CDTC can be found at: [www.cdtc.org](http://www.cdtc.org)

If you have more questions, please contact me ASAP! TO register, please email me with your name & your dog's name, ASAP!

Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club was asked to participate in this year's Southern Maryland Celtic Festival! This festival is the largest in MD & one of the largest on the East coast. This is not a Club event. It is in Jefferson Patterson Park, in St. Leonard, MD, on April 24th, 2010. Unfortunately, there IS a show that weekend, at the Timonium fairgrounds. Information about the festival can be found at [www.cssm.org](http://www.cssm.org).

### PVIWC Event Information:

#### March 28-29, 2010

Conformation - Espen Engh, Jet Greyhounds, Norway  
Sweeps - Jamie Souza Bartlett, Limerick  
Obedience - Mike Mooney  
Rally - Mike Mooney

**OF INTEREST to EXHIBITORS and FANCIERS**

If you are interested in becoming a member of the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club, please contact the Membership Chair, Ms. Judie Jeweler, 230 Dubois Road, Annapolis, MD 21401, phone: 410-266-8062, or e-mail Judie at: [pvmembers@pviwc.org](mailto:pvmembers@pviwc.org)

**March is full of the St. Patrick's Day Parades:**

**March 6:** Alexandria, VA

**March 13:** Gaithersburg, MD, [www.hssg.org](http://www.hssg.org)

**March 13:** Manassas, VA, [www.stpatparade.org](http://www.stpatparade.org)

**March 14:** Washington, D.C., [www.dcstpatparade.com](http://www.dcstpatparade.com)

**March 14:** Baltimore, MD, [www.irishparade.net](http://www.irishparade.net)

**March 20:** Harrisburg PA

**March 21:** Stroudsburg, PA

**Anyone & everyone** is welcome to join us at any parade you like. If you don't have a dog, you can usually borrow one, or carry the banner. Remember to bring waste bags for your dog, and wear comfortable shoes. More detailed information will be emailed when available. Contact Jodie (410-266-8062 or [jodie@jewelerfamily.com](mailto:jodie@jewelerfamily.com)) for more information.

**SOME FUTURE EVENTS**

March 24 - Salisbury North Carolina Kennel Club

March 25 - Alamance Kennel Club, Inc.

March 26 - Durham Kennel Club Inc

March 27 - Raleigh Kennel Club, Inc.

March 28 - Fayetteville Kennel Club, Inc.

April 10-11 - Shenandoah Valley Kennel Club, Inc.

April 10-11 - Piedmont Kennel Club, Inc.

April 24 - Old Dominion Kennel Club of Northern Virginia, Inc.

April 25 - Baltimore County Kennel Club, Inc.

April 26 - Catocin Kennel Club

May 1-2 - Chesapeake Virginia Dog Fanciers Association

May 15-16 - Mid-Atlantic Hound Association of Central North Carolina will be held in Raleigh, NC

**May 22-23 - Mattaponi KC**

May 28-29 - Langley KC

**June 5-6 - Charlottesville - Albemarle KC, Inc.**

**June 12-13 - Skyline KC**

June 26-27 - Richmond KC, Richmond, VA

For shows in your area of the U.S. Please see AKC's Events page: <http://www.akc.org/events/search/>

**If you are interested in making a monetary donation to the trophy fund in general or if you are interested in sponsoring a trophy for the 2010 PVIWC Specialty, please contact Carole Silverthorne.**

Old friends and new ones joined club members at various venues for the 2009 St. Patrick's Day parades.

At Alexandria, we wowed the crowds with 19 dogs, including 9 puppies! They were a big hit! The weather for this first parade of our season was unusually beautiful, which was perhaps the reason for the larger than usual crowds. A new potential member, Jess, and her rescue, Odin joined us.

Special thanks to Barbara for carrying the banner with Al & then Ann.

Afterwards a group of us gathered at Ireland's Four Courts in Arlington for a lovely lunch.

The next week were Manassas & Gaithersburg. Manassas had a nice showing, I'm told. I hope someone got pictures. Gaithersburg had a large crowd, including some potential new members from New Jersey, and the Morfits' housekeeper's family. Everyone from the club who walked in the parade gathered at Blue Fins for Irish lunch & music afterwards.

Following the "little" parades were the BIG events, Baltimore & Washington. Special thanks go to Barbara for carrying the big banner single-handedly for the entire Baltimore route! Despite the weather, there were large crowds lining Light & Pratt streets, and the announcers made special mention of the lone puppy there, Corky. (Who LOVES parades, thank you very much!) Our small group was suddenly inflated when old friends Linda Coffel & 3 of her kids, and Elizabeth & 3 of her kids, joined us!

Linda's young son, Ezra, loved the hounds, and they loved him, too.

The group in DC had a bit of a glitch when Bob & Van got stuck in traffic, but this resulted in our group being in the parade twice! From the photos, lots of old friends joined the group in Washington, too. It looks like they had slightly better weather than Baltimore.

The Harrisburg, PA parade was March 21st, and with the help of some members of IWADV, we had about 10 hounds there, with Lisa & Bill McKinney. The hounds lead the parade, protecting the lead piper! Hopefully next year we can get more PVIWC members up there!

The Fredericksburg, VA parade was rained out.

Thanks to Mary O, photos are on the website, with more to come soon! If you have more photos, please share them.

Jodie Jeweler

## Karen F. Malone

January 30, 1942 - December 29, 2008

Karen was a long time member of the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club. She fought a long and courageous battle with cancer. Her strength, perseverance, and determination were exemplary to us all. She was a good person and a true Champion of Irish Wolfhounds. Our Club will miss her greatly, as will the IW community and the dog world in general. Canine health research and welfare of the breed were of highest importance to Karen. She strove for improvement of the breed and better quality of life for all dogs.

Karen was involved in the Irish Wolfhound world before becoming a member of our club in 1981 and remained an active member until her death. She was also an active member of the Irish Wolfhound Club of America for a long time. She was very instrumental in researching and preparing endless forms required by the AKC to help PVIWC become a club and qualify for Match Shows in the early 1980s.

As mentioned by a long time friend, while the club was attending shows and having tailgate parties, Karen was busy studying the By-Laws, Roberts Rules of Order and the Rules and Regulations of the AKC.

A long time member recently remembered her by saying, I don't think that there is anyone who has done more for the Club than Karen. She was President, VP, Board Member, and a member of numerous committees. She was one of the founders of the boutique and was very active in fundraising programs. Karen loved her dogs, and all dogs, as she fostered many from the local shelter. She actively participated in the Partnership for Animal Welfare and was a tireless advocate for the Club and for the breed.

The most notable position that Karen held for over 15 years was that of Show Secretary for our Specialty. Karen possessed an endless knowledge of AKC policies and procedures. Her attention to detail was an attributes that she used very effectively.

Karen was always the "Go to person" in the club and on occasions other clubs would consult with her on the "How to...", "Can we...", and "Where can we find out..." With her many areas of expertise, she always kept the club on the straight and narrow. Karen was nearly always right!

Her church group, cancer support group and PAW were very important to her. They provided tremendous support for her in her illness. They will miss her active participation dearly.

Karen retired as Show Secretary in 2004 and the next year her "Merlin" won Best of Breed at our Specialty. Her "Merlin" was the sire of her recent puppies Victory and Monet who were truly the love of her life and she so enjoyed seeing them in the ring.

### Now We Say To Karen, Farewell But Not Forgotten



Photo by Mary O'Malley

## LURE COURSING 101

**PVIWC Lure Coursing Chair: Carole Silverthorne**

by Diana Vreeken

*NOTE: I am by no means an expert in lure coursing. This is just my opinion from observing and participating in the sport for the past several years with my hounds.*

**What is Lure Coursing:** It is an ancient sport, dating back to the Greeks. It was a competition between hound and prey. The objective was the thrill of the chase. Coursing can be described as “pursuit using sight not scent”.

**How to Start:** With my experience, I start with little baby steps.

Step 1: --INTEREST—Get the hound interested in chasing the bag. This can be done by tying a white plastic bag to the end of a long pole. Get your pup interested in chasing the bag. Remember to let them catch it every so often. If this is not doing the trick, grab some hotdogs (or chicken) and place it in the bag. Make sure the scent is all over the bag. When they catch the “prey”, let them have the treat. Soon, the puppy will get too big and the pole is not big enough or you’re not fast enough to move the bag out of the way. I then grab some string and tie the bag at the end, with the treats inside, and place it several yards away. Once your pup gets interested in the bag, pull the string to you as fast as you can. Remember to always reward with the catch of the bag. This will help get your pup to understand that they can chase something without getting into trouble.

These baby steps should be used until your pup turns approx 10 months old. Never put your pup into a full gallop at a young age. It will put a lot of strain on its young joints. Most important—do it occasionally, so they do not get bored.

If you have a luring club close to you, it will help in the next step. I just do short straights for a few yards, never a turn until after 11 months of age. If you do not have a club close to you, just walk or let your pup run around. I would get on my trail bike and do a short spurt for 10 to 12 yards—that’s it, no more. As your pup gets older, go a little bit farther.

I do believe the required age for the Irish Wolfhound to compete is just 12 months old. I would strongly suggest waiting another 2 to 4 months and start when they get a little bit older. Again, with our large breed, the growth plates are very important—you do not want to cause any permanent leg damage.

Step 2: CONFIDENCE—Your dog will run better if it has confidence in itself. Meaning—no “mommy and daddy-it is”. This is accomplished very easily. I let my friends puppy-sit while Finnagin and Ayla were young. I would drop them off and come back several hours later-after a much needed rest away from them. This separation lets them understand that it’s fine to be away us. That they do not have to be by our sides *all the time*. They know we are around, but it’s OK for them to go away from us too. Of course this does have its flaws. Like when we are going for walks and they see a squirrel, rabbit, cat or a skunk (yes, a skunk) you name it. It’s lock and go.

*NOTE: You are doing Step 1 and Step 2 at the same time—early in the pups development*

Step 3: CONDITIONING –At this stage of the game, when they are ready for a trial, your dog should be in good athletic shape. If you can get them to exercise several times a week they should be able to run the course, without passing out. I make sure my guys walk at least 3 miles every day. When I can, --maybe two or three times a week--I’ll get on my trail bike and they will run behind me for a mile, maybe a little bit more. (OK—this is not a full gallop—I can’t ride the bike that fast across an open field and have you ever tried riding a bike in a field—not easy) This is just an easy stride for them. Sometimes, I think they stay behind me, just to make me feel good.

### **How Do They Judge?**

ASFA – American Sighthound Field Association –[www.asfa.org](http://www.asfa.org)—A Field Champion requires a total of 100 points. The hound must also have won at least two 1<sup>st</sup> placements, or one 1<sup>st</sup> and two 2<sup>nd</sup> places and all the placements must have been won against at least one other hound. First place gets 4 points multiplied by the number hounds in the stake. Second

place gets 3 points multiplied by the number of hounds. Third place gets 2 points multiplied by the number of hounds and fourth place gets 1 point multiplied by the number of hounds in the stake. Maximum is 40 points at one trial. They must also receive an ASFA Certification before they can enter a trial. This is accomplished by having your hound run successfully with another sight hound. No chasing the other hound, no playing, no distraction. It must run the course cleanly.

They are judged on enthusiasm, endurance, agility, speed and follow. The judge can award up to 100 points. Two courses must be ran in one trial to qualify for points. A "Hunt Master" will be at the starting line waiting for you to get your dog ready, when you are, they will yell "Tally-ho". As soon as you hear the "T" in Tally—you may release your dog. If too soon, it will be points removed, even too late can cause a penalty.

Three colours of jackets are used-yellow, pink, and blue. This is chosen by a random draw before the trial. These are bright colour jackets-easier for the judges to score the individual dog.

Disqualification can occur for fighting or attacking another hound or if the hound receives two dismissals with six field trials. A disqualified hound can be reinstated under certain circumstances, depending on why it was disqualified.

AKC-American Kennel Club—[www.akc.org](http://www.akc.org)—Scoring is a little different, but all the other rules are about the same. It has a total of 50 points per run: Overall Ability, Follow, Speed, Agility and Endurance. Pre slip penalty 1 to 5 point. Course delay 1 to 5 points-(meaning-you can't catch your dog after the run and causing the trial to slow down).

As of right now, to enter an AKC trial –your dog must first become a junior courser-JC. This means they would have to run the course by themselves two times and be judged by two different judges to receive this award. This has to be done at two separate events (except during a national). As of 2010 it will be changed to a Qualified Courser –QC- this means that your hound has to run with another hound successfully. No distractions or playing or coursing the other hound. You can still get your JC, but you will need a QC to be allowed to enter a trial.

To receive a field champion, you must receive 15 points (included in these 15 points must be two first placements with three points or more under two different judges). For Irish Wolfhounds to receive 3 points at a field trial—there would have to be 4 IW's entered for 4 points- 5 dogs, and for 5 points -6 dogs.

LGRA-Large Gazehound Racing Association—[www.lgra.org](http://www.lgra.org)—All I know about this is it is a straight race approx 200 yards. The dogs have to be in a muzzle. The white plastic bag is replaced with a squawker that the hounds chase. There is a person who will release the dog at one end and a person to retrieve the dog at the other end. Most people will have the actual owners at the retrieving end. The dog will run to its owner. I have never been to a LGRA event so I really do not know a whole lot about it. I do know that they are in colour jackets with numbers from one to four on them. This helps the judge to score.

**Clubs:** There are several Luring clubs in the area—S.H.O.T. which holds practice usually on the last Sunday of each month in Suffolk VA. Except for the trial months (March/April & Sept/Oct). Trials are held in Jamestown VA. CHAMP which holds their trials in Leesburg. MAHA hold their trials in Rocky Mount NC. Just check on any of the websites mentioned about more clubs in your area.

That is Lure Coursing 101. I hope that I have not completely confused everyone. It really is a great feeling to see your dog out there competing against other IW's. It's even a better feeling when they are competing for Best in Field where the best of each breed will compete for that "Top Spot". Go to a trial, sit back, watch, and you really will have a good time. Once you get comfortable, join in on the activities, we are always looking for more volunteers on field trial days.

P.S. - I can even train you on how to become a field secretary - hint, hint.

Diana  
DTCHCDN@aol.com

A WOLFHOUND owner in British Columbia has taken me to a well-known but unpopular destination - namely, to task - for suggesting that latter-day representatives of the breed are in some way lacking the vigour of their ancestors.

Emma Ross says she must "respectfully disagree" with my suggestion that the modern Irish wolfhound is a pale version of its fearsome forerunner, celebrated in legend. And she should know, because she has 17 of them at her home in the Canadian Cascades. All "superb hunters", she writes, and worthy of the breed's motto: "Gentle when stroked, fierce when provoked." That motto can sometimes also apply to Irish Times readers, I've found. So I'm glad that Emma is respectfully inclined. I hiked in the Cascade Mountains once and hope to return sometime. It's reassuring to know that if I trespass on her property by mistake, Emma will not set the dogs on me by way of proving a point.

Meanwhile another reader, Donal Kennedy (not a wolfhound owner so far as I'm aware), reminds me of the fate of one George Robert Fitzgerald - the "Fighting Fitzgerald" - when he offended against the breed back in the late 1700s. His was a more grievous insult: he shot one of the dogs as part of his vendetta against the Brownes of Altamount House in Westport. And the incident had far-reaching consequences.

Descended from the famous Geraldines but schooled at Eton, the Fighting Fitzgerald was a bit like Lord Byron: mad, bad, and dangerous to know; or even to bump into by accident. In an English coffee house, he once sliced the nose off a student who claimed to "smell a Catholic" (the Fitzgeralds had strategically converted to Protestantism). In Paris, he ran his rapier through a man who stood on his dog.

In Ireland, based at the family fortress in the then lawless Castlebar, his fondness for duelling was given free range. He wasn't especially good at it: his greatest skill being a habit of surviving when he lost. But he was badly injured on several occasions and was once shot in the head, which clearly affected his judgement in later years.

Merely violent in his youth, Fitzgerald became increasingly psychotic. He kept pet bears, dressing them in clothes and bringing them on the Castlebar-Dublin stagecoach to terrorise other passengers. And it was in this mood of ever-greater recklessness that one day in 1780 he went to Altamount House, the home of his hated rivals, whose parliament seat he coveted.

Fitzgerald asked to see the family's prize wolfhound and, when it was produced, killed the poor animal on the spot. He then exacerbated the action by leaving a message with servants that he would no longer allow their master to keep wolfhounds, but that he would allow the women of the house to keep a "lapdog" each.

The double insult did not provoke Lord Altamount or his brother into avenging their honour in the normal way. But it earned the wrath of an even more famous fighter than Fitzgerald, "Humanity Dick" Martin, the MP for Galway and a pioneer for animal rights. Martin knew both the Brownes, and their dog, and was outraged.

Undeclared in umpteen "meetings" and considered Ireland's best duellist, he was eager to avenge his four-legged friend. But there was a problem. To challenge Fitzgerald thus would highlight the dog owner's apparent cowardice in failing to do likewise. So he had to await another pretext. (continued in the right column below)

### IRISH GUARD MASCOT

Conmael, the mascot for the 1st Battalion Irish Guards on parade in his 'uniform' and shamrock, during a St Patrick's Day parade held by the 1st Battalion Irish Guards at the Victoria Barracks in Windsor, England, Tuesday March 17, 2009.  
AP Photo



Fitzgerald soon presented one. At this time, he was holding his own father prisoner - in a cave, chained to a bear - as a result of a row over the family estate. The Fighting Fitzgerald's younger brother took proceedings to have the old man released, and personally arrested his deranged sibling.

Here was Martin's chance. He had recently been called to the Bar to allow him become high sheriff of Galway. Now, waiving a fee, he made himself available for the case. And when Fitzgerald's counsel chose to defend his client by attacking the character of the father (a reprobate himself), Martin threw down the gauntlet. Counsel was right about Fitzgerald snr, he agreed; but the father's worst crime had been begetting his son.

The insult was duly reciprocated and the men were now on course for a showdown. Unfortunately for Martin, this was delayed for several years by a combination of Fitzgerald's prison sentences and prevarication. It wasn't until 1784 that the men finally met on the streets of Castlebar, firing pistols at each other muzzle-to-muzzle.

Both were hit: Fitzgerald twice. But Martin's wound was examined afterwards and found harmless. More miraculously, his rival was also reported to have made a full recovery. So a replay was arranged. And not only did Fighting Fitzgerald fail to show on this occasion, it also emerged that his survival of the first duel had been thanks to body armour.

Among gentlemen of the era, death was considered preferable to such a loss of honour. Life was all downhill for Fitzgerald from then on. He lost control of Castlebar. He lost the loyalty of his henchmen. And in 1786 he was sentenced to death for attempted murder.

Lord Altamount's brother sat on the jury and, as high sheriff for Mayo, may also have sat on a pardon. So, if not hanged like a dog, Fitzgerald was hanged in any case. The wolfhound was belatedly avenged. And if you were so inclined, you could probably call it ruff justice.

## PVIWC MEMBERS HAD SOME CONSTRUCTION AT THEIR HOMES LATELY

There's a new addition at the Jeweler household, bringing lots of fun and joy, and some bittersweet memories.

Over the summer, when Bob mentioned he wanted to breed Sophie & Atticus, I was very interested. Sophie is Dylan's niece, Atticus is Limerick's. I loved the idea of having a puppy so closely related to both of my beloved Big Boys. But I worried that it wasn't the right time to add a puppy, given Dylan's condition. At that point, he wasn't ill, just kind of wobbly, because of his back injury, surgery & neurological damage. I wasn't sure "now" was the right time to add a puppy, but everyone I spoke to told me I'd know I'd get a sign.

Well, sadly, the sign I got was not really the one I wanted! Yes- "now" was the right time - because Dylan passed away very suddenly in October. A month later, November 25th, Sophie had her puppies. As fate would have it, Dylan's birthday was January 25, 2008 - another sign?

There were only 2 boys, and there were 2 of us wanting boys, so I tried not to fall in love too soon. I also wanted to choose the RIGHT puppy. A puppy I could do obedience, rally, freestyle, therapy work, maybe even lure coursing & conformation with! But despite my best intentions, I fell in love with the big red brindle boy when he was 1 day old. At 3 weeks, I was almost positive he needed to be mine. At 5 weeks, we made it official by naming him- Corcaigh O'Laoghaire O'Ros- Corky to his friends.

Corky is 10 weeks old as I write this. He's been home 2 weeks, bringing us great joy & lots of exercise. He loves his unkie Limerick. Limerick seems to be accepting him easily- he lets Corky do pretty much anything except jump on his face. Corky practices his jumping skills by climbing & jumping over Limerick during Wickie's nap time, every day. Today he gave me a definite signal he needed to go out twice! He is smart, sweet & funny (and has LOTS of teeth!), and I am madly in love. I am having the time of my life seeing Wickie act young again, and watching them interact. Everyone here loves him & is excited about going on many adventures with him. IN fact, Dad bought me a new minivan so we could travel in safety! I realize I couldn't have had a puppy with Dylan, so there is a bit of sadness, but I see Dylan in Corky a lot. And I know Dylan is looking down & smiling on his great nephew.

Jodie, Judie and Al Jeweler - Proudly owned by Corky



Compliments of Karen S. Whimsy

Please welcome Sage, a.k.a. Connemara's Wise One at Hearthound, the latest addition to the O'Malley Wolfhound pack. Sage (CH Brimstone Connemara Summer x CH Connemara Challenge) is a half-sister to Holly (CH Brimstone Connemara Summer x Connemara's Rain Man), and spends a lot of time following her sister around and draping herself all over her, with occasional breaks to eat, sleep, face-fight with Gracie, play tug-of-war with Holly's tail, or chew the edges off the nearest rug. Holly, I would like to point out, has the patience of a saint!

Nothing like a puppy to keep you laughing :-)

Mary O.  
Hearthound IWs





## **EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

**Chair: Jodie Jeweler**

### **OBEDIENCE TRIALS**

Since our show is coming up, I thought I'd take the opportunity to explain a bit about what we're doing up on the hill there, in the obedience & Rally ring.

I'm sure you all know we're having an obedience trial and a Rally trial, but since very few IW owners actually do any sort of formal obedience, I'm going to give you a short introduction to obedience.

I find it odd that so few people pursue any sort of formal training for their hounds, especially since General DeQuoy felt so strongly that obedience is important to IWs, but I can also understand the fact that few IWs seem to need any formal training. However, this innate desire to please us is what makes obedience with an Irish wolfhound so special.

There are probably a lot of misconceptions about obedience. Many people think their dog doesn't NEED training. Most of us who train don't do it because our dog NEEDED it. We do it because it's fun! We do it because it forms a tighter bond, and makes us a team. I will venture to speak for my fellow enthusiasts & say while titles are NICE, we aren't doing it for titles. And while the benefits of living with a trained dog are numerous, most of us do it because we like it. We like that time spent with our dogs, focused solely on the dog. We like the way we must be totally in the moment when training. There is a kind of Zen quality to dog training, especially when you find a great class. You and your dog are focused on each other. You are forging bonds of trust and reliability. Your relationship will deepen, and the joy you get from simply living with your dog, when he is trained, and you can each rely on the other, is beyond compare. Most obedience enthusiasts spend an hour a week in a formal class, and some time each day training at home. It may be 10 minutes before and after work, it may be 20 minutes every evening, but some part of our day is spent working with our dog. When training an IW, it is important to remember to keep it FUN, UPBEAT, INTERESTING & POSITIVE. The same goes for a class. Don't work your dog into boredom, and don't allow negative training methods. Of course, each hound has a different level of what is "negative."

Obedience involves a few simple exercises, some slightly less simple rules, and at the most basic level, very little equipment. AKC states, "Demonstrating the usefulness of a dog as a companion to humankind, AKC Obedience is a sport with rules, regulations, judges, conditioning, training, placements and prizes." In the AKC, there are 3 basic levels, with each level having an A or B class separation. The levels are Novice, Open & Utility. A classes are for people who have never titled a dog before. There are other levels, new optional titling classes, such as Graduate Novice, Graduate Open and Versatility. Non-regular classes (where you can not earn a title, but can either practice or keep your hand in, so to speak) include veterans, Pre-Novice and Brace or Team. Imagine doing obedience with 2 or 4 hounds at once! It is truly a sight to see.

You need 3 legs for a title. To get a leg, you must earn 170 points, and half the available points for each exercise. The basic titles are CD (Companion Dog), CDX (Companion Dog Excellent), and UD (Utility Dog). Further titles like UDX may be earned by competing in Open & Utility and earning a leg in each at the same trial, 10 times. In other words, 20 qualifying scores!

In Novice, the dog must heel on lead and off lead (free), perform a figure 8 heeling pattern, do a recall, a stand for exam, a 1 minute sit stay and a 3 minute down stay. Heeling is more than just walking politely next to you. For proper heel position, the dog must have the area between the front of his shoulder & the end of his nose next to your left leg. We're lucky with IWs; this gives us a lot more leeway than a small dog. The heel pattern includes left & right turns, about turns, running, walking slowly, and sits. You are allowed to give one command for each facet of the exercise. Other talking is not allowed. The recall is a formal way of having the dog come to you. You place the dog at one end of the ring and leave him in a stay. You walk to the opposite end, and at a signal from the judge, call your dog. The dog should move briskly to you and sit directly in front of you, within arm's reach. Then the dog must "finish"- move back into heel position at your command. The Stand for Exam is similar to a conformation stand, but the dog does not need to be in a "stacked" position. At a signal from the judge, you stand your dog and leave when you are ready. You may position the dog if you like, as for a stack. Then you leave the dog, step 6 feet away, and wait while the judge walks towards your dog, and touches him on the head, shoulders & rump. The judge passes behind the dog, returns to his

## EDUCATION COMMITTEE (continued)

position and signals you to return. You walk behind the dog back to heel position and the exercise is finished. During the exercise, the dog may not move any of his feet. Both the dog and the handler are judged in the ring.

Many people feel obedience and Irish Wolfhounds are not a match made in heaven. This may be true. IWs don't work like Border Collies or Labs. They get bored easily, and rarely work "just because." Many will work because it makes US happy, but most require some valuable motivator- food, toys, etc. And unlike many other breeds, if an IW has done it once or twice, they won't repeat it. Therefore, you can't have long training sessions, or work on heeling for an entire class. BORING! But you CAN train an IW to do almost anything. Their natural love of being with their humans, and patience, a sense of humor, and good treats, can lead to a happy working hound with an obedience title!

And if the formality of traditional obedience really doesn't suit you, or you'd like to start out in a more accessible venue, you can try Rally. Rally is a newer AKC sport, first titling in 2005. (Dylan was one of the very first Irish Wolfhounds to earn a Rally title!) In rally, you follow signs, rather than a judge's commands. You may talk to your dog and make hand motions to get them to do the exercises. Judging is slightly more lenient than obedience, and you can repeat an exercise if you flubbed it. Rally was developed out of "doodling" exercises for obedience- fun games to teach your dog better heeling or positioning skills, and was implemented by the AKC as a lead-in or introduction to competitive obedience sports. I will cover Rally more fully in the next issue of Faol Cu.

If you've never seen an Irish Wolfhound doing obedience, please make an effort to see it sometime! It can be beautiful- or comic. We never know what our hounds might think up to keep us humble and on our toes. But those of us who do obedience know we'll never give it up, any more than we'd give up Irish Wolfhounds.

For more information, check out the AKC's website ([http://www.akc.org/events/obedience/what\\_is\\_obedience.cfm](http://www.akc.org/events/obedience/what_is_obedience.cfm)), a training facility near you, or contact me!

In November, I received a call from a local singer, Angela Knight, asking if we could provide a hound or two for a "Celtic Christmas" concert she was presenting in Haymarket, to raise money for Feed the Children. Of course, I said yes, and asked Tom & Diane Hartney to join us.

Originally, the concert was scheduled for December 5, but we had our first snow of the season, so it was postponed till the next day. Judie and I gathered our Irish dresses, put fancy collars on the boys- who'd been subjected to more grooming than they normally would have had for a show- and off we went.

Angela started the concert by leading Tom, Diane, me, Judie, Oweney, Katie, Corky & Kelly on stage, while she sang "Away in a Manger." We stood in front of the backdrop castle, under the sparkling winter trees, while she sang. Oweney & Katie were very nonchalant, as if they appear on stage every day. Corky & Kelly seemed to enjoy being in the spotlight, and Kelly apparently really liked Angela- he kept leaning on her! She knelt down and sang to him, which was really cute- the audience sure loved when he kept kissing her! Then we got to sit backstage & enjoy the concert. Angela, a coloratura soprano, sang all the Christmas favorites, and was accompanied by a violin, flute, guitar & keyboard. She also had members of a local Bagpipe band, a saxophonist, and an electric guitar join her on some songs. Some of her students joined her, or sang lovely solos, and Irish step dancers did some fantastic dancing- I've never seen feet fly so fast, as on their interpretation of the dance from "Titanic." A Ballerina did a solo from The Nutcracker (much to Corky's delight- he was fascinated by her!). The entire evening was just fantastic. At the end, Angela asked us all to join her, with Santa Claus, on stage once more. She invited the kids in the audience to come up & meet the dogs and Santa. It was hard to tell which was more interesting for the kids! If you get a chance to see Angela in concert, make the time- she's more than worth it! I'd like to thank her for a wonderful evening, and a chance to show off our dogs! (see page 11 for pix)

Jodie Jeweler



The following article is from The Moscow Times (Issue 4108 of Arts & Ideas printed on Friday, March 20, 2009)

## Russians, Irish Set for St. Patrick's Day Parade

By Adrian McBreen

The Novy Arbat will turn Irish once again this Sunday as the Irish community and thousands of Muscovites take part in Moscow's 17th St. Patrick's Day parade, the only festivity of its kind in the Russian capital. Weather permitting, up to 10,000 Muscovites will turn out at 1 p.m. to see a classic St. Patrick's Day parade, with marching bands, Cossack horsemen, Irish dancers, decorated floats and, of course, wolfhounds. The parade in Moscow, which takes place five days after the real St. Patrick's Day, is very much an international affair, with performers from across Russia. Novy Arbat will close down to traffic as Dublin's mayor, Evelyn Byrne, and her Russian counterpart, Yury Luzhkov, seek to put the "pat" in "expat." This year marks the first time Mayor Luzhkov, a huge supporter of Irish culture in Moscow, will attend in person since its inception in 1992.

The chief organizer and chair of the Irish Club, Avril Conroy, said she is looking forward to an "overwhelming sense of pride" on Sunday, especially among the Irish community in Moscow. She said her personal favorite participants are the wolfhounds and their proud owners from the Russian Irish wolfhound society. The parade is part of a series of events organized by the Irish Club and the embassy around St. Patrick's Day including the Irish Film Festival at Khudozhestvenny theater, which runs till March 29



## **Patrick's universal message: Salvation, forgiveness**

### **The Patriot Ledger on Mar 14, 2009**

QUINCY — No Irish leprechauns, but a ship load of wolfhound dogs helped the real Patrick – St. Patrick – escape a land of slavery and go on to a history-making Christian mission. The true story of this resourceful, dedicated man rivals any legend.

Though practically considered the personal symbol of Ireland, Patrick's original home was England. Patrick was born there about A.D. 389 to economically well-off Christian parents.

Family security couldn't protect from violence of the times. About age 16, Patrick was abducted by raiders and taken to the nearby island of Ireland.

Patrick had ample reason to hate the savage Irish pagans. But, as time went on, he actually came to pity these tribes. He nourished a desire to be a missionary in this land.

With vision came yearning for freedom. After some six slaving years, Patrick judged that a getaway was possible. And so, with determination and quick-witted resourcefulness that would show all through his life, Patrick escaped.

Patrick worked his way to the island coast. There he met some traders ready to take Irish wolfhounds by ship to the European mainland. If the traders suspected this obviously capable young man was a fugitive, they didn't care. Patrick was invited along.

After a short voyage, the ship reached a coast, probably what now is France. For a while, Patrick traveled with the traders, helping in the dog business. Apparently the traders were a little sad when, at last, this good, pleasant worker announced he had to say farewell. But the young man wanted to use his talents to serve God and humanity. Patrick went to a large church center, where he lived and no doubt studied.

Some time later, Patrick was able to return to England and family. He now declared to his family his hopes for Irish missionary service. The relatives were at first furiously opposed, but Patrick won them over, and they gave approval. Back to the European mainland Patrick went for full-time church life.

For a while, Patrick's Irish hopes had to be put aside. But, at last, opportunity came when officials decided that a full mission project to Ireland was needed. Teachers, and even artists, would go along with priests on this undertaking. Patrick was chosen to be leader. In A.D. 432, Patrick was consecrated a bishop.

With Patrick's wise supervision, the Irish mission was an astounding success. Pagans came to believe in Christ. Churches were organized. Patrick's personal influence on Irish leaders promoted some good social changes.

By the late A.D. 450s, much of Ireland was united in Christian belief. Aging Patrick now retired. The date of his death was possibly March 17, A.D. 461. A festival in his honor was soon established.

In a sense, St. Patrick's Day can honor any and all Christian mission service. Though famous for his work, Patrick was only one of countless great, though lesser-known, missionaries who have carried the gospel of Christ to new lands.

It is an international message for people of all races and national backgrounds.

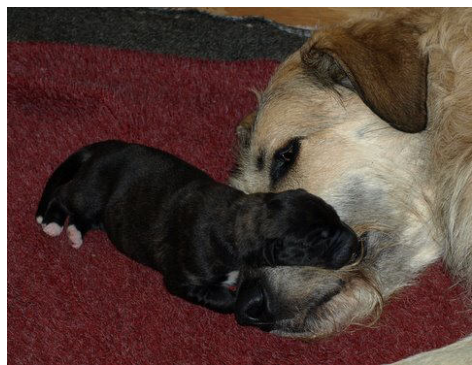
The message announces that everyone who believes in Christ will receive free forgiveness of all sin. Believers in Christ will also have life forever in heaven after this earth.

Today, the mission of Patrick still sets an example, as the message of Christ's forgiveness and salvation reaches new souls, worldwide, for eternity.

Art Maier is a semiretired teacher, environmental-science specialist and calligrapher. He is a contributing editor to Pen World Magazine and has appeared regularly on the "Pepper & Friends" television show, demonstrating for hand-disabled persons and others how to use pens. He is a regular columnist for the Boonville Daily News in Boonville, Mo. He can be reached at [artmaier@sbcglobal.net](mailto:artmaier@sbcglobal.net).

## BRAG BLOCK

TWO ROSETTES have arrived in Tennessee! Deirdre McCarthy's Rosie whelped two lovely pups on February 2, 2010. The pups are CH Dun Myrica Speaker of Eagle x MacCaura Middleton Very Rare (aka Rosie). See below pictures.



Congratulations go out to Bob Brehl and his lovely bitch, Sophie. Thanksgiving has a new meaning for Bob as Sophie whelped over 10 pups.



Maggie (left) will celebrate her 8th birthday on May 13th. Ice Cream from Dairy Queen for her!



Photo by Mary O'Malley

Congratulations go out to Paul Plummer and Carole Silverthorne and their lovely bitch, Ivy. The litter was a 1d/5b healthy litter. The litter is by CH Kellykerry Grungeon of Eagle - Trampas Irene Adler (aka Ivy). Below is one of my favorite pictures of Ivy.



Photo by Judie Jeweler

Myst Meadows of Elkhorn took a 4 point WB on Sunday, January 17, 2010. Her housemates are supporting her in this race to the finish line!

**CONGRATS** goes to Corky and Jodie for the Reserve Winner's Dog On January 23rd! WOO HOO! Jodie informed me that she handled him, too! KUDOS to both of them. I don't know about you, but I'm on Team PVIWC! Let's rally behind our exhibitors and support them all the way!

There is a Champion of record at Elkhorn - MOR DERRY WAR EAGLE OF ELKHORN (aka Cygnus) out of CH Dun Myrica Speaker of Eagle - Obelkhorn Magee Mochroi. Cyggy received her last two points under Judge Katy Gammill on January 16, 2009, at the Carol County Kennel Club event. She was entered in the Open Class and was again handled by Jay (who was trained by Marie Somershoe).

In the last edition, you saw the Brag Blog of Cyggy awarded RWB at IWADV October 2008 under Jean Malley, Ainsea Irish Wolfhounds. Here is the critique: "1st Aube's, Mor Derry War Eagle of Elkhorn A really lovely hound, has many of the qualities anyone could ask for. Super overall type, beautiful head and expression, very typical, long neck into correct set of shoulders, flowing balanced correct outline, over and underline, forechest and depth, well ribbed back, good rear quarters and movement sound as a bell with ease scope. Looks the part standing and moving. Pleased to award her Res Winners Bitch"

Cyggy's last remarks she told her sister was, "It's good to be the Queen!"

## HOUNDS THAT PASSED SINCE LAST WE REPORTED

Rory O’Ros (picture below) passed away in February. Rory was the beloved hound of Joe, Lynn and Regan O’Leary. Rory was 8 years old.



The PVIWC joins Susan and Van Morfit as they mourn the passing of Brenainn (pictured below).



In the last edition of Faol Cu, we met Gracie. Gracie, a wonderful hound that came to Carole and Bob’s home through the PVIWC Placement and Rescue Committee. It is with great sorrow that I report of Gracie’s passing. The following is the notice sent from Carole and Bob to Tom and Diane Hartney, the PVIWC Placement and Rescue Chairs.

“Gracie left us yesterday Friday, January 30, 2009. She had slipped on the ice a few times earlier in the week, and during her walk in the pasture, her back legs were shaking some, we thought due to the cold... but after Thursday evening, she could no longer get up, and her kidneys had not worked for days. I called Ann Flanigan who told me about her experiences losing her 'kids', and tearfully concluded it was time to release Gracie. She died peacefully at the Brookeville Vet with my daughter Lacey, Bob and me. Her ashes will be returned to us.”

Gracie lived into her 11th year.

Carole and Bob are very thankful to making it possible for Gracie to choose them as her last home. They do affirm that everyone should be owned by an Irish Wolfhound sometime in their lives.

Our love and best wishes to you and all the PVIWC members who treasure these majestic hounds.”

Carole McCann  
Bob Stewart

MANY MANY HOUNDS HAVE PASSED SINCE THE LAST EDITION OF FAOL CU. If you have lost a hound or another beloved companion and would like to offer a tribute in their honor for being that faithful, noble and loving companion, please submit your article to [elkhorniw@hughes.net](mailto:elkhorniw@hughes.net)

A very special hound, Limerick, went to the bridge after a short battle with osteosarcoma and heart disease. He was a valiant fighter till the very end, but after a lovely day, he let his human love know his heart was failing and he didn’t want to fight any more. He left surrounded by people who loved him. The end was very peaceful. We know he is happy now. His humans miss him terribly as he was a best buddy.

Carole Silverthorne and Paul Plummer's Trampas Champion (aka Cam) crossed the bridge on April 2, 2009. Cam was born May 29, 1998 and was a love! She was very sly. When Ivy and Bud were little, they and Kaede would get on the dog beds and the couch in what we call the Dog Room, and not leave any place for her (the couch being her favorite, of course). She'd leave the room and stand in front of the dog door going into the garage. After a moment or two, she'd do a grrrrrrr-WOOF! The other three would bound up and race past her out the door to GET IT, whatever IT was. She'd then turn around and go get on the couch. That worked for a year or so!



**Speaking for Spot**  
**Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life**  
**Nancy Kay, DVM**

I'm pleased to announce the release of my book, *Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life* (Trafalgar Square Books). My goal in writing it was to teach dog lovers how to navigate the sometimes overwhelming, confusing, and expensive world of veterinary medicine. If you have some room in an upcoming edition of your newsletter, I'd be delighted if you would run a review of *Speaking for Spot*.

Thus far, the book has been wonderfully well received. Claudia Kawczynska, editor-in-chief of *The BARK Magazine* describes it as "a must-read groundbreaking new book." *The Whole Dog Journal* put *Speaking for Spot* on their list of "Five Ya Gotta Try" in 2009, and behaviorist, Linda Tellington Jones stated, "This book should be in the library of every person who loves her dog. With clarity, charm, and wit, Dr. Kay provides step-by-step guidelines that teach you how to be a responsible and informed advocate throughout your dog's life. It could save you thousands of dollars and give you the tools to prevent the heartache that comes with making uninformed or rushed decisions about your dog's health care."

Please visit [www.speakingforspot.com](http://www.speakingforspot.com) to learn more about me and read excerpts from the book, my blog, and a variety of published magazine articles. Please contact me with any questions.

Best wishes,

Nancy Kay, DVM  
Diplomate, American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine

Author of: *Speaking for Spot: Be the Advocate Your Dog Needs to Live a Happy, Healthy, Longer Life*  
Website: <http://www.speakingforspot.com>  
Spot's Blog: <http://speakingforspot.wordpress.com>

Another edition of *Faol Cu* is always in draft; anxiously awaiting for you to submit an article or news to share. Feel free to submit your article to Judie Jeweler at [judie@jewelerfamily.com](mailto:judie@jewelerfamily.com) or to me (Tammy) at [elkhorniw@hughes.net](mailto:elkhorniw@hughes.net). Submit any article or news that you have to share. Thank you.

Recently posted to the Irish Wolfhound International Forum by Chris Shaw, a Fun reading version of the IW Standard.

**GENERAL APPEARANCE** The Irish Wolfhound is the largest and tallest of the galloping hounds, combining power and swiftness - in other words he can steal from great heights, and just when it starts bucketing down, he will spot a hare (or anything else that moves - like a paper bag!), and no amount of screaming will bring him back until you are thoroughly soaked to the skin. On returning to his beloved owner he will use his great strength and speed to flatten you into the mud whilst licking your face ecstatically.

**HEAD AND SKULL** Long enough to snout in the mud and broad enough to raise your elbow when you have a full cup of coffee in your hand. Pigment should be dark, but paint, mud and caked on food is permissible.

**EYES** Frequently closed, but when open can spot food from a great distance. The Irish twinkle usually pre-empt mischief and deviousness.

**EARS** Totally deaf to commands - but try unwrapping foil-covered food! Ears may also be covered in mud, butter, and anything disgusting that can be rolled in.

**BITE** Strong enough to turn chair legs into filigree, carpets into Brussels Lace, and render brooms, brushes etc., to matchwood.

**NECK** Long and muscular - giving hound the capability of nicking anything from a great height.

**FOREQUARTERS** Strong and muscular - all the better for digging craters, up-rooting roses and young trees, also enables hound to dig up recently buried Hamster/Chicken/ Cat to be put aside for a later snack.

**BODY** Back - long enough to completely obscure the television. Chest - deep enough to lie in afore-mentioned crater.

**HINDQUARTERS** Very powerful, enabling hound to "pop" over the recently constructed fence (a second mortgage may be required here to build a fence of Colditz proportions). Young hounds like to try out their strength by flattening Grandma as she walks through the door.

**FEET** Moderately large and frequently all four in the air or up the newly painted wall. Must be large enough to carry vast quantities of mud to be distributed through the house. Nails - long and strong enough to necessitate plastic surgery on arms and legs when demanding attention.

**MOVEMENT** Virtually non-existent when answering a command. Like grease lightening when next-doors cat appears in the garden, or food is on the table.

**TAIL** Very long and slightly curved - must be carried over the back in the ring. At home, must wag violently to knock off ornaments and whack kids around the face.

**COAT** Rough and full of mud, twigs, sticky burs and other noxious substances, especially immediately before departure to a show at 5 a.m.

**COLOUR** Usually dirty brown (especially on white bits), it is not acceptable for the natural colour to be visible, but paint of any colour is acceptable.

**WEIGHT AND SIZE** Normally very thin or very fat, only ever correct when the show season ends. Far too big to fit in the family car, thus requiring a third mortgage to purchase a Transit or similar.



## Anatomy Lesson

The Natural History Museum Fulfills a Scholar's Dying Wish: His Skeleton Is on Exhibit as a Teaching Specimen

By [Michael E. Ruane](#), Washington Post Staff Writer as printed on Saturday, April 11, 2009; Page C01

Diane Horton had last seen her late husband two days after his death in 2002, so when they were reunited at the Smithsonian's Museum of Natural History a few weeks ago she asked for a few private minutes with him.

He was standing under spotlights in a huge display case -- all 6 feet 3 inches of him except for a few bones missing here and there. His head was thrown back and his mouth was open, as if in a big laugh, and his arms were around one of his favorite dogs.

Here was professor Gordon S. "Grover" Krantz, and all, or almost all, of the phalanges, tarsals, metatarsals and the other 200 or so bones that made up his skeleton. Reassembled with wire, glue and metal.

It was an emotional moment, Horton, 66, said.

"Wow," she thought. "You had really [an] impossible last wish. And it's been granted."

Indeed, it has.

The skeletons of Krantz and his beloved Irish wolfhound, Clyde, make up the striking display that comes at the end of the museum's current forensic anthropology exhibit, "Written in Bone."

The two are depicted mimicking an old photograph, with the skeleton of Clyde up on his hind legs and Krantz cradling the dog's forelegs in his arms.

They make a startling sight -- cleansed of flesh and fur, revealed down to the bones in the dog's tail and the dental implants in Krantz's mouth.

Which is exactly what Krantz wanted.

"He looked happy," Horton said. "And Clyde looked happy."

It hadn't been so promising when Krantz announced eight years ago that he wanted to donate his bones to the Smithsonian, with the caveat that he, and maybe the bones of his dogs, be on display.

Photo of Krantz and Clyde



Photo of Krantz and Clyde, today



This information is from Rocky Gorge Animal hospital & is copyright by them.

### What is Canine Flu?

Canine Influenza Virus (H3N8) has recently been confirmed as close to our area as the Fairfax County Animal Shelter in Virginia and there is also one case in Frederick, Maryland that is thought to be Canine Influenza but has not yet been confirmed. The Fairfax Shelter closed its kennels for two weeks due to two confirmed cases. Other animals were showing signs of the illness but were not confirmed.

Where did it originate?: It first presented itself in Florida in greyhounds in 2004 and has now been found in 30 states and the District of Columbia.

Who is at risk?: One hundred percent of dogs are susceptible and eighty percent of infected dogs will show signs of infection. In about twenty percent of these cases, more severe signs will occur and up to eight percent of clinically ill dogs may die from complications like high fever and pneumonia.

What are the signs?: The signs of Canine Influenza are similar to kennel cough and can therefore be easily dismissed by a pet's owner. These include coughing, sneezing, fever, nasal discharge and ocular (eye) discharge. Even dogs that do not show symptoms can still spread the virus. Unfortunately, by the time dogs would show signs of infection, they have unknowingly already been spreading the disease for 7-10 days.

What do I do if My Dog seems sick?: Please be vigilant and if you notice that your dog is coughing, sneezing, running a fever, has a nasal discharge and ocular (eye) discharge, then immediately isolate your dog from other dogs.

### The Canine Flu Vaccine

The best way to protect your dogs from Canine Influenza is to maintain healthy pets, in order to strengthen their immune systems, and to immunize them with the Canine Influenza Vaccine.

The vaccine has been proven safe and well tolerated in over 700 dogs. The vaccine is initially a series of two injections given 2-3 weeks apart and then annually.

One of the most disturbing things about Canine Flu is that animals that are in the contagious stage and shedding the virus, show no symptoms. Infected dogs may not show signs until after they are finished shedding the virus to other dogs. Infectious dogs may look perfectly normal, and act perfectly normal, while spreading the disease to other dogs. For that reason, vaccination is really the only practical way of preventing severe disease