

JUNE 2012



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### CLUB OFFICERS

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- Corresponding Secretary:  
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Marilyn Stowell  
Melissa Nelson  
Debi Rossi
- [Newsletter](#)  
Cheryl Johnstone  
Helen Fraguela

# Wheaten Words

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Can it already be June? As I look back over the past five months, I am amazed at what our Club has accomplished. The Board has been working very hard but it takes every member to make our Club a success. Our membership continues to grow and it is wonderful to see so many including our newest members attending Club events.

Our first herding instinct testing was held in March and was attended by 16 Wheatens and h \ Y ] f \ c k b Y f g " \ 8 i Y \ h c \ d c d i \ U f \ X Y a U b X \ k Y \ k ] \ \ \ V Y \ g W \ m Y U f " \ \ \ = Z \ m c i \ \ U j Y b \ h \ Y I d Y f ] Y b W Y X \ h \ \ g \ U W h ] j ] h m \ [ ] ] b \ A c \ \ m \ g \ - g f l h < Y U d \ g \ U l g b \ X \ d k U c k f \ \_ ] b [ \ \ h c k U f X g \ h \ Y ] f \ Z ] f g h \ \ \ you, stay tuned for other activities we are working on for you and your Wheatens to try out.

In April, our Wheaten Education Day was well attended by both long time and new members. The day started with a grooming seminar, followed by Canine Good Citizen testing and a K \ Y U h Y b \ \ Y U \ h \ \ g Y a ] b U f " \ \ = Z \ m c i \ \ X ] X b \ h \ U h h Y b X \ z \ [ c \ h K \ Y U h Y b \ < Y U \ h \ m \ \ z \ h c \ j ] Y k \ U \ j Y f m \ d f c Z Y g g ] c b U \ \ U b X \ Club members Nancy Griffin and Helen Fraguela. It is very well done. Congratulations to all the Wheatens that passed their Canine Good Citizen testing!

5 g \ m c i \ \ \_ b c k \ z \ k Y \ U f Y \ b c k \ U b \ 5 ? 7 \ g U b W h ] c b Y X \ 7 \ i V " \ K Y Match. We are waiting for AKC approval but please SAVE THE DATE! October 20th. I strongly encourage anyone who has an intact (non spayed/neutered) champion Wheaten to enter this Match that we hope to hold at our East Coast picnic. There are no other requirements other than your dog must meet the age requirements that will be outlined for each class. We really need your support to ensure the success of our first Match. Details will follow once we have our AKC approval for the date and location.

We have also applied to our National Club (SCWTCA) to hold a Specialty show (conformation) in January 2014 in conjunction with the Brooksville show the largest dog show held in FL. If we are granted permission, I am hopeful that EVERYONE will be a part of making this event a BIG success. This will be a big step for our Club and many hands will be needed. We will know if our application is accepted before mid July.

WE ASKED - YOU RESPONDED! Thank you to everyone who participated in our survey. Results are included in this newsletter. We listened to your comments and have already implemented some of your suggestions. If you have additional comments please do not hesitate to contact any member of the Board. We work for you our members and welcome all input.

Looking forward, it will soon be time to put together our nominating committee for our 2013 Board. If you are interested in serving on the Board or a committee please email Linda Hallas (lindah3@verizon.net). She will pass your name on to the nominating committee.

We all know the story of 4 people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody. There was an important job to be done and Everybody was asked to do it. Anybody could have done it V i h \ B c V c X m \ X ] X \ ] h " \ G c a Y V c X m \ [ c h \ U b [ f m \ V Y W U i g Y \ ] h \ k 5 b m V c X m \ k c i \ \ X \ X c \ ] h \ z \ V i h \ B c V c X m \ f Y U \ ] n Y X \ h \ U h \ 9 j Y f ended up that Nobody told Anybody so Everybody blamed Somebody. We meet 4 times per year! not a huge time commitment, but a very important one for the success of our Club. New members bring new ideas, growth and benefits. Your Club needs you! length of membership is not a prerequisite, just a commitment to our wonderful breed.



Kathi Elliot

Official Newsletter of The Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier Club of Greater Tampa Bay

[www.flwheatenclub.org](http://www.flwheatenclub.org)



## FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

### Spotlight on Your Wheaten

Meet The Breed! The Owners Will Also  
 be used at other Club events for years to come. Last year we borrowed banners, however, since Eukanuba will be here in Florida for the next 4 years the Board thought we should offer Club members the opportunity to feature their wheatens on the banners. In order to defer the cost of production we have established a price list by photo size. It is a small price to pay to have your wheaten featured on the Club banner. The photos must be of wheatens only, no people or other breeds. Agility equipment, sheep and/or ducks are acceptable if they show a wheaten in a performance event. The photo must have been taken by you or you must have written permission to use the photo. Photographs taken with cameras of 6 megapixels or higher should be fine provided you do not crop the photo. The best way to do this is to fill your frame with your subject. E-mail your full sized uncropped photo to Linda Hallas at [lindah3@verizon.net](mailto:lindah3@verizon.net) with your name and the size on the banner accepted. Once accepted and the size determined, you will be sent payment instructions. If your photo ] g b Ñ h \ ] [ \ e i U \ ] h m Y b c i [ \ Z c f \ h \ Y \ U f [ Y f \ g d c h g \ c b \ h \ Y \ space. We will sell space on a first come first serve basis, provided the photo has the proper resolution. = Z \ m c i \ k U b h \ m c i f \ X c [ \ c b \ h \ Y \ V U b b Y f \ V i h \ X c b Ñ h \ \ U j Y \ U try to set something up to take one for you free of charge.

We want wheatens of all ages, multiple wheatens, a puppy, a senior, or a special dog who has crossed over the rainbow bridge. We hope you will consider being part of this program. The pricing schedule is listed below. Please send your digital photo no later than August 15th.

Photo Size	Price
5 x 7	\$ 25
10 x 16	\$ 50
18 x 18	\$ 75
24 x 16	\$100

## B9K A9A69FGÅ WELCOME TO THE SCWTCGTB!

Sandra & Ed	Balkin	Hudson
Jean & Frank	Cappello	Palm Harbor
Stan & Tina	Ciecierski	Treasure Island
Dottie	Haney	Weeki Wachee
Susan & John	Henry	The Villages
Ashella	Kafka	St. Petersburg
Fawn	Knight	Leesburg
Edie & Paul	Larson	Indian Rocks Beach
Scott & Rosa	Mathews	Ft. Myers
Laura	McDonough	St Petersburg
Jennifer	McNally	Palm Bay
Mary	Page	Archer
Sheena	Simmons	Clearwater
Suzanne	Sousa	St Pete Beach



## GENETIC TESTING FOR PLN - ASSOCIATED VARIANT GENES

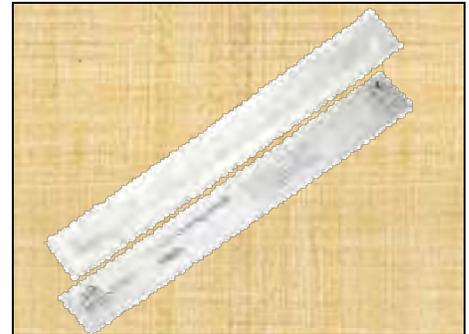


After years of research supported by hundreds of Wheatens and their owners and breeders, Drs. Littman & Henthorn at Penn Vet have identified mutations associated with PLN in 2 genes. There is now a non invasive test using a cheek swab which an owner can perform and send by regular mail to the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine. There is no blood testing or complicated mailing. Individual owners can submit samples from their dogs to learn the genetic status and the associated risk for developing PLN or passing it on to their offspring. Breeders and owners have the option to submit these tests anonymously or, for a fee, receive the results for their own dogs. The cost of the kits is being funded jointly by the SCWTCA Endowment and the SCWT Genetic Research Funds and the local clubs are helping by distributing the test kits at their events. If you want the results for your individual dog it is \$125. A reduced fee is available for breeders wishing to test a litter. These kits will be available at our East Coast picnic in October. If you will not be attending the East Coast picnic but would like a kit please contact Kathi Elliot. If you would like a kit sooner, *send a self-addressed, stamped, business envelope FOR EACH DOG to:*

Michael Raducha/ PLN Test  
 Ryan Veterinary Hospital, Rm. 4022  
 University of Pennsylvania School of  
 Veterinary Medicine  
 3900 Delancey St.  
 Philadelphia, PA 191046010

For complete instructions:  
<http://www.scwtca.org/health/dnatest.htm>

CHEEK SWABS



PEEL OPEN SWABS



SWAB INSIDE CHEEK



RETURN SWAB TO  
 PACKET...MAIL IN WITH  
 PAPERWORK

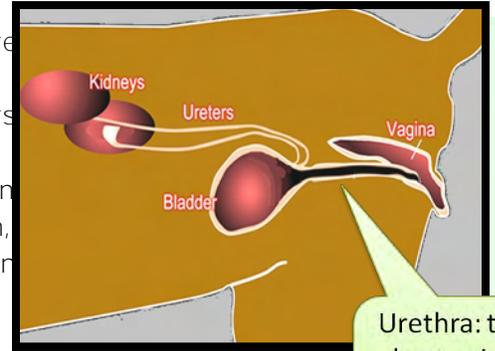


## PELVIC BLADDER IN THE SCWT

By: Helen Fraguela

### PROBLEM:

2 years ago attention was brought to a problem in young Wheaten Pelvic Bladder appears to be an anatomic abnormality that results in a shortened and poorly functional urethra. This is NOT the same as an ectopic ureter, which was a point of confusion in the original report. We believe there is a genetic component to this problem, but have been unable to determine this due to lack of a significant sample base.



### SYMPTOMS:

The primary symptoms of this condition are dribbling or leakage of urine, evident in early puppyhood. It is diagnosed via Radiographic examination of the urethra and urinary bladder after introduction of contrast medium which may reveal a short, widened, or irregularly shaped urethra.

Several of the cases pelvic bladder has self-resolved as the dog grows and matures...we believe the ureter stretches to normal length.

### BACKGROUND:

Mark W. Neff, PhD, Director, Center for Canine Health & Performance

Translational Genomics Research Institute (TGen) & The Van Andel Research Institute (VARI)  
Dr. Neff has worked extensively with Wheaten issues, and happened to be in the midst of a DNA study on the inheritance of Irish coats in the SCWT. He very generously offered to help us out with a preliminary look at Pelvic Bladders. We agreed to assist him obtain DNA samples from both Irish and American coated dogs, and he agreed to add our samples from Pelvic Bladder dogs to his DNA studies. We hoped the study would answer 2 questions:

- \* Is this condition inherited?
- \* If so, is it through a simple recessive gene?

"This was NOT a new occurrence"

Several breeders having experienced this problem volunteered to help. It turned out this was not a new occurrence, there were dogs from years earlier with the same diagnosis. We

These 6 DNA samples were sent to Dr. Neff. Unfortunately, our sample size was still too small, and we have been unable to find additional dogs diagnosed with Pelvic Bladder.

Shortly after this Dr. Neff received a large grant to investigate cancer in dogs (a hugely important effort), our pelvic bladder study was put aside until we can find a total of 12 affected dogs.

### CURRENT SITUATION:

SCWT breeders are still very interested in following through with this study. But, without additional dogs we will get no information to answer our questions. This is needed to help our beloved breed, and understand the frequency and cause.

where the dog came from and we do not need pedigrees...just a confirmed diagnosis of pelvic bladder.

**If you are able to help identify additional dogs for this study, please contact me at [fraguela@aol.com](mailto:fraguela@aol.com) and I will obtain cheek swabs for you.**

# RESCUE REPORT



Rescue needs help with three Wheatens. In the last Newsletter, I wrote about 7 year old



Tarzan in Winter Springs. He had severe allergies and was in terrible shape when Debi Rossi started working with him

months ago. He is now a changed dog. He has a spring in his step, he runs and plays with toys and is a happy young boy again. Sadly, it has come to the point where his people can't even afford to feed him, so he will be coming into Rescue and we need a home for this delightful lad who can manage his allergies.



Six - year - old Fritz in Palm Harbor has Addison's which is a very treatable condition. Fritz loves other dogs and people, knows commands and is just a great dog. We spoke to his vet and he told us he expects Fritz to lead a long, healthy life. His people just can't afford his care any longer. So we need a home (and a new name!) for Fritz. There is Ollie in Palm Beach Gardens. His "mom" died unexpectedly. She was the caregiver for Ollie and the two standard poodles he lives with. Even at 10, her 91 year old husband just can't handle the Wheaten exuberance and Ollie loves to run in the rain. Nancy Nauman went to meet Ollie and says he is nice boy who is missing his mom and needs some TLC.



We have had a number of successful adoptions in the past three months.

Maize was in a foster to adopt home in The Villages, but it did not work out. Sue Henry and her husband had facilitated the foster to adopt and agreed to foster her themselves when she was returned to rescue. Sure enough, another foster failure! She is just a darling little Wheaten who will live a great life from here on out. She is currently with the Henry's in their summer home in NH. They adore her.

Six - year - old Bella's owner in Pensacola died and she had been passed from home to home. We found her on Craigslist. Doug Marks went to meet her, proclaimed her a great dog, and drove to meet Gail Kania from Pine Apple, AL, who fostered her. She ended up being adopted by a friend of Nancy's in West Palm Beach, so we had to bring her down the other way. We did a WURL (Wheaten Underground Railroad Leg) from Pine Apple to West Palm Beach. Huge thanks to Gail, Doug, Jan Dobson in Tally, and Nancy and Julie for driving long hours one Saturday to make this happen. Julie King in WPB is now doting on her new girl.

Dan and Deb Klee adopted 6 - year - old Sandy from a rescue group in Ft. Lauderdale and took her home to be a sister for their Wheaten Rusty. They adopted Rusty from us about a year ago. Rusty had been abused and was very leery of men and they thought Sandy might be just the ticket to bring him out of his shell. This was not to be. Rusty emphatically put his paw down and made it clear he wanted to be the ONLY Dog.

We found a very nice home for Sandy (now Sweet Pea). Thanks to the Klee's for trying so hard and to Peggy Gainey for handling the adoption.

Nine - month - old Harley (now Cooper) came to us from Jax. His people had another young Wheaten and they felt they could not handle two. Thanks to Tony and Debi Rossi in Apopka for fostering him. This very sweet boy went to a home in Oviedo with another young dog to play with.

Seven-year-old Duke of Wellington in West Palm Beach was given up because he nipped a toddler who was not being supervised. Enough said. Nancy went to evaluate him and said he is a great dog. She drove him all the way up to the Tampa area where he was adopted by our own Club Members Dick and Georganne Leshko! They say he is a wonderful boy. Thanks for making that long trek Nancy.

Ten-year-old Gracie's owner died. He had been in ill health before his death and poor Gracie had been very neglected. Sue Sousa in St. Pete Beach took Gracie in and had her vetted and fixed up. She had severe dental disease and infected ears. Can you imagine



that Gracie had to have 27 teeth pulled! Sue took such great care of the little girlie and got her healed and into her wonderful new adoptive home. Her new people flew their private plane

from the East Coast to get her. A first! Little Gracie is now living a life of luxury, with doggie birthday parties complete with games and treats!

Two-year-old Lulu was given up because her person went through a divorce and worked too many hours to take care of her properly. This Wheaten was well loved and well taken care of. The Rossi's fostered her and she went to a wonderful couple with no kids-Lulu is their furry kid.

Lois Hiers in Lithia picked up Cindy Lou from Hillsborough County Animal Services. She was an owner turn in. Thanks to Lois and Bruce for fostering her. We had a lady over by Lois who had adopted a Wheaten from us a few months ago who sadly, died unexpectedly. She adopted Cindy Lou and is happy to have another Wheaten in her life. Last, but not least, we have two-year-old Winslow who has had a long and winding road through our Rescue group.

The Nelson's in Miami fostered Winslow back in September of 2010 when he was not yet a



year old. He was given up because the family had no time for him. He was a great little dog who went to a young couple in South Florida who had a young female dog. Fast forward the couple now has a baby and no time to devote to

Winslow. Déjà vu. Bruce Berger took him in to foster, and we found a great home for him. We were extra careful as this had to be his last home. Thanks to Susie and Robert Blackledge for doing the home check. Winslow is doing great in his forever home! I just got a call from a family in Naples wanting to turn over an 11-week-old puppy to Rescue. We shall see where that goes! If any of the folks out there would like to make a tax-deductible donation to Rescue, we would be very grateful. Just to give you one example, Gracie's vet bills were over \$1,000 and her adoption fee was \$100. As you can see, the economy the last couple years has forced people to give up their Wheatens because they can't afford their care. So we are getting more and more dogs that need to be vetted.

Once again we would like to thank everyone who donates their time, funds and efforts to get these Wheatens into their forever homes. They thank you too!

Melissa Nelson  
Co-Coordinator, SCWTCGTB - Rescue

I rescued my  
Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier

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# SCREEN, SCREEN, SCREEN, YOUR PUPPY PEOPLE...A true story By: Kathi Elliot



A couple called a breeder inquiring about a puppy. The breeder spoke to these people periodically for a couple months. They were very nice and they had Wheatens in the past. The breeder googled their names and couldn't find anything about them online no connections to puppy mills, backyard breeders- nothing at all to raise a red flag. The breeder had a litter a short time later and the people came to her home with their preteen son and all were very nice. They played with all the puppies, and the dam and were there for quite a while. After completing the paperwork they were asked for their Driver's License. The wife looks in her purse and says "Oh no, I forgot mine, honey do mc i \ U j Y m c i f g 3 I H \ Y \ i g V U b X \ U X Z c f [ c hours away and they were so nice and since they had spoken so often the breeder felt comfortable with them. It was agreed that they

would fax their DL's when they returned home. They paid cash for the puppy and after all the paperwork was complete the husband scooped up the puppy and was out the door to put him in a crate in the car. The breeder g U ] X ž ĩ k U ] h ž ĩ = k U b h ĩ h c ĩ g U m ĩ [ c c X ĩ V m Y ĩ h c ĩ \ ] a ĩ The wife was hurriedly gathering up their copies of the paperwork on the kitchen table while this is taking place with the husband. They get in the car and drive off leaving the breeder very disconcerted. Their departure all happen so fast that there was nothing for her to do since she was home with only her teenage daughter as her husband was out town. Their whole demeanor had changed in the last couple minutes and it raised a huge

"you should have checked us out better".

red flag. The breeder looked at their paperwork and noticed that the wife misspelled her first name who does that? Another red flag. Within minutes of them leaving the breeder starts calling their cell phone over and over and then sends them a multitude of texts to reply. Finally a reply by text- "you should have checked us out better". She had checked them out- and found nothing about them on public records. It turns out the wife used her middle name and maiden name and the husband used his middle name and the wife's maiden name. The breeder called the local police nothing could be done they paid for the dog. The police suggested that she could file a civil suit but it would have to be done in the county where the people resided. The breeder spent the night searching the internet and used the town they wrote down on the paperwork (which it turned out was not close to the big city where they said they were from), in other words: too far away to be called a suburb. The breeder then googled ĩ K \ Y U h Y b g ĩ ĩ ] b ĩ h \ Y ĩ h c k b ĩ h \ Y m ĩ k f c h Y ĩ

came up- with pictures of children included with some of the wheatens. One of the children was the boy that came to her home. The puppy had just gone to a PUPPY MILL! Even though she only gave limited registration they still had one of her puppies and it was a male.

This breeder made multiple trips every week 3 hours each way to meet with Animal Control in their area, and filed a civil case. She met with police and lawyers and did everything possible to get this puppy back. The week prior to the civil hearing they agreed to give the puppy back - in exchange for the payment they made for the dog \$65 they agreed to pay for a vet check. Their lawyer met her at a vet office of her choosing in their area and the examination and exchange took place. The decision was already made that no matter the condition she would take the puppy back. There was no way this dog would be bred by a puppy mill owner.



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The puppy was very sick. It was full of worms, had Giardia, and was very afraid of people. She took the



dog to a vet close to her home and he was quarantined there for about 10 days. Had the case gone to court, and even had she won they could have appealed and it would have dragged out even longer. The vet believed that the puppy would not have survived 2 weeks longer. These people own a second home away from their residence and it is only for dogs. Carpets have been removed and this is their puppy mill location. Someone comes to feed the dogs twice

a day; other that they are on their own. The breeder went on Google Earth once she had their correct names- they lived in a nice gated community she could see the home they lived in and then she found the puppy mill location. The puppy mill was in a different county on a country road surrounded by wooded lots; the driveway had a chained gate across it.

This breeder vowed she was going to get that puppy back at any cost and fought hard to do so. Luckily it wasn't old enough to collect or breed. She literally spent every day of every week working to get him back and the cost was well over \$1000 to do so (with ending up in court) and she gave back the money they paid for him. The puppy is back with her now and is doing very well. Everyday she took him out to Petco and other pet places to socialize him and he is no longer afraid of people. He now has started Obedience classes. He was a potential show dog but will not be shown now. She is keeping him for another couple months minimum and then will think about placing him in a pet home. Those that are dishonest do not wear signs on their foreheads. These people were very good at their deception and have probably done this before. Some will lie and be deceptive to get their hands on a CH dog or bitch for their line. You cannot check out someone that does not give you their real name and we all have made concessions for people because they were so nice. i.e. not making them drive 6 hours because they forgot their licenses. I have shared this story with a few people that are now asking for a driver's license when selling puppies. Sadly, people aren't always what they seem. The point of this story is BREEDER beware not BUYER beware. These people are getting more devious and creative.

Sadly, people aren't always what they seem. The point of this story is BREEDER beware

I too have had calls about stud service. I do not even consider breeding unless I have seen the bitch and know (or someone else knows) the owner or they are a member of a Club and can be thoroughly vetted. I personally don't think that there is any such thing as overreacting in this instance.

SOME TIPS FOR SCREENING:

- < Google and check white pages for names, address, and phone numbers
- < Through county appraisers check that the name matches address
- < Google earth their homes
- < Check locations vs known puppy mills/backyard breeder locations
- < Ask for references...call them!
- < Ask for a certified bank check
- < 7 \ Y W \_ ' X f ] j Y f Ñ g ' ` ] WY b g Y

If anything looks suspicious...send them home without a puppy!



## IN THE KITCHEN WITH DARCY

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- 2 cups canned salmon
- 8 oz fat free cream cheese
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic
- ½ teaspoon chicken broth (fat & Sodium free)
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley

Darcy & Breezy say: Yum Yum!

Drain and flake salmon, remove any bones.

Combine salmon, cream cheese, garlic & broth

Chill for at least 2 hours. Shape into a log and roll in the parsley.

Place log in freezer to firm at least 1 hour.

Slice into 1 inch pieces and store in a sealed container in the freezer.

Frozen salmon yummys!

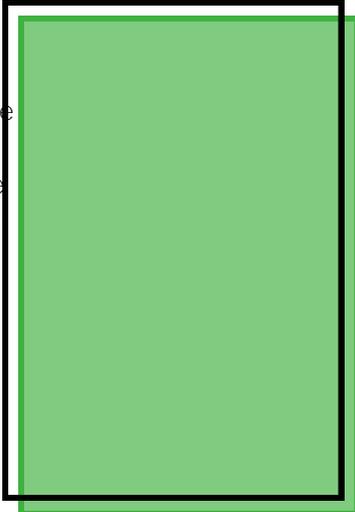


## A STAR IS BORN

Mister Rogers was the first animal model at the art studio of Women In The Visual Arts at Boca Raton, Florida, in March, 2012. The participating artists captured his likeness in graphite, colored pencil, acrylic paint, and pastel. He particularly liked the pastel drawing and was photographed here admiring it when it was placed on the easel for the studio critique.

Deborah Wolford

## LITTER ANNOUNCEMENT



## Happy Birthday to Molly Nelson

Happy Birthday to Molly Nelson who just turned 13 years old!