

The Green Sheet

Irish Setter Club of New England

Message from the President

Carol Levesque



Volume 1 Issue 3

November 2013

Hello everyone ,

As we head into winter I'd like to take a look at our club for the last few months.

Fall is always full of activities for our club. In September we had a supported entry at the AKC match hosted by the Souhegan Kennel Club in Merrimack, NH. Again, this match was at the lovely Anheuser-Busch Brewery grounds and the weather gods were smiling. It is always so much fun to go to this match and see the lovely Irish Setter (and other breed) puppies strutting their stuff in the rings. We have a very nice crop of puppies growing up. It will be exciting to watch them at shows in the next few years. Thanks to everyone for their help with this match and especially to Brenda Cohen for organizing a lovely luncheon again.

In October we had our 6th Annual Harvest Specialty along with the Irish Setter Club of Connecticut and the Eastern Irish Setter Club. It was a great success even though we had rain all day Sunday. It was lovely on Saturday when we had obedience and rally. We had a lot of people helping and I want to thank all of you who helped but again we need to thank Barb Joyal for heading up all of the details of this show along with Kyle Shaffer, Claire Marx and Lois Goepfert doing a lot of the heavy lifting. This cluster of shows is always so much fun. The location is a great one offering us all the privacy we need, nice level grounds, an indoor kitchen, great food, education and indoor bathrooms. But most of all we get to see a quality group of Irish Setters being shown at their best and we have the companionship of good friends. If you've never attended these shows, you're really missing a great experience. Check them out next year. Even better, offer to give us a hand next year.

In November we had a board and general membership meeting with a speaker on the new dog laws and photos with Santa. That takes us into December where we have our Christmas Meeting on December 1st and supported entry in Springfield for Eastern Dog Club on December 7 & 8.

For 2014 we have big plans and a lot of work ahead of us. We're planning a January meeting and then our famous St. Patrick's meeting. Anyone interesting in hosting our St. Pat's meeting? As we head into spring we'll be working fast and furious on our hunt test weekend we host along with the Tartan Gordon Setter Club for four hunt tests in two days at the Markover Hunting wonderful Preserve in Danielson, CT. This is really a great site with a nice warm lodge with a kitchen and bathrooms. We need lots of help to put this hunt test on. We need someone to handle the kitchen and helpers in the kitchen. We feed lots of people breakfast and lunch for two days and we're known for some really good food.

If you can help with anything, please let me or Luanne Witt (hunt test secretary) know. We also need bird planters, line judges and general helpers in the field. NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY. I absolutely mean that. Even if you've never attended a hunt test and aren't even sure you want to, give it a try. If you hate it, you don't ever go again.

Inside this issue:

Rescue News	2
New Arrivals	2
Comfort Dogs at Work	3
Therapy Dog Game	4
Braggs	6
In Memoriam	7

President's Message Cont'd

The first hunt test I ever attended was after a request by ISCNE for volunteers, I ended up being a bird planter and my dog and I won our first pass toward his JH. Obviously, my wonderful dog Bailey, was pretty good at knowing what to do because I sure didn't. What did happen is that I got hooked on being out in the field with these great dogs. Nothing is more exciting than watching a beautiful Irish Setter casting about for a scent and then locking on point. It really is what they're bred to do. I can't wait until April to do this again. Please join us.

I've rambled enough. Hope to see you soon.

Carol

Rescue News

By: Claire Marx

Rescue is pretty quiet right now (guess that is a good thing!) We do have a few people waiting to adopt a dog.

I would like to thank Ed and Nancy Condon for their generous donation in memory of their "Jamie". In their words, "Jamie didn't have a CH after his name, but he was our champion and best friend".

When you donate to Rescue, ALL the money goes directly to the dogs. When we get a dog into rescue, we have them neutered if they aren't already, and all shots and heartworm are updated

New Arrivals

We have another redhead in the family. Not an Irish, but a 5 year old chestnut OTTB gelding that we rescued from the kill buyer. We are thinking of naming him Finnegan. He's a sweetheart and settling into the barn nicely. Also, we rescued a OTTB roan filly who is being boarded until she settles down. Then she's going to the Bay State Equine Rescue to hopefully be re-homed. It's horrible what is happening to some of these wonderful animals once they are no longer racing.



Comfort and Therapy Dogs at Work

By Jan Matthews

As we approach December, I am reminded that we will soon be remembering the first anniversary of the shootings at the Sandy Hook School in Newtown, CT. I was very fortunate to have been able to help in a small way through the use of comfort dogs for the people and visitors to Sandy Hook.

But before talking about our Sandy Hook experience, I must first go back 12 years to how I got involved in Therapy and Comfort Dog work. Malley, a wonderful rescue that I had adopted through Barbara Joyal, Cathy Ochs and Deanna Cucchiario would often go with me to visit my mom who had Alzheimer's at her nursing home. Besides visiting my mom, he would often greet and spend time with many of the other patients in the unit.

Then, on Feb 20, 2003 about two blocks from my home, the Station Nightclub fire occurred. One hundred people were killed and several hundred more injured. A Family Center was set up at the Crown Plaza in Warwick where family and friends went to find out about their loved ones. As a first responder to the fire and then later assisting at the Family Center, I noticed that some people were coming in with dogs that I learned were therapy dogs. I thought Malley could also help, even though he did not have any formal training. He was so well received especially by one man who had not spoken for over a day while waiting for news about his niece. Malley went over to him and snuggled up in front of him while the man petted him for nearly an hour. During that time the man began to tell me about his niece who was an EMT. The family was so grateful for Malley's time. We found out later that evening that unfortunately their niece was one of the hundred that did not survive, but Malley had brought them comfort for a time when they needed it.

It was then that I decided to get Malley trained and began a three course program at CCRI in therapy dog work. Malley passed his CGC test, we did a summer long internship working with special needs children and some additional training and public relations work before he became a certified therapy dog. He continued to work during the summer months with the special needs children and visited nursing homes and helped at the anniversary remembrances of the Station Fire for a number of years until his health declined.

So last year, when the shootings occurred on December 14th in Sandy Hook I was shocked like many. I had thought how could I help, donations were being accepted for the families but I wanted to do something more.

The following Friday, while attending the funeral of Cathie Ochs-Weiss, it occurred to me that I could do something to honor my friend who had been the one who got me my beloved Malley. I would go up to Newtown with one or more of my Irish. There had been much mentioned on the news of comfort dogs being brought in to help. So that Sunday, I bundled up and off I went with Tubbs (7 yrs old) and Brady who had recently turned 1 year old. I had chosen those two based on their personality and temperment. We arrived at the town square and began to walk among the hundreds of people who had come to pay their respects to the "Angels of Sandy Hook". The real live "Clifford the Big Red Dogs" were so welcomed by both young and old.

Thankfully, both of my boys were on their very best behavior for the many hours that we visited the memorials that had been set up. We were able to go up a couple more times while the weather permitted before the memorials were taken down because of the snow accumulation. My other boy Wes also went with me. Wes has now earned his CGC title and I hope to get him certified as a therapy dog in the near future. It was so humbling to have brought a bit of joy and comfort during such a difficult and sad time in the community. So many people thanked me and my dogs for taking time to drive there and assist.

I couldn't help but think that Cathie and Malley were sitting up by the "Rainbow Bridge" smiling down on us.



Therapy Dog Game

by Gina Hayes

We are ending such a fun month of trick or treaters! And we are going into a month where we have the opportunity to give thanks for all we have been given!

October's Therapy Dog Theme was Halloween Games. Over the years I have worked on a monthly calendar of activities for children and dogs (And I am still adding to them). We also learn to adapt these games to adult visits as well. I thought I would share one of these games with you:

Who's Your Mummy? - This remains an all-time favorite game with crowds. With carefully trained children's therapy dogs - we pick volunteers out of the crowd to work with a dog and handler team. For example, this month at the Cape Cod Museum of Natural History we had 9 dog teams. I picked 9 children out of the audience to come and stand beside the dog and handler team. Handlers kneel down by their dog's side. The dogs are in a Stand Stay, when the game begins. A big advantage to our show dogs who are trained so well in the stand position! Children are handed a roll of two ply toilet paper. As the game begins, the children have 2 minutes to attempt to "mummify" their dog! The dog handlers carefully keep their dog in a Stand Stay while the children are busily wrapping their dog.

It is absolutely priceless to see the expression on a young dogs's face as he/she is being wrapped with toilet paper! And the same goes for the first time you hand a young child a roll of toilet paper and explain that you want them to wrap the dog. Their faces are priceless! It's amazing how well they all do and how much fun they have. How tolerant our well trained dogs are!

I especially love playing this game at a private school for children with handicaps. The children may have some physical difficulties and yet they have so much fun, laughing the whole time, as they "wrap" their dog. If the child is having a difficult time with hand coordination and the wrapping process - the dog handlers instinctively know how to assist in a fun manner- making sure no child feels insecure with their handicap.

Everyone is a winner! And everyone in the audience laughs as much as the participants!

The Cape Cod Therapy Dogs have also shown this game at the New England Pet Expo. It can be played anywhere. All you need is a nicely trained dog, handler, volunteer and a roll of toilet paper. It doesn't get much easier than that!

This is a feel good, safe, fun game to play, and it can be adjusted to other ages. We have played this game in a nursing home with small dogs who were placed on a steady safe table with their owners holding them in a Stand Stay making it easier for the elderly residents who did not have to bend over as the dogs were at the correct height for them.

We have modified this game to work other monthly themes, through changing the wrap item. As with any activity: safety, fun, the ability to adapt the game to the audience, and a lot of humor - will be key to your success!

Leaving October behind and moving into Thanksgiving. This is a beautiful time to remember our wonderful Reds and the memories we have had with them over the years. Along with that, comes so many memories of wonderful Irish Setter friends we have also made. There is nothing like an Irish Setter to initiate conversation with strangers. I know personally, I have had many clients who have become friends, tell me over the years - they started with me because of my ability to train my Reds with a sense of humor!



I had a very long operation in October, so I am very thankful for all of my family and friends. I give thanks every day for my wonderful life and all the joy my girls bring me on a daily basis.

Enjoy this incredibly gorgeous Fall and I will see you in the next Green Sheet edition! A big thank you to all the incredible volunteers in our club, who donate so much of their lives to support our breed and their owners! And a big thank you to our gorgeous Reds who have brought us so much joy into our lives!



Mythodical Windswept Georgia Rule

Getting “Mummified”

Out and About

Nancy Connor took me on my first dog show “road trip”. We (and our 3 dogs) spent four days on the road and traveled over 1,000 miles. It was an adventure in every sense of the word. Thursday’s highlight was driving around the D.C.Beltway and seeing the Washington Monument bathed in lights. After crossing the CT, Hudson, Potomac and Delaware Rivers, we finally arrived in Glen Allen, VA. Friday was a beautiful crisp Fall day, perfect for a dog show. The ISC of Greater Richmond members were gracious hosts and provided a lovely venue. Shadagee Crime Spree, aka Brady, went Best of Winners for a 4 pt. major. Nancy and I were thrilled and “floated” to our next stop, Leesburg, VA, Leesburg is a lovely town. Nancy found an incredible restaurant where we feasted on filet mignon, saving some for Brady of course. Saturday dawned with a heavy frost covering the cars and grass. That 5:30, “gotta go, Mom” walk was a CHILLY one. Between the air temperature, the wind and the fact that we came up empty in the ring, our “bubble” was burst. Brady did get to meet another brother Bruiser, but we had to say goodbye to sister Shelby, who stayed with her dad, Adam. Did some shopping and we were off to PA. After some minor “issues”, we finally arrived at the Red Roof Inn near Reinholds, PA, too stiff and tired to even eat, now that’s something!. Even colder, 28 degree weather greeted us Sunday morning. Did I say a trip South? Another group of wonderful people at the Lower Susquehanna ISC. Brady again went Best of Winners for his third 4 point specialty major in 3 weeks, as he was BOW on the Sunday of our Harvest Specialty too. Pending official notification from the AKC, Brady now joins his brother Ireland as mom Emily’s second champion. We came home to MA with two champions, big smiles, two windburned red faces and some magic keys. Can’t wait for our next “road trip”.

Linda Callaghan

Braggs

Rita Auprey - My Liam received his new title in Rally Novice obedience. He is now Glendine Sweet William RN, CGC. He completed his title over the Labor Day weekend, August 31st - September 2nd, 2013. He had scores of 83, 95 and 90.

Ann Francoeur - McKippen's First Impression, Grady, was Winners Dog and Best of Opposite under Judge Dr. Klaus Anselm at the South Shore Kennel Club show in Falmouth, MA on September 13, 2013. Grady is co-owned by Ann Francoeur and Jean, Don, Tegan, Tara and Jannah Murray.

Ann also reports that Captiva Quiet Reflection, Patrick, has completed his Puppy Kindergarten class.

Nancy Connor— Olivia, aka Shadagee Miss Demeanor, JH was Winners Bitch at the Framingham District KC show on Halloween Day.

New AKC Champion (pending AKC confirmation) Shadagee Crime Spree "Brady" won Winners Dog and Best of Winners at the Lower Susquehanna ISC on October 27th, under breeder judge Charles Sloughfy.

Brady was Winners Dog at our ISC New England Fall Specialty for a 4 point majpor on October 6th under judge Richard Quaco.

Shadagee Crime Spree "Brady" won Winners Dog at the ISC of Greater Richmond specialty on October 25th under breeder-judge Susan Melancon-Klein.

Murray Family—McKippen's First Still Waters Run Deep (Mulligan) was Winners Dog and Best of Opposite on September 12, 2013 at Cape Cod Kennel Club under Judge Mrs. Ann D. Hearn.

McKippen's First Green Mountain Boy (Brogan) earned his first Rally Novice pass under Judge Celeste Meade Maurer at South Shore Kennel Club on September 13, 2013. Brogan earned his second Rally Novice pass under Judge Betsy Baird at the ISCCC specialty show on October 4, 2013.

Ch Captiva MacKenzie Unlimited (MacKenzie) passed the requirements for her Canine Good Citizen title.

Captiva Aengus Timeless Powers (Aengus) passed the requirements for his Canine Good Citizen title.

McKippen's First Still Waters Run Deep (Mulligan) and McKippen's First Green Mountain Boy (Brogan) passed the requirements for their Canine Good Citizen titles and then we decided to do the test for Therapy Dog International and both passed the test easily.

Happy owners are Don, Jean, Tegan, Tara and Jannah Murray (and the late but surely very proud, Mary Powers).

Diane d'Entremont— Captiva's Keeping the Faith, Kelly, has completed her first three basic obedience classes and will be starting her competition training after the holidays.

ISCNE Club Member Wins

At the Souhegan KC show on 11/3/13, the following club members had reason to celebrate:

Nancy Connor - Shadagee Miss Demeanor, JH (Olivia) was Winners Bitch

Jan Neill, Carmen and Gail Paludi - Damon's Impossible Dream was Winners Dog and Best of Winners

Claire Marx and Shelly DeChambeau - Ch. Beaubriar's Celtic Promise was Best of Opposite, picking up 2 Grand Champion points.

The judge was Warner Céspedes from Costa Rico.

Lois Goepfert - Ch. Conamara Ride 'Em Cowgirl, Bryg, has been having fun. An award of Merit at our Harvest show on a rainy October Sunday and BOS at the Framingham show on Nov 2 for 2 GCh points

Congratulations to all of our winners!!!!



Irish Setter Club of New England

Editor: Diane d'Entremont EditorGreenSheet@gmail.com

President - Carol Levesque
First Vice President - Kyle Shaffer
Second Vice President - Luanne Witt
Secretary - Nancy Conner
Treasurer - Marty Haspel
BOARD of GOVERNORS
Mary Bateman - Lois Goepfert-Claire
Marx - Tara Murray - Geri Payne-



ISCNE was founded in 1928

"The aim of the club shall be to work for the improvement, advancement, and development of the Irish Setter in every possible way; and to cultivate a spirit of harmony, friendship and cooperation among owners and breeders of Irish Setters"

ISCNE

85 Years

A Time to Celebrate!



Join us for our annual ISCNE Holiday Party on Sunday,
December 1, 2013 at the Westford Regency Inn



In Memoriam

Linda Callaghan and Ed Dee lost their sweet eleven year old girl, Nike. She was a Devon daughter and a much loved gift from Caren McWeeny. Nike was small in stature but like all of our Irish, had a big heart of gold. We miss her tap dances and morning visits for a "love". Also, Sabastian, a wonderful 32 year old OTTB, had to be put down at Gage Hill Stables. Bassy was feisty 'til the end, whether it was jumping fences with Joyce in the show ring or pulling us out the barn door to get his grass. He was one of a kind.

Highly respected judge **Michelle Billings** has passed away. She was a great favorite in the dog show world and will be greatly missed.

May the Shamrocks fall softly!



The Editor's Desk

Welcome to this issue of the Green Sheet. I would like to thank Lois Goepfert for her past service as editor and for her help and support as I take the reins as the new editor.

I encourage you to share your brags, new arrivals, and memorials for future issues.

Do you have suggestions for topics you would like to read about, or maybe you would like to write an article for our newsletter?

Please contact me at
EditorGreenSheet@Gmail.com

Thank you for supporting me as I take on this new challenge. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Diane d'Entremont

