

IRISH WOLFHOUND ASSOCIATION OF THE DELAWARE VALLEY
SPECIALITY SHOW 2017 - JUDGE'S CRITIQUE; - Miss Mary McBryde

Firstly I want to congratulate Doug Marx, Show Chairman, and his team on the excellent Specialty Show that they organised in the beautiful Pennsylvania autumnal countryside. The venue was perfectly prepared with a level mown ring and lovely pots of chrysanthemums, a huge open sided tent for shade/rain, and a great show team to organise and assist. I particularly want to say a big thank you to my wonderful ring stewards, Chet Chase and Greg Kane, who kept everything in the ring flowing smoothly and calmly, answering any questions I had about AKC regulations with a smile, and generally making the whole two days a good experience for me and all the exhibitors. I also want to thank Maggie Weidinger for making sure I was well looked after the day before the show, and for taking me around the local area the day after the show so that I could soak up the sights of this historical region of the USA. I really appreciated the efforts everyone went to on my behalf, and I enjoyed seeing a small excerpt of PA.

Thanks to Hurricane Nate, the weather threw almost everything at us except for snow. Temperatures close to 80 deg F, high humidity, blazing sunshine, drizzle, mist, torrential rain, gales, and lightning. It was very exciting ! Thankfully the marquee was big enough for everyone to shelter under when not being judged, and although we all got wet the rain was warm. Some of the young puppies and juvenile hounds were a bit unsettled by the weather conditions but everyone coped brilliantly and we all just got on with the show.

The entry for this Specialty was substantial, 157 hounds from all over the USA and Canada, and it was full of high quality hounds without a single 'pet quality' hound in sight. Many people had travelled huge distances to come to this show and many had to go home without a placement or a prize, but I certainly appreciated the opportunity to judge all the hounds presented to me. I sincerely thank everyone for making the effort to bring their lovely Wolfhounds to this event and for taking my decisions with good humour, it was a pleasure to meet you all.

Puppy, 6-9 Months Dogs (2E, 0A)

1. Lauren Swick and Brett-Ashley Swick - **BARRASSY STORMBORN TWISTER**

6mths. Lovely puppy with excellent overall balance and outline. Superb head-shape, very good teeth, ears, and eyes, long strong neck well set into sloping shoulders which are slightly too wide at withers. Long sloping upper arms. Very good ribcage, loinarch, and pelvis. Long, strong, well-angulated stifles. All four pasterns are soft at present but well aligned. Movement easy, elastic and long-striding.

2. Briget Wandruff and Ankie Somers - **FEMKE'S FOOTSTEPS GLEN ELGIN**

9mth, tall puppy with good head, teeth and ears. Eye-colour a bit light. Good neck and shoulders. Very good topline, deep long ribcage with good tuckup. Well angulated hindquarters. Front pasterns are too short and upright causing him to knuckle over, this affects his front movement which is short-striding, a bit stilted, and wide. Hind movement good and powerful.

Puppy, 12 to 18 Months Dogs (5E, 1A)

1. Eileen M. & Eileen B. Flanagan - **CARRICKANEENS DEARTHAI**

Very good head, light eye-colour, excellent teeth, ears mostly folded. Good long strong neck well set into good sloping shoulders with long sloping upperarms. Long well-sprung ribcage needs to deepen. Good loinarch and tuckup. Good length of pelvis with well-angulated stifles and short hocks. Movement very good, easy and elastic with long balanced stride.

2. Maria Lubera - **SHELLANE DIONYSUS**

12mths. Head a bit heavy in skull and cheeks too rounded. Good ears, nice neck. Quite good shoulders and upperarms. Excellent deep long ribcage with good tuckup, lovely loinarch. Broad pelvis with well-angulated stifles. Lovely strong bone and very good muscles. Moved better and better as he relaxed.

3. Maria Lubera - **SHELLANE BACCHUS**

Litter brother to 2nd. Head is not his fortune, very heavy skull with round cheeks, good dentition but reverse scissor bite. Ears good. Strong broad neck inserting a bit abruptly into straightish shoulders too wide apart at wither. Good upperarms long and sloping. Loinarch starts too far forwards and stops before pelvis. Lovely deep ribcage with good tuckup. Broad strong well angulated hind legs. Good muscles and bone throughout. Moved steadily, very nice behind but a bit wide in front.

4. Gabi Schneidman - **LINDENHALL'S CLONLIAM**

Tall 13mth, very anxious in the ring and so not presenting at his best. Good sighthound head with dark eyes and lovely ears, sadly spoilt by narrow undershot jaw. Long ewe neck inserted in front of upright shoulders with straight upperarms; the whole front assembly is too far forwards. Short upright front pasterns causing him to knuckle over.

Beautiful loinarch flowing into good pelvis with lovely long well-angulated stifles and short hocks. Hind movement good, but front movement short-striding, wide, bumpy with paws flicking out sideways.

Novice Dogs (9E, 5A)

1. Jocelyne Gagne and Serena Ivanovskis - **STARKEEPER HADYN HIGHEST HONOR**

First impression - stunningly beautiful head, outline and overall type. Very good long chiselled head with plenty of furnishings, dark eyes, excellent ears, but reverse scissor bite. Long neck, rather upright shoulder-blades with good long sloping upperarms. Good ribcage and tuckup. Excellent loin arch and broad long wedge-shaped pelvis. Broad strong well angulated stifles and short hocks. Side-movement - slightly shorter striding in front and crabbing a bit going to and fro, but overall powerful, easy and elastic.

2. Jeanne Patterson and Emma Ross - **CNOCCARNE OLOG CARROWMORAGH.**

Plainer dog with good bone and muscling. Less typical head with rounder skull and cheeks causing eyes to be orientated more front-facing than correct for a sighthound.. Good mouth, excellent ears. Strong muscular arched neck well set into nicely sloping shoulders that are a bit wide apart over withers. Long sloping upperarms. Excellent loinarch flowing correctly into good pelvis. Very nice broad, long, well-angulated stifles with particularly good large strong hock joints. Hind-feet a bit flat. Best moving dog in the class, easy, active, powerful with big harmonious strides.

3. Maura High and Mike & Alissa Muffley - **COLERAINE'S CATHBHADH INCUBATOR JONES**

Big framed dog with good sighthound head. Strong, broad but slightly short neck. Shoulders too wide apart over withers and overloaded with muscle. Deep ribcage with sufficient tuckup. Good loinarch. Pelvis slopes too steeply, tucking his hindquarters underneath his body, which combined with short femurs is making movement difficult for him. The very large hindleg dewclaws would be a serious injury risk out hunting.

4. Veronica Nienstedt and Donna Smith & David Smith - **TALIESIN'S DAVAN OF FINDAWAY.**

Half-brother to 3rd place. 18mth dog which could not be examined as thoroughly as one would like due to nervousness. Well furnished handsome head marred by heavy skull, good rose ears. Strong muscular but rather short neck, quite nice shoulder layback though a bit wide apart, upperarms seem upright and over muscled, front pasterns too upright. Good feet and bone. Very nice loinarch, long ribcage and good tuckup. Pelvis slopes too steeply, but his beautiful long femurs and second thighs enable him to stand correctly, however his movement was poor. Also has very large hindleg dewclaws - a serious injury risk out hunting.

Bred By Exhibitor Dog (6E, 0A)

1. Stephen LeVan and Karen LeVan - **LISMORE PUCK - RESERVE WINNERS DOG.**

22mth old Handsome golden wheaten. Good head, rose ears and dark eyes, with nice dark skin pigmentation. Lovely long arched muscular neck well inserted over good sloping shoulders. Very good upperarms and forechest, frontlegs and feet. Loinarch a bit flat when stacked but good on the move. Long deep ribcage with nice tuckup. Broad long pelvis with wide well-angulated stifles and excellent muscle throughout. Very nice well developed hockjoints. Moved truly to and fro, sidegait long-striding, harmonious easy and active.

2. Joel and Wendy Mattson - **NIGHTWING'S SILENCER**

4.5yr old. Eye-catching dog dark brindle with commanding appearance. Excellent head, well furnished with good ears, and dark eyes. Lovely neck, strong and arched. Nicely sloping shoulder blades are rather short and too wide apart at withers, very good long well-angulated upperarms, good forechest, ribcage and tuckup. Excellent topline, very good broad wedge-shaped pelvis with good hindleg angulations. I liked this dog a lot but his . short, rather bumpy front stride sent him to 2nd place.

3. Lynn M. Simon - **ROCKHART RAPHAEL.**

20mths. Large substantial big-boned grey brindle dog. Head nicely furnished with dark eyes , good teeth, and rose ears, but his skull is too heavy and rounded for sighthound type. Broad muscular rather short neck well inserted into body. Nicely sloping shoulder-blades are too wide apart at withers due to rounded heavy ribcage. Good upperarms, loinarch, depth of rib, and tuckup. Pelvis narrow and parallel from front to back. Good well angulated stifles. Moved steadily but lacking any extension in frontquarters.

4. Mary K. Reese - **DEORA'S WALL OF DEATH FROM AERIE**

4yr old wheaten. Best head in class, muzzle fitting smoothly into lovely smooth wedge shaped skull with flat cheeks, good teeth, dark eyes and pigmentation, tiny rose ears, and finished with nice whiskers. Excellent neck, shoulders and upperarms. Good bone. Could have more depth of chest to advantage. Well arched loin when relaxed. Lovely shapely hindquarters. Movement was fabulous. A very beautiful IW who could have won this class if he had presented himself with pride and confidence.

American Bred Dog (5E, 0A)

1. Jeanne Patterson and Tina Berry & Mark Berry - **BERRYBRIAR CARAGLEN IEISE AR CARROWMORAGH**

4yr old. Plain rangy dog with good curvy outline - out of coat so what you see is what you get. Masculine head with

rather round skull and heavy cheeks. Good ears, dark eyes, good teeth. Shortish neck well-arched and muscular, fitting smoothly into body. Sloping shoulder-blades are a bit short and set too wide apart at withers. Very nice long sloping upperarms. Good forechest, deep ribcage, nice tuckup. Good legbone and feet. Well arched loin flowing smoothly into somewhat narrow pelvis. Excellent broad strong well angulated hindlegs. Good muscles throughout which he put to good use on the move with long-striding, elastic, powerful and true movement.

2. Michael and Alissa Muffley - **INISHKEEN'S HEART OF OLDEN GLORY**

6yrs old in very good condition with well-developed muscles throughout. Lovely head, long and chiselled under the furnishings. Dark eyes, good rose ears. Long strong neck, well laid shoulders, good upperarms, frontlegs and feet. Deep long ribcage. Lacks loinarch and pelvis is rather short and steep. Sufficient hindleg angulation, though a longer femur would be ideal. Moved very well with a long easy stride, true going to and fro.

3. Dane Emerson St.Clair and Audrey E. St.Clair, Amy Benjamin & Doug Marx - **WARWICK QUILL OF AERIE**
3.5yr old light grey brindle with a pleasing curvaceous outline. Nice muzzle but skull too heavy with a stop and round cheeks. Good rose ears. Long strong arched neck well inserted over rather straight shoulders. Good long upperarms, nice bone and feet. Sufficient hind quarter angulation. Good muscle throughout. Moved nicely.

4. John E. Fitzgerald - **TARTON TERROR OF FITZWICK**

3yr old grey brindle. Masculine well furnished head, but poor skin pigmentation and flat ears. Long muscular neck well set in to beautiful shoulders and good upper arms. Short upright front pasterns causing him to knuckle over. Good loinarch smoothly connected to well angulated hindquarters. Really needs more muscle throughout.

Open Dog (9E, 2A)

1. Joel and Wendy Mattson - **NIGHTWING'S DECEPTION - WINNERS DOG, BEST OF WINNERS, BOS**

4.5yrs old. Impressive dark brindle with real commanding appearance. Very good masculine sighthound head shape, no stop just a nice smooth slope up to good flat skull with smooth flat cheeks, completed by lovely furnishings. Dark eyes, good teeth, and rose ears. Lovely long strong arched neck with broad base attaching correctly to body. Excellent front assembly with very good shoulder layback and inward inclination, long sloping upperarms, nice forechest, well boned frontlegs, slightly sloping pasterns and good feet. Good loinarch and tuckup. Pelvis long and broadening to rear correctly. Long nicely angulated stifles, short strong hocks and nice feet. Well muscled. Moved very well to and fro, with an easy, active, long-striding sidegait.

2. Jerilyn L. Glynn and Patty Newgard - **CARNASSERIE NOAH**

2.5yrs old handsome grey brindle. Very good head, dark eyes, good pigmentation, slightly large rose ears. Good strong neck well set into body, shoulders a bit straight, lovely long sloping upperarms, good forechest, deep long ribcage and good tuckup. Beautiful topline. Very nice hindquarters with good angulation. Hind movement good but front movement choppy and shorter striding than expected from his conformation.

3. Judith Callender and Jocelyne Gagne - **STARKEEPER CALORIEN AMBER DECLAN**

2yr old wheaten with a very nice top and bottom outline and beautifully presented. Good mouth, lovely dark eyes and neat rose ears, but underneath the lovely furnishings his head has a heavy round skull and round cheeks. Neck arched behind ears but slightly narrow at base. Straightish shoulders are too wide-set at top, quite good upperarms and forechest. Good bone and feet. Pelvis a little steep, and his hind angulation varied from good to sufficient according to stance. Front movement a bit short striding and bumpy, hind movement good.

4. Doug Marx and Amy Benjamin, & Glenn Myer - **KELLYKERRY BARBANCOURT OF AERIE**

2yr old grey brindle. Very beautiful standing outline. Head a bit coarse in skull and cheeks. good neck with broad base well connected to body. Straightish shoulders are too wide-set at top, and upper arms are short and upright. Excellent hindquarters, broad long pelvis with broad well angulated stifles. Movement uneven and short-striding in front, hind movement good.

Puppy Bitches, 6 to 9 months (3E, 0A)

My apologies that I only have brief notations on 2nd & 3rd as they did not remain in the ring for a critique to be written.

1. Angela Bixier - **DREAMCATCHER'S RIO LOBO**

6.5mths very pretty feminine dark brindle who started off rather overawed by the showing but blossomed as the class progressed. Lovely sighthound head with dark eyes, good teeth, and rose ears. Long neck well set into good sloping shoulders and long sloping upper arms. Excellent topline and underline. Very good hindquarters with broad well angulated stifles and short hocks. Movement free, elastic and long-striding.

2. Lauren Swick and Bret-Ashley Swick - **OLIVIA NEWTON JOHN ROAN INISH**

7mth old cream brindle with a beautiful head, good bone and substance. Front movement short-striding today.

3. Joe M. & Kathy Roland and Sam Houston McDonald - **R NOBLE NEBULA OF EAGLE**

6.5mth black brindle. Another lovely sighthound head. Good top and bottom outlines, good bone and substance. Hind movement un-coordinated and uneven.

Puppy Bitches, 9 to 12 months (2E, 0A)

Two beautiful top quality puppies brimming with breed type and both fabulous movers.

1. P. Scelso and J. M. Meyer - **HOWLING HALL WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION - BEST PUPPY**

Almost 12mths old, spectacular eye-catching dark brindle with a beautiful sighthound outline. Very good long chiselled head, good teeth, eyes; ears a bit large but staying rosed. Lovely long neck well set into good shoulders, lovely long sloping upperarms, well boned frontlegs with correct slightly sloping pasterns and good feet. Very good ribcage shape - deep, long, and curving up to good tuckup. Great loinarch flowing smoothly into broad long pelvis. Powerful broad well angulated stifles. Moved beautifully with long elastic stride - easy, active and powerful.

2. Angela Burge and Jacqueline Carswell - **WALELA'S TITANIA OF THE WHISTLING WIND**

11mths old very pretty feminine red brindle who also has a beautiful sighthound outline. Lovely long head with dark eyes, tiny rose ears, and good furnishings. Stacked up for examination with her head held very high she had a slightly ewe neck which was the deciding factor on her 2nd place. Slightly straight shoulder-blades are long and well inclined inwards, lovely long sloping upperarms, well boned frontlegs, correct slightly sloping pasterns. Good bone and feet. Very good deep long ribcage curving to excellent tuckup. Great loinarch flowing smoothly into lovely long, wedge-shaped pelvis. Powerful broad well angulated stifles. Moved beautifully with long elastic stride - easy, active and powerful.

Puppy Bitch, 12 to 18months (16E, 3A)

A class full of lovely young bitches of varying types, and my final line-up may have caused ringside spectators some confusion. The first four stood away from the class for excellent sighthound construction with great angulations and curves, but present opposite ends of the acceptable IW spectrum of type. In my opinion both types are equally valid; 1st and 3rd are tall, relatively narrow, and long legged - ideal for bounding up and down boulder strewn craggy Irish mountains after their huge prey, whereas 2nd and 4th are smaller with broader bodies and shorter legs which are ideal for powering through dense undergrowth in the old Irish forests.

1. Betty Johnson and Roger Johnson, & Christine Johnson - **GLADSTONE'S CALL ME KELT**

Very tall rangy stylish 17mth old grey brindle. Long wedge-shape head with slightly narrow skull, good eyes, teeth and ears. Lovely neck well set into long sloping shoulders and long upperarms, sometimes standing a bit upright through elbow-joint. Good topline and underline. Very good hindquarters with long well angulated stifles. Moved beautifully, long-striding, easy, active and elastic.

2. Dane Emerson St.Clair and Josie Lee - **KELLYKERRY EABHA OF WARWICK.**

17mth wheaten. Very different type from 1st, being smaller with more substance, but equally nicely constructed. Beautiful head with great whiskers, tiny rose ears. Very good neck, shoulders and upperarms. Good bone and front feet, hind feet soft and flattish. Very nice loinarch, ribcage and tuckup. Broad pelvis, lovely broad well angulated stifles with plenty of muscle. Moved very well with long stride, easy and active.

3. Roger Johnson and Betty Johnson, & Christine Johnson - **GLADSTONE'S KISS ME KATE**

Tall elegant litter sister to 1st and better than her in most ways other than their movement. Long feminine head with good teeth, and eyes, small rose ears. Good neck well set into long sloping shoulders, lovely long sloping upperarms. Good bone and feet. Excellent topline and underline. Lovely hindquarters with superb muscling. Front movement a bit stilted and shorter striding than 1st & 2nd, throwing her front feet out of line going to and fro. Hind movement very good.

4. Jill R. Bregy and Donna & Tony Caporale - **WILDISLE BRIE GLORY HALLELUJAH.**

Delightful 12mth old, feminine yet substantial and muscular; very unsure of herself to begin with and hiding her many virtues, but blossomed through the class to show her true high quality. Beautiful head and expression, dark eyes, very good ears. Excellent long strong neck well set into very good shoulders and long upperarms. Great frontlegs and feet. Very good ribcage, tuckup and loinarch. Long broad pelvis, lovely broad muscular and well angulated hindlegs, good large hock-joints and nice short back pasterns. Moved extremely well.

Novice Bitch (16E, 6A)

1. Lynn M. Simon - **ROCKHART WYNONA - RESERVE WINNERS BITCH.**

Strongly built 3yr old dark grey brindle who coped well with the torrential rain and wind. Head a little heavy in skull but otherwise well-shaped, dark eyes, lovely rose ears, and good furnishings. Excellent long, strong, arched neck broadening to base and inserting smoothly into back. Very good shoulder-blade lay back, slightly too wide at withers, long sloping upperarms, sufficient forechest. Long deep ribcage curving up to excellent tuckup. Powerful loinarch flowing smoothly into slightly narrow pelvis of good length and slope. Very lovely hind-angulation with great width across stifle joint and well developed hock joint. Moved with a powerful long stride, easy, elastic and looking effortless.

2. Deirdre McCarthy and Cynthia Patterson - **MACCAURA RIVERSONG TUULA.**

Another substantial 3yr old dark brindle. Good head shape though a bit plain without her furnishings, dark eyes, ears variable. Strong well muscled medium-length neck well inserted over very good laid-back shoulders, nice long upperarms, good forechest, deep long ribcage, could do with a bit more tuckup. Good loinarch fitting smoothly into slightly narrow but long pelvis. Excellent broad well angulated stifles. Plenty of muscle and good bone throughout.

Moved very well to and fro with lovely sidegait.

3. Mary Ellen Shriver and Cyn Patterson & Deidre McCarthy - **GAELTARRA EIREANN THE JEAN GENIE**

Very pretty 20mth grey brindle. Lovely feminine head with charming expression, beautiful dark eyes, good ears. Long slightly ewe-shaped neck set into body in front of straightish shoulders. Very nice long sloping upperarms, good forechest and deep ribcage with good tuckup. Well arched loin, nice hindquarter angulation. Moved well.

4. Jocelyne Gagne and Serena Ivanovskis - **STARKEEPER GRANUAILE'S GALLEON**

2yr old silver grey. Head has good foreface but heavy skull with a stop, skin lacks pigmentation, good ears. Long slightly ewe-shaped neck set into body in front of straightish shoulders. Long upperarms forward set and almost vertical. Good deep long ribcage with good tuckup. Well arched loin, slightly narrow in pelvis, nice hind angulation. Moved well.

Bred By Exhibitor Bitch (13E, 2A)

An excellent class full of top quality bitches. Many bitches showed beautiful movement despite the atrocious weather.

1. Stephen LeVan and Karen LeVan - **LISMORE GRACIE ALLEN - WINNERS BITCH**

3yrs old. Beautiful feminine grey brindle, lovely sighthound outline and a very regal presence. Fabulous head, dark eyes black pigmentation, small rose ears. Good muscular neck smoothly fitting into her back over nicely laid shoulder-blades. Long well angulated upperarms, strong forelegs, slightly sloping pasterns and well knuckled deep feet. Sufficient forechest. Deep long curvaceous ribcage and excellent tuckup. Very good topline with strong loinarch flowing into long wedge-shaped pelvis. Super hindquarters with broad well angulated stifles, good hocks and masses of muscles. Moved truly and harmoniously, with an easy, active, and powerful long stride.

2. Jacqueline K. Carswell and Patty Newgard - **CARNASSERIE NIKITA.**

2.5yrs old smaller grey brindle of good type. Beautiful head, dark eyes, ears rather variable. Good neck, very good shoulder layback, nice long sloping upperarms, good frontlegs. Deep long ribcage with good tuckup. Sufficient loinarch. Pelvis a little short to tail insertion. Good hindquarter angulation. Earned her 2nd place for her wonderful movement and much better outline on the move.

3. Jocelyne Gagne and Serena Ivanovskis - **STARKEEPER NUALA O' ARD RHI.**

Big impressive 3yr old grey brindle. Excellent long head with very good ears. Strong muscular neck but set into body in front of nicely laid shoulders. Long sloping upperarms, good frontlegs. Very good ribcage but needs more tuckup. Nicely arched loin. Pelvis parallel from front to back. Nicely angulated hindquarters. Moved well.

4. Joseph M. & Kathy Roland - **DUN MYRICA R NOBLE NUALA OF EAGLE**

2yr old black bitch with great presence. Very good head and ears. Long strong neck quite nicely set into body, shoulders a bit straight, long upperarms but turned out at elbows. Very good topline and underline. Short rather steep pelvis which narrows the width of her well-angulated stifles. Good bone and muscle Moved well.

American Bred Bitches (16E, 4A)

Another very high quality class with many good bitches having to leave the ring cardless. The top four bitches were hard to split apart and I had to resort to real nit-picking details to place them.

1. Joel and Wendy Mattson - **NIGHTWING'S DECEPTION**

Eye-catching 2.5yr dark brindle. Lovely long sighthound head, good teeth, dark eyes, slightly large rose ears. Good long muscular neck smoothly connected to back. Very good sloping, correctly inclined shoulder-blades, long well-angulated upperarms, nice forechest. Lovely deep long ribcage curving up to excellent tuckup. Good loinarch smoothly connecting to long wedge-shaped pelvis. Nicely angulated hindlegs. Good feet. Good muscle and bone throughout. Moved very well to and fro, with long-striding easy, active and harmonious sidegait.

2. Doug Marx and Amy Benjamin - **GILDA OF AERIE.**

22mths old gorgeous silver grey bitch who blossomed through the class until her natural presence and regal bearing shone through. Great head and furnishings, expressive dark eyes and rose ears. Long muscular neck set naturally high onto body. Shoulder-blades long but fairly upright, lovely long well-angulated upperarms. Long deep ribcage with good tuckup. Very good topline with strong loinarch flowing into one of the best shaped pelvis's in the entire entry - long, broad, and wedge shaped with a good slope. Fabulous long-boned broad-stifled well angulated hindlegs. Moved very well with big effortless fluid stride. Pressed 1st hard, just needs more confidence in herself.

3. Cynthia Patterson and Dave Patterson, & Glynis Littlewood - **ROSSLARE CHANSONETTE OF RIVERSONG**

Substantial strongly boned 3yr old with commanding appearance. Big well shaped head, slightly too heavy in skull but softened by nice furnishings, dark eyes, nice rose ears. Strong muscular arched neck broadening correctly into smooth back attachment over nicely sloping shoulders. Slightly short upperarms are sloping but a bit heavily muscled. Big deep, long ribcage with good tuckup. Good loin arch into broad pelvis, with nicely angulated hindlegs. Moved well to and fro and good sidegait.

4. Marian Levin and Robin Pine - **TOMAHAWKE BLUE CHRISTMAS AT GEMINI**

Another lovely grey brindle. Beautiful feminine head with dark eyes, and largish rose ears. Long neck set slightly in front of shoulders. Long upperarms but standing a bit upright through elbows. Very nice underline and topline. Good pelvic width and length. Nicely angulated hindquarters. Moved well to and fro and good sidegait.

Open Bitch (12E, 2A)

Excellent class with considerable depth of quality. The top four bitches were so hard to choose between for the placings. I must add extra congratulations to the owners and breeders of 3rd & 4th what a credit to them to have two almost 7yr olds looking absolutely fabulous and moving brilliantly too.

1. Judith Callender and Jocelyne Gagne - **STARKEEPER CALORIEN A DIAMOND.**

2.5yrs old. Lovely big golden wheaten with a lot of ring presence who showed beautifully. Excellent head with great furnishings, dark eyes and rose ears. Long strong arched neck well set into body over well laid shoulders with long sloping upperarms. Good bone and feet. Sufficient arch in loin. Very deep ribcage and high tuckup. Big wide pelvis should be longer to give her better balance between frontquarters and hindquarters. Nicely angulated stifles but slightly narrow underneath the hair. Moved very well to and fro, with a big striding elastic sidegait.

2. Maura High - **COLERAINE'S CELEBRATION.**

2yrs old with a natural commanding appearance. Lovely head, dark eyes, small rose ears. Long strong neck well set into body over well laid shoulders, long sloping upperarms. Long deep ribcage and good tuckup. Excellent loinarch smoothly connected to slightly steep wedge-shaped pelvis. Very good hindlegs with plenty of width and angulation. Movement true to and fro with a fluid long striding sidegait.

3. Lynn M. Simon - **ROCKHART RAPHAELA REQUIEM.**

Dark brindle almost 7yrs old and looking wonderful. Very good head, dark eyes and rose ears. Long strong neck well set into back over beautiful shoulders. Long sloping upper arms, good forechest, lovely long deep ribcage with decent tuckup. Sufficient loinarch flowing into long but slightly narrow parallel pelvis. Long well angulated hindlegs with well developed large hock-joints. Moved very well with a long free-striding powerful side action, just marred by flipping her front feet on the to and fro which pulled her from 1st to 3rd.

4. Donna & David Smith - **TALIESIN'S SPIRIOLAG.**

Very lovely 7yr old wheaten in great condition. Beautiful feminine head with dark eyes, small rose ears and black pigmentation. Good neck smoothly inserted into body over well laid shoulders with long sloping upper arms, good frontlegs and feet. Very good topline and underline. Pelvis parallel not wedge-shaped. Lovely hindlegs with plenty of curves. Movement very good, easy and active.

Veteran Dog (2E, 1A)

The torrential rain and wild winds did not phase the wonderful veteran hounds in the slightest, and the exhibitors were brave too. Well done everyone for maintaining a smile and good spirits.

1. Audrey Wright - **GCH DC GLENAMADDA STARKEEPER CONNERY, RN, SC.**

Very good 7.5yr old grey brindle dog in excellent condition with lovely outline. Beautiful head, dark eyes, rose ears. Very good neck, shoulders and upperarms, nice forechest, ribcage and tuckup. Excellent loinarch, pelvis and hindquarter angulation with good hocks. rather lacking in muscle but still showed easy active long striding movement and was true going to and fro.

Veteran Bitch (6E, 3A)

1. Jocelyne Gagne - **AM.CAN.CH GLENAMADDA STARKEEPER CLODAGH**

Beautiful litter sister to Veteran dog. Very good head, dark eyes, and tiny rose ears

2. Betty Johnson and Roger Johnson, & Christine Johnson - **CH GLADSTONE'S MAEVE, FCH, JOR.**

8.25yrs old tall elegant grey brindle with plenty of curves. Great head, neck and front. Lacking a little in loinarch and tuckup now, but still has lovely hindquarters with good angulation. Moved steadily and freely, true to and fro, but without any real drive.

3. Jill Bregy and Debbie Chastain & Beth Chastain, MD - **GCHB WILDISLE BRIE SHINING STAR.**

Compact and shapely 8.25yrs old grey brindle. Lovely head with tiny rose ears. Neck a bit short with a slight inversion, shoulders rather upright and wide set across the withers. Long well angulated upperarms, good forechest, very nice topline and hindleg angulation. Pelvis a bit narrow. Moved very well to and fro, with a lovely long-striding sidegait.

Field Trial Bitches (1E, 1A)

Best of Breed Class (28E,

BOB - Stephen LeVan and Karen LeVan - **GCH LISMORE STONEYBROOK ROXIE HART.**

4.5yrs old. Exceptionally beautiful feminine black bitch effortlessly commanding the ring with her regal presence. Elegant long sighthound head, good mouth and teeth, lovely dark eyes and black pigment, small rose ears, finished with lovely whiskers. Long arched muscular neck broadening steadily to a smooth insertion into her back. Shoulders well laid back and inclined inwards, long sloping upperarms, well boned frontlegs, nicely sloped pasterns, and good feet. Lovely forechest, long deep well-sprung ribcage curving up into good tuckup. Excellent topline with strong loinarch flowing into strong broad pelvis of good length and slope and low tail insertion. Superb long hindlegs with

wide muscular well angulated stifles, well developed hock joints and short back pasterns. Good muscle development throughout. Fabulous mover - totally harmonious in front and hindquarters giving effortless elastic long strides with power and drive, and perfectly true coming and going. A pleasure to watch.

BOS and Best of Winners - Joel and Wendy Mattson - **NIGHTWING'S DECEPTION.**

This very handsome masculine hound maintained his commanding appearance, good movement and energy levels throughout a long 2 days. He is a great IW dog, but had to give way today to a truly exceptional bitch for overall Best of Breed.

Select Dog - Donna & David Smith - **AM.CAN.CH TALIESIN'S RHIONGANEDD.**

4.5yr old handsome red brindle who is very out of coat. He captures the eye for his overall excellent conformation and harmony. Good masculine head, slightly large rose ears. Long muscular neck with broad base correctly set into well laid shoulders. Long sloping upper arms. Deep long ribcage, quite good tuckup. Good topline with sufficient loinarch flowing into broad, wedge-shaped sloping pelvis. Well set and carried tail. Good bone and feet. Lovely broad well-angulated stifles with strong hocks and pasterns. Excellent movement - good to and fro, sidegait long-striding, easy, elastic and powerful.

Select Bitch - Jocelyne Gagne - **AM.CAN.CH GLENAMADDA STARKEEPER CLODAGH**

Looking even better than she did soaking wet winning the Veteran Bitch class.

Best Puppy - P. Scelso and J. M. Meyer - **HOWLING HALL WITNESS FOR THE PROSECUTION**

This lovely puppy was still showing and moving well at this late stage of a very busy weekend, and she easily won this award, but she does look tired in her Best Puppy photo! I look forward to hearing how her show career develops as she matures into adulthood.

Best Bred-by Exhibitor - Stephen LeVan and Karen LeVan - **LISMORE GRACIE ALLEN.**

My Winners Bitch and still looking gorgeous. Easily beat her handsome wheaten kennelmate.

Stud Dog (2E, 1A)

1. Doug Marx and Amy Benjamin, & Donna Brown - **GCH HOUND HILL VANDERBILT OF AERIE**

I really liked this handsome wheaten dog in the BOB class, and he was a strong contender for the Select Dog award. My notes during BOB say 'Good dog, lovely head, great muscle, very nice hindquarters, really good movement.' He has passed many of his virtues on to his two wheaten progeny.

Brood Bitch (6E, 4A)

Two lovely brood bitches who have passed their type on to their progeny. My preference is for the more substantial type produced by my Select Bitch winner.

1. Jocelyne Gagne - **AM.CAN.CH GLENAMADDA STARKEEPER CLODAGH**

2. Betty Johnson and Roger Johnson, & Christine Johnson - **GCH GLADSTONE'S IRISH MIST**

Best Brace (4E, 3A)

1. Judith Callender and Jocelyne Gagne - **STARKEEPER CALORIEN A DIAMOND**

Judith Callender and Jocelyne Gagne - **STARKEEPER CALORIEN AMBER DECLAN**

A well matched brother and sister brace of wheatens.