# 불Irish Wolfhound Foundation



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The Irish Wolfhound Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization. Your donation is tax deductible to the full amount allowed by law.

### Audrey St Clair, Editor 537 Hackman Rd. Lititz, PA 17543 thecoopersinn@aol.com 717-626-2658

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## **New Fundraising Challenge**

In this season of giving please remember the "Texas 72". The Foundation has been approached by an anonymous breed fancier that has proposed a fundraising challenge to help us raise the needed money to place all the "Texas 72" rescue hounds in their forever homes. Starting immediately all donations designated for the "Texas 72" rescue will be matched dollar for dollar up to a total of \$5,000.00. This wonderful offer could net a total of \$10,000.00, a great start in achieving our goal in raising the funds needed going forward. Remember no amount is too small and all donations are tax deductible. For more information and details on how to donate see page 2.



The Irish Wolfhound Club of Canada invited the IWF to test at their specialty in Belleville Ontario on the 19th of September. Thanks to Sid Wood for handling scheduling and payments. The club provided a fine location in the host hotel within sight of the ring. Bill Tyrrell and Mariellen handled the morning testing while I ran off to do LGRA. Donna Tomson drew blood for us and helped with the testing while Sid helped with paperwork. The club

had a good sign up and a few walk ins for a total of

The Irish Wolfhound Association of Delaware Valley hosted us again at their specialty. Bill and Mariellen again handled the testing while I tried to keep paperwork flowing. Joanne Buehner Brown drew blood. We tested a total of 31 dogs and added several to the DNA database.

The Northern California Irish Wolfhound Club also offered to collect cardiac data this year when they did heart testing. They arranged to have Dr Justin G. Williams, DVM DACVIM a local cardiologist come to do the testing and provide the data to the IWF for the research. Robin Burchett and Lynne Rosebrock handled arrangements. The IWF sent a package of information on the procedures we use, including the forms and envelopes and paid for a portion of the test cost for each dog. The NCIWC tested 24 dogs with echo and EKG and 4 more EKG only and the data has been received and is being categorized for statistics.

Statistics for IWCC and IWADV are to the right. Some of the diagnostic statistics for NCIWC are still being compiled.



Irish Wolfhound DelVally, Morgantown, PA		
Age	Male	Female
<2	1	1
2-3 yrs		5
3-4 yrs	5	4
4-5 yrs	3	11
5-6 yrs		11
6-7 yrs	2	
>7yrs	5	3
Totals	7	17
	16	15
Normals	3	5
Equivocal IWH Type DCM	3	1
IWH Type DCM	1	1
VPCs		
Pericardial effusion/aortic tumor		
Aortic stenosis (equivocal)	1	1
Degenerative valve disease (considered normal)	8	7
True Dilatative type cardiomyopathy		
	16	15

Irish Wolfhound Canadian Nationals, Belleville, ON		
Age	Male	Female
<2		2
2-3 yrs		4
3-4 yrs	2	2
4-5 yrs	1	1
5-6 yrs		1
6-7 yrs	3	1
>7yrs	1	6
Totals	7	17
Normals	3	6
Equivocal IWH Type DCM		1
IWH Type DCM		
VPCs	1	
Pericardial effusion/aortic tumor		
Aortic stenosis		1
Degenerative valve disease (considered normal)	3	9
True Dilatative type cardiomyopathy		
Totals	7	17

## **New Fundraising Challenge** for the "Texas 72" Rescue

been impressive; to date the IWF has received over \$45,000.00. thank you to all that have donated! With that said, most of that funding has been distributed for the first phase of this rescue, including transport, boarding, and medical cost.

Going forward we will still need monetary support to help get these hounds placed in their forever homes. Many to date are still recovering from upper respiratory issues, some are being treated for heart worms, and all are improving from their overall poor condition. Many have been placed, but many more are still in foster homes while recovering and awaiting spay/neuter. All of this costs money and the bottom line is we need more donations. At this time we estimate needing an additional amount equal to what we have already received in donations. This is staggering but a true realization. We are receiving reimbursement requests from many of the IW rescue groups' and individuals nationwide on a weekly basis, this could continue for months.

A bright spot in all of this is the generosity of our community;

Donations coming in for this unprecedented rescue situation have the Foundation has been approached by an anonymous breed fancier that has proposed a fundraising challenge to help us raise the money needed. Starting immediately all donations designated by a donor for the "Texas 72" will be matched dollar for dollar up to a total of \$5,000.00. This wonderful offer could net a total of \$10,000.00, a great start in achieving our goal in raising the funds needed going

> With this challenge I encourage anyone to donate an amount that you feel comfortable with, no amount is too small, and all donations sent to the Foundation are tax deductible. Donations can be sent to the IWF Treasurer, David Milne, 150 Creek Road, Phillipsburg, NJ 08865 or by visiting the IWF web site www.iwfoundation.org/ and click on the red Donate tab located on the right hand side of your screen, remember to designate your donation to the "Texas 72".

> > Sincerely, Doug Marx - IWF President

## **IWF A Welcome Participant**

Ellen Kroll invited IWF secretary Mary O'Malley to give a presentation at her August Fun Days weekend on the history of the Foundation and what we do now. Due primarily to the East Coast location of our primary cardiologist, Dr. William Tyrrell, the Foundation is probably better known in the Eastern half of the country, where we hold cardiac testing clinics at several specialties every year. So a weekend to chat with folks on the West Coast was a great opportunity to discuss our initiatives in health, education and rescue, and welcome some new members into the fold.

There are probably other regional gatherings where the IWF would be a welcome participant, and we are happy to talk about who we are and what we do (and sign up new members!). If you are organizing a gathering, please contact us at theirishwolfhound foundation@gmail.com to see if we can arrange a speaker.



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## Rescue Reimbursements from January, 2014 thru October, 2014

(The figures below are strictly regular reimbursements shared between the IWCA & the IWF. They are not reflective of any Houston, TX rescue charges.)

Date	IW	Amount	State
March 18, 2014	Female	\$450.00	CO
March 21, 2014	Male	\$305.00	AZ
August 7, 2014	Female	\$328.10	NM
August 7, 2014	Female	\$317.76	NM

Total Reimbursements - \$1,400.86

Regarding the Houston, TX rescue situation, all 33 hounds that were boarded at the local Prestonwood Kennel have now been removed.

Ten of those 33 hounds were transported up the east coast to Rice, VA. Also, eleven hounds were transported directly from the SPCA to NM/
CO. All of the other hounds are now being cared for by the South Central Irish Wolfhound Club (SCIWC) members and their foster homes.

For a more detailed follow-up on the TX rescues, I am pleased to introduce you to the SCIWC Rescue Chair – Ann Sury. Ann and her rescue committee have done an outstanding job handling this horrendous situation. While I'm always very proud of the job our IWCA/IWF rescue volunteers do (sort of like a Mother Hen proud!!). I'm exceptionally "proud" to be the National Rescue Chair of this group.

Jean A. Minnier – IWCA & IW Foundation – Rescue Chair

# Texas Rescue Report - Ann Sury

For the Foundation Newsletter. November 15, 2014 Having been in rescue for over 25 years you think you've seen it all. And then something like the event in September of this year happens to alter your perspective.

I received several emails the first week of September alerting me that there were hounds in Santa Fe, TX needing homes. That was followed by several conversations with Jean Minnier about the course of action to take on a situation that was still unclear.

The news story broke on September 12th that the Houston SPCA had seized over 100 animals from an owner in Santa Fe, TX; over 70 were Irish Wolfhounds. Stunned by the sheer number of hounds, our SCIWC Rescue Committee became the agent to the Houston SPCA for IWCA. The court hearing was attended by SCIWC members, Dick Morrison, President, and Robin Smith of the Rescue Committee. The Houston SPCA was awarded custody of the hounds. There was a waiting period of 10 days after the hearing to assure that the owner did not contest the judgement. We organized our action plan to address the needs of the hounds at the SPCA with a very small, but efficient, recruited volunteer network lead by Robin Smith. Team Houston members provided ongoing and invaluable support to the hounds. It is hard to describe in words my first view of the hounds. Many were emaciated, sick, covered with ticks and very scared. Fur was matted and some had dreadlocks that reached the ground due to neglect. A number of hounds were heartworm positive and unable to be touched. The emotional toll ranged from shyness to complete distrust and fear. I worked closely with my SPCA point person, Tara Yurkshat, who enabled daily interaction of volunteers with the hounds. Over the next three weeks, Team Houston spent almost every day visiting and working with the dogs. An online survey, IW HELP, was set up on SCIWC website and facebook page to manage the data of over 600 offers of support in

the way of transport, foster, food, funding, administrative help and supplies. Messages were received from all over the United States. Adoption applications were submitted and received from many states including Alaska and Hawaii.

Team Dallas began the routine weekly trips to Houston, sometimes twice in a weekend. The hounds' new temporary quarters were in a warehouse building on the SPCA grounds separate from the main population. Mel Mercer, JoHannah Lawrie, Dick Morrison & I assessed and facilitated to prepare the hounds for the next step – leaving the SPCA. Dr. Mercer assessed medical needs for the hounds, worked with the SPCA veterinary staff and provided supplemental drugs and supplies where she could. I visited the infirmary where the sickest hounds were being treated. There was heartbreak when we lost some. We assessed, placed collars on hounds for identification, tagged kennels with the healthiest hounds for first transport and identified others needing more urgent medical attention. The SPCA was a great partner during this phase of transition. Due to their general condition, many were susceptible to illness, which we found, could change daily. On day 10, after the court hearing, the first group of hounds left the SPCA via vans heading north. Most hounds were carried to the crates. They would not walk on a leash and were too afraid to move. The first transport of 11 hounds arrived at Brenda Fairbanks kennels on October 5th. They were unloaded and placed in her care until picked up the following day for transport to RMIWC in New Mexico and Colorado.

The next group of hounds that had either medical issues or were able to travel, were moved the following week to the Dallas area. To enable better management of the hounds needs, the remaining hounds were moved to Prestonwood Kennels, a private boarding kennel facility in Houston. There, volunteers had greater open access

Give the Gift That Keeps on Giving....

An IWF Donation is a great gift idea for "the hard to buy for".

Designate it In Honor Of or In Memory Of that special person or hound. Remember your generosity is tax deductible!

Use the donation form on page 8.



and ability to work with staff to address more medical issues, clean, bath and further socialize them. Many of the hounds were shaved due to infection or infestation. They were housed in their own building away from the general kennel's population with indoor/outdoor heated/air conditioned areas. A yard was available for focused one-on-one training for the few that were able and willing. The hounds received a reduced rate during their stay at the Kennel. We thank Gwynette Peebles, the owner of Prestonwood, for her support and willingness to work with us.

Soundness and health of the hounds was an ongoing concern for the next transport group. After assessment by two vets and secured health certificates, the next transport left for the East Coast on October 20th under the guidance of JoHannah Lawrie and Team Houston. By the next week, other dogs were moving out to foster homes. On November 3rd, the last hounds were moved out of Prestonwood. It was a happy moment for everyone knowing that one more phase had been completed for these hounds.

Much progress has been made but there is still much work to be done before all the Texas 72 are placed in their forever homes. I am still in the process of selecting fosters for these special needs hounds and assigning Mentors to support the fosters in their effort to show these hounds what it means to be cared for and loved. This is an ongoing process requiring additional medical treatment, supplies and patience. I owe much to the members of my Rescue Committee for their time, fortitude and commitment to helping these hounds on this journey. At this writing of eight short weeks I have traveled over 4,200 miles and responded to well over 1000 emails and phone calls. I have also made a number of new IW friends I would have never met if it were not for this unfortunate event in the first place. And then there are the many wonderful stories to share of new Irish Wolfhound Rescue fosters and owners. I consider it an honor and a privilege to make happy endings possible. Success is not easy without a true team effort requiring coordination, cooperation and communication.

Thank you for all the well wishes and support. Ann Sury, Rescue Chair, SCIWC

# **Presidents Message**

### Winter 2014

Since our last publication we have had a major rescue situation that both the Foundation and the Irish Wolfhound Club of America have been involved with. As most of you know there where over 70 Wolfhounds rescued from a kennel in Santa Fe, Texas, much progress has been achieved since the hounds where removed from the deplorable conditions that they were forced to live in. Please go to the Irish Wolfhound Foundation's web site for more detailed communications that have been posted about the "Texas 72". You will also see articles within this publication as well as the next issue of the Harp & Hound, the IWCA publication.

I would like to thank all that have reacted to our pleas of monetary help, the response has been staggering. To date we have collected over \$45,000.00 that has been designated to the "Texas 72" from all over the world. We have already distributed most of that amount to help these unfortunate animals. The majority of this funding has been spent on transport, boarding, medical care, some spay/neuter's, and kennel supplies. Unfortunately we still have a long road ahead of us and we will need more donations to help with a significant amount of expenses going forward. Please see article within regarding fundraising.

The response to this situation throughout the Wolfhound community has been overwhelming to me. I applaud all who have volunteered their time to help, from the folks in Texas who were on the front line, to all the Rescue folks throughout this country that have had a hand in coordinating homing hounds etc. The list is endless, well done! I also must mention the great relationship between the Foundation and the Irish Wolfhound Club of America, we came together and communicated to the Wolfhound community quickly and decisively which facilitated the fundraising.

In closing I would like to wish everyone, hounds too, a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Happy New Year!

Best Regards, Doug Marx – IWF President

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## Thank You Volunteers

A huge thank you to all the folks of the South Central IW Club for extending a helping hand in the rescue of the irish wolfhounds n need. The compassion shown by Anne Sury, her husband Dick Morrison, JoHannah Lawrie and her husband Bruce, Kim Staman, ennifer Johnson, Robin Smith, Dr Melanie Mercer, Team Houston, and Team Dallas just to name a few is an inspiration for us all. secause of your hard work and incredible performance the hounds have a second chance in a forever home. Job Well Done! The following is a list (compiled several weeks before publication) to acknowledge the folks who have donated funds used in this ostly effort. More funds will be needed and future donations will be acknowledged in the future newsletter.

### Thank You Texas 72 Donors

**Stephanie Acree Deb Aiken Beverly Alba Michelle Andrews Annonymous Nancie Baker Patty Berkovitz** IMO: Lily **Robert & Gretchen Bernardi Gail Bertram Cvnthia Blakeman Robert Blanchard** William & Angela Blaugher **Linda Breidenstein Monique Brown Peter & Stephanie Brown Jill Bryson Ann Burke MV** Burke **Heather Burns** Virginia Cabaniss—Cabaniss **Homes LLC** IMO: Ralph, Taz, Mariah, **Zmurphy, & Alice Beverly Calvert Jacqueline Carswell Michael & Robin Carter Steve Carter Lori Casados Judith Chantelois Carolyn Cobb** Patricia Cobb **Mary Cokeing Nanette Colomb Mary Conroy** Jenny Coomler **Louise Cox** Susan Craighead **Risha Cupit-Berzins Janette Dally Susan Davy** Kristen Deal IMO: Darby **Ivan & Harriet Diamond Wendy Wright Donati** 

IMO: St Leger Knight

**Errant (Richard)** 

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Michael Gallagher IMO: Rus, Thor, Bailey, Conor, and Ronan Marybeth & Oscar Garcia

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## Irish Wolfhound Foundation ₹



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With your donations the IWF is taking steps to insure your hounds will have a healthier future.

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