

RED WAGGINS



———— "AUTUMN HILLS DUKE" ————

Published By:

THE IRISH SETTER CLUB OF MINNESOTA

A News Letter

1961 CLUB OFFICERS

PRESIDENT Mrs. Ruth Kremer

VICE-PRESIDENT Mr. Art Gebhart

SECRETARY-TREASURER ... Mrs. Carol Swanson
1328 White Bear Ave.
St. Paul, Minnesota

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Field - - - - - Mr. Fred Kremer

Show-Obedience - - - - - Dr. Ray Swanson

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

\$3.00 Per Year (included in dues)

MARCH 31, 1961

- FROM THE EDITOR -

It is the sincere hope of the staff which at present is responsible for publishing this issue, that the contents herein will be of quality and color of previous issues. A few changes have been made on the cover and in the placement of news within the letter. Your Editor, however, leans toward the field and its type of Setter. However, with help from all members and friends of the Irish Setter, a news letter can be published that will tell all the story of Midwestern Irish Setters. Any news item or personal editorial will be printed and is solicited.

The cover photograph and the actual composition of the cover page will be the direct responsibility of the Editor and the Board of Directors of the Club. Autumn Hills Duke was chosen for the entire year of 1961 on his merits which will be enumerated on in an editorial near the end of the news letter. The actual choice of the cover dog, however, was the direct responsibility of the acting editor. (Thank you, Bradford C. Yoho)

- FROM THE PRESIDENT -

"Hi, there" - Just a short note to our membership. The Board of Directors and I hope that all of you will come and join in the fun and business of the I.S.C. of Minn. throughout the coming year.

We have a few new thoughts concerning some old ideas that we intend to try at our meetings; such as, short business meetings and more frequent and interesting entertainment.

Your Board of Directors and Committees are looking forward to serving you so forward your suggestions and ideas to them. As a starter, we would like to hear your ideas in regard to whether the Club should continue to hold their meetings in a public place or whether private homes would be preferable. A full slate of activities has been planned for spring and summer. They only await your support and participation to make them successful.

First event is the Spring Field Trial which starts with a drawing and short business meeting at Don Wilson's at 7:00 p.m., Friday, April 7, 1961. We will see all of you there.

- FROM THE SECRETARY-TREASURER -

This item was received from Mrs. Carol Swanson and may need some explanation. At the Annual Meeting of the Irish Setter Club in January, 1961 these amendments to the Constitution were unanimously adopted. The changes were made to lighten the burden for the new officers in governing the club. (Ed.)

- AMENDMENTS -

1. Article 5, Section 5: 4 officers to read: 3 officers - President, Vice-President, Secretary-Treasurer
Reasons: Secretary-treasurer combined for efficiency.
2. Article 5, Sections 4 and 5: Combine as one under title of secretary-treasurer.
3. Article 6, Section 1: Three standing committees - Field Trial, Bench Show, and Obedience to read:
Two standing committees - Field Trial, Bench Show and Obedience (Combined into one committee).
Reasons: Efficiency
4. Article 6, Sections 3 and 4: Combine under title of Bench Show and Obedience Committees.
5. Article 7, Section 1: Two standing committees.
6. Article 9: Change to read: Vote of three directors.

- COMING EVENTS -

- April 7, 1961 - I.S.C. of Minn. Monthly Meeting
Entry Deadline and Drawing For the Spring Trial
- April 9, 1961 - I.S.C. of Minn. Field Trial
Bunker Prarie, Anoka, Minnesota, 8 a.m. to sundown
- April 15, 16, 1961 - German Wirehaired Pointer Club of Wisconsin
Eagle, Wisconsin (A.K.C. Championship Points given, open to Irish Setters)
- April 16, 1961 - German Shorthaired Pointer Club
Spring Trial
- April 22, 23 1961 - National Red Setter Club
Spring Trial - Delaware Dam, Ohio
- April 30, 1961 - Northwest Field Association
Spring Trial - Bunker Prarie, Anoka, Minnesota
- May 6, 1961 - I.S.C. of Minn. Monthly Meeting
Guest Speaker, Please Turn Out!
- May 6, 1961 - Spring Trial
Watertown, South Dakota

COMING EVENTS (Cont'd.)

June 9, 1961 - I.S.C. of Minn. Specialty Dog Show
 Como Park Pavillion, Judging starts 6 p.m. sharp.
 Dr. Carr of Chicago will judge.

August The President has asked for letters, post cards, and phone calls expressing members opinions on dates and plans for the August picnic. Please write or call Ruth Kremer, 16856 Sherwood Road, Hopkins, Minnesota, - WEst 8-8176.

On any of the above field dates, more information may be obtained by writing the President. (Address same as above.)

Additional information on the show dates may be obtained by contacting the Club Secretary. (Address on cover.)

- I.S.C. OF MINNESOTA MID-WINTER FUN TRIAL -

On the fourth of March amid the worst storm of the winter, our club held its mid-winter fun trial. To those that braved the storm, Mr. and Mrs. Hogan, Mr. Rudiger, Claudia Harms, Mr. DeGiddio, the Johnson's of Willmar, Mr. Gebhart, The Don Wilson's, The Jim Wilson's, Caroll Winther, Mr. Lehrner, and all others, our President sends her sincerest thanks for participating.

By the time the tent was up and the stove lit, the girls had coffee started and the trial was under way. The snow let up a bit around 9 a.m. just as the first brace was called out. Dogs ran continuously until 1 a.m. and many a young dog did real well. Awards were given to the best dog under two years and the best dog over two years. Jim Wilson's Bridey Murphy won the young dog award with good course work and two finds which were handled in such a way as to make her a strong contender for Derby Stake Honors in any coming trial. Bridey demonstrated a very good nose and her style on point was almost faultless. The over two years class was awarded to Mr. DeGiddio's German Shorthair Pointer. This fine Shorthair will give any pointing breed dog a run for the honors in any trial. His ground course is medium in range, but his manner and style on point will be hard to beat.

- THE GERMAN SHORTHAIRED POINTER CLUB FUN TRIAL MARCH 12, 1961 -

Don Wilson and your scribe entered their dogs in Mr. Rudiger's Club's fun trial just a week after the I.S.C. of Minn. trial. The day was beautiful! We were pressed for time so the only stake we entered was the Derby. Although neither of us placed our red dogs showed real well and drew many comments from the shorthaired fans.

Don's young pup running against Derby dogs looked good. Her race could have been a bit wider, but already she is seeking birdy spots and her casts are ever increasing.

- NEW NORTHWEST FIELD PRESIDENT -

Mike Murry, better known to the Irish crowd is a winner of our Derby stake last fall has been elected President of the Northwest Field Association. Our congratulations and best wishes to you, Mike!

- MINNESOTA DOGS AT KANSAS CITY -

News from the Kansas City Shows of February 26 is that Art Gebhart and his setter "Cherry Point Chucker" took third in the Open Dog Class over 27 dogs. Art handled the dog and we hear he did a real commendable job.

More Kansas City News: Lucy Jane and "Tracy" her Best in Show setter won Best Bitch in the Irish Setters at the Show. Congratulations Lucy! The grapevine news filtering north has rumor of a sale, "Tracy"?

- MILLTOWN, WISCONSIN (Irish Ala St. Patrick) -

Dr. Jim Wilson and Mary Beth Helm mated Jim's "Bird" and Mary Beth's "Brandy", two of the midwest's great show dogs. This must have been planned for some time, else how could the litter be due on St. Patrick's Day. "Luck of the Irish", Jim?

- WEDDING BELLS -

Roger Anderson and his fiancée, Susan Cyne, are to be married April 22. These two new club members both own Irish Setter pups (Don Wilson's breeding). Best of everything together and may you not forget the dogs!

- DUBUQUE, IOWA - MARCH 26 -

Art Gebhart showed Cherry Point Chucker - No Report - Art, please contact us. (Will put results in next issue.)

- TOMA, WISCONSIN -

Dick Swanson has two new pups that Fred Kremer says are shaping up. The only news we can obtain from Toma is that Dick is baking like mad and is rolling in dough. We hear, too, the bread is rising so fast that it has spread to another town. Good baking, Dick!

- ST. CROIX VALLEY -

Dr. Ray and Carol Swanson announce a new litter of 8 pups (2 boys and 6 girls). The breeding, I hope I'm correct in this, is "Thumper", a Mary Beth Helm dog, and "Dart" coming from Cherry Point Kennels. Anyone interested, contact Hazel Park Veterinary Clinic, St. Paul, Minnesota.

- TWO YOUNG DOGS TO WATCH™

Bridie Murphy, Jim Wilson's Derby dog this year is the dog to beat in coming trials. In January, the Don Wilson's, Fred Kremer's and myself drove to Milltown and had a training session on Wisconsin pheasants. "Bridey" really showed herself to be a class dog. Her range is wide and style above reproach. Jim had told us so much about her that we all wanted to see her run. She ran! Jim smiled! She was everything Jim had said she was.

Wilson's "Red Dot", Don Wilson's hopes for puppy stakes this season is showing herself. In February, "Dot" and my "Sparky" were running together when Sparky went on point. Dot backed with no commands. This was no accident as she has been doing it ever since. I remember on one occasion when Don and I were quail hunting at the game farm that we gave up hunting for a single quail. The dogs had searched for it to no avail when Dot swung behind us and locked on point. Don was elated! We tried to flush the bird and after much beating the brush, finally located the bird a good eight feet in front of Dot. This pup now only 8 months old, points, backs and has a proven nose.

- NOTICE -

FRED KREMER'S "DUKE" AND JIM WILSON'S "BRIDIE MURPHY" TO CARRY THE I.S.C. OF MINNESOTA COLORS TO THE NATIONAL, APRIL 22.

- CONGRATULATIONS -

Our last year's first lady, Hazel Wilson, rolled a torrid 651 in three games to place third in the St. Paul Open Bowling Tournament over 1,056 bowlers. Need I say more!

A U T U M N H I L L S D U K E

Since hunting season last fall, I have told many people that I was going to write an article on one of the finest dogs I've ever had the pleasure of hunting over. From last fall until this spring, however, this dog has continued to be a marvel to me. He has in five short years risen from a rather shy young pup to national prominence in field trials and to top that, he has reserved a place for himself in medical history.

I am sure most followers of the Irish Setter know of Duke's past trial record. My part of the story begins last fall when Fred Kremer, his owner, invited me on a hunting trip to northern Minnesota in the quest of the sharptailed grouse. This trip was to be Duke's first and last of the season as two weeks later he would be under the surgeon's knife at the University of Minnesota Veterinary Clinic. Duke was a victim of heartworms for the second time. The knowledge of this, if he knew it, didn't bother Duke. The season opened at noon and at twelve sharp, Fred, Duke

Editorial (Cont'd.)

and myself were in the fields. Those of you that have hunted in northern Minnesota know just how rough the going can be. Fred and I hunted about 70 yards apart letting Duke work for both of us. This dog, though afflicted with heartworms, completely covered the area in front of us no matter how thick the underbush became. In two hours or so, Fred and I were rather spent and decided to retire to the car for a smoke and coffee. Duke would have none of this, but continued hunting. We watched in amazement as he worked hedge rows that were at least one-half mile long. As he started on the last row, Fred noticed him hesitate and turned to me and said, "Notice how the wind is shifting and watch Duke figure it out." Experts say a dog doesn't think, but I know one that does. Duke did stop. He raised his head and checked the wind. I, too, became conscious of the wind change and knew he would have to hunt the opposite side if he were to take advantage of the change. As if he could read my mind, the Duke crossed to the opposite side and continued to hunt the hedge row. I knew then why so many people said he was the dog to watch.

Two weeks after this fine showing of field generalship, the Doctors of the University Veterinary Clinic performed open heart surgery on him to remove a mass of heartworms in the right side of his heart. The surgery was successful and in ten days he was sent home to spend quiet months in convalescence.

On the first of the year, just two months after surgery, the University Doctors asked Mr. Kremer if he would consider sending Duke back to the University for testing of methods to treat the microflaria in his blood that had caused the heartworms. After due consideration and possibly some misgivings, he returned Duke for the tests and the blood treatment. The reaction was quite severe, but again the Duke came through.

Four weeks after entering the Clinic for the treatments and being confined in a kennel 3 feet by 5 feet, Duke was pronounced ready to return home.

On the afternoon of his release, Fred Kremer asked if I would like to accompany him to the Game Farm in Hugo as he had decided to let Duke see just what the outside world looked like again. With two young dogs, Fred's "Torry", my "Sparky" and Duke, we drove to Hugo. Mr. Lehrner's Game Farm was closed but a note on the door said he would return in two hours to plant the birds for us. Duke, Torry and Sparky were run for two hours with Duke leading the bunch and seeming not to be bothered by his latest ordeal at the University. In two hours, Mr. Lehrner did return and planted a covey of quail for us. As Fred and I swung the dogs into the section where the birds were planted, the Duke caught first scent and pointed. His point was faultless, tail high, head erect, one paw gently raised and as steady as granite. I flushed the bird and shot it. Duke returned it and from then on the afternoon was his. He found and pointed the rest of the birds, retrieved them and by darkness was still going at full speed!

For a dog that had just left a hospital and had not been on birds for four months, it was a thing to behold.

Editorial (Cont'd.)

Duke was given the All American Award by Sports Afield Magazine in 1959 for his great showing of that year. In 1961, he will be written up in a medical report in the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association on his recovery from heart surgery.

On the 9th of April, he will run in the I.S.C. of Minn. trial in Anoka, on the 22nd of April the National Red Setter Trial in Ohio. This year, Duke, now free of heartworms has a chance to top all of his previous records.

It is my sincere hope he does.