



Potomac Piper

Newsletter of the Potomac Skye Terrier Club

Summer, 2007



Victorian postcard

It's Summertime!



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Advertise in the Potomac Piper!

The Potomac Piper is the official newsletter of the Potomac Skye Terrier Club. The Potomac Piper is mailed four times a year to Skye Terrier owners and admirers.

Advertise a big win, a promising youngster, a deceased cherished friend, or send a message to others who love the breed.

One full page - \$25.00

Half page - \$15.00

As a PSTC member, you will receive an e-mail invitation to advertise in advance of each issue. The next issue will be published in the Fall, 2007.

Send your ad and payment to Maida Connor, 225 Opossum Hill Road, Aspers, PA 17304-9504.

Message from the President

As this issue goes to press, we are getting ready for the Potomac Skye Terrier Club summer meeting/picnic. In recent years, we have held the summer meeting around the 4th of July at the Howard County Fairgrounds in West Friendship, Maryland. This year, we decided to try something a bit different and offer an afternoon picnic for Potomac members AND their Skyes. The idea was born when Maida and I attended the Chesapeake West Highland White Terrier Club's fun match. This new club's afternoon gathering last Fall was filled with a variety of fun activities and great food.

Although for most of our members, the drive to Aspers, Pennsylvania will be a bit longer, we hope that you will join us for the picnic and meeting. There will be a gift swap, a Champions of the Heart Parade and much more. We'll keep fingers crossed that the weather cooperates.

Each year, the "main event" for the Potomac Skye Terrier Club is its annual specialty show held in April. This year's specialty was a fantastic event, with Skyes from California, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia. There was a terrific spirit of camaraderie and we were thrilled to receive new membership applications at the after-show dinner.

In addition to the specialty show, the Potomac Skye Terrier Club is dedicated to supporting all owners of Skye Terriers. We continue to explore new ways to make membership in the Potomac Skye Terrier Club as helpful as possible to all who own and love the breed. As a club, we are also dedicated to responsibly and thoughtfully promoting the breed and our public education committee is doing a fantastic job. The Potomac Piper newsletter compliments our public education efforts in addition to being a communications tool for the club.

In the mid-1990's I offered to create a simple newsletter for the Potomac Club as a way for members to stay connected to the breed and the club. The Potomac Piper began as a one-page periodic newsletter. In the Winter, 2003 a club member contacted us with an idea to assist with the newsletter. Her idea was to create a small booklet and to introduce color to bring more life to the publication. Since then, the production of the newsletter has been a team effort of Maida and myself. But this publication would never be possible without the consistent generous contributions of articles from our members.

Looking forward to seeing many of our members soon. Of course, we'll also be seeing many of you in October at the club's much anticipated booth at the Devon Dog show during the STCA Specialty Weekend. Our Ways and Means Committee has exciting plans in the works for October.

Enjoy the Summer... and your Skyes.

Michael J. Pesare
President

Meet the Member: Jan Palmer Kowalec

How did you first become aware of Skye Terriers - what attracted you to the breed? I became aware of Skyes when I was in High School. One of my friends had a cream-colored Skye and I had decided that one day I would have Skyes. Several years later I had a German Shorthaired Pointer who was doing very well in the show ring and I decided that it was time to get my first Skye.



Jan Palmer Kowalec and "Mardi" - 1973

After a lot of research into the breed and breeders, I contacted the Dales. And so the process began. It took quite some time to acquire a Skye from the Dales, but finally in 1973 I was to go the National Specialty in Minneapolis to pick up Gleanntan Going North (aka Mardi). She was spectacular! Quite the character both in and out of the show ring. She very quickly obtained her Canadian Championship placing many times in the group. Donna Dale showed her to her American title quickly as well.

Would you like to share memories of your first Skye? Memories of Mardi are many. She was a great foundation bitch, producing several Champions.

Funny things she did: Upon arriving at the Dales to be shown she artfully escaped one day. Ben received a call from his neighbor to come and retrieve a very wet Skye from his fish pond. She was found in the pond, fishing!!

She also absolutely loved mini marshmallows so we called her Marshmallow Mardi! She truly was a very special girl.

Did you have a mentor in the breed? If so, who and why? Mentors in the breed were the Dales. Donna and Ben helped me so much along the way. Carefully planning the breeding, and always there with great advice and a friendship that has remained throughout all of these years.

Over the past several years we have also had the privilege of meeting Michael Pesare and Maida Connor whom we have a deep respect for as they have given us friendship and encouragement. We have also had the

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New Champion Jay-Roy Hooligan's Holiday

(Ch. Jo-Na-Da's Shawnae Wild Lord x Ch. Jay-Roy Olivia Wild Obsession)



Hooligan finished with three majors:

5-point - judge Robert D. Smith (STCA Supported Entry)

4-point - judge Larry Adams

3-point - judge Peter Green

Terrier Group II - judge Paula Hartinger

Terrier Group II - judge Stephen Hurt

Best Puppy in Sweeps - judge Meri Alto (Potomac STC - 2006)

Bred and Cherished By:
Jay-Roy Skyes
Robyn Hand
814-845-2431



A Special Visit

Isaac's Story

Hello, my name is Isaac and I am seven years old. I love dogs. One day my friends Michael and Maida invited me over to visit them and all of their dogs. Living in a house with 11 dogs is chaos. It is a lot of work. You have to feed them two times a day - EVERYDAY. You have to groom them almost everyday. You have to give them attention. One of the dogs named Tony really liked me. He licked me all over my face. He gave me a "wet willy" when he stuck his tongue in my ear and he cleaned my glasses with his tongue. It was a great day. I want to go back and visit after the puppies are born. Imagine the chaos with about 20 dogs and puppies! I can't wait. Someday I want to be a veterinarian (or an NFL football player) and have a lot of dogs of my own.

Mackenzie's Story

My name is Mackenzie. I am eight years old. I like to listen to music, sing and draw. I also like dogs. My Aunt Soosie has 2 little Yorkies. She works with Michael. My brother and I met Michael and Maida at one of the dog shows and they invited us to their house to see all of their dogs. The dogs are very kind and have their own personalities. Bea and Lily are going to have puppies in a few weeks. I had fun writing down names for the puppies. I think Michael and Maida should name one of the girl puppies Mackenzie. Of course she should be the cutest puppy in the litter! I asked Bea if she liked the name Snoopy for one of her puppies but she said "NO", she said she likes the name Mosbey. I am looking forward to seeing the puppies in a few months. It will be interesting to see all their personalities. I hope some of them grow up to be star show dogs.



Mackenzie, Isaac and "Tony"



**To cherished friends Emily (left with Borzoi, Java)
and Pat (right with Skye, Emily) -**

**Thank you for all that you do for us
and for your love of Skye Terriers, particularly "Colby."**

Michael & Maida



"Daisy" - owned by member Rosemary Hodgins, Cape May, New Jersey

Potomac Skye Terrier Club Specialty Results

Friday, April 20, 2007

SWEEPSTAKES

JUDGE: Mr. Wayne B. Hallard

SKYE TERRIERS. Sweepstakes, Junior, 15 Months & Under 18 Months Dogs.

A 9 MARWYN FIRST EDITION OF CARYNDALE. RN 10171602. 12-10-05
By Ch Poorhill Swiftsword O'Marwyn - Ch Marwyn Forever And Ever.
Owner: Karen Steinhaus., New Canaan, CT 06840. Breeder: Cheryl
McDonald Schuman.

SKYE TERRIERS. Sweepstakes, Junior, 12 to 15 Months Bitches.

1/BJSW
/BSSW 20 JAY-ROY HOT TOPIC. RN 10852701. 03-12-06. By Ch Olivia Noble Skye
Lord - Ch Jayroy Olivia Wild Infatuation. Owner: Robyn G Hand., Glen
Campbell, PA 157428400. Breeder: Robyn Hand.

SKYE TERRIERS. Sweepstakes, Junior, 15 Months & Under 18 Months Bitches.

A 14 MOUNTAIN SKYE MAEVE OF CARYNDALE. RN 10270203. 12-13-05
By MT Skye Gold Dust Of Locust Hill - Seasing Dusky Rose Of Glencoe.
Owner: Karen Steinhaus., New Canaan, CT 06840. Breeder: Tim Biagi.

A 24 CLANDONAN ORANGE BLOSSOM LTD. RN 11105201. 12-07-05
By Ch Clandonan The Super Chief - Ch Clandonan The Royal Caledonian.
Owner: Anne & Don Brown., Ridgeland, SC 29936. Breeder: Anne & Don
Brown.

REGULAR CLASSES

JUDGE: Mr. Michael J. Dougherty

SKYE TERRIERS. 12 to 18 Months Dogs.

A 9 MARWYN FIRST EDITION OF CARYNDALE. RN 10171602. 12-10-05
By Ch Poorhill Swiftsword O'Marwyn - Ch Marwyn Forever And Ever.
Owner: Karen Steinhaus., New Canaan, CT 06840. Breeder: Cheryl
McDonald Schuman.

SKYE TERRIERS. Bred by Exhibitor Dogs.

1/W 11 JAY-ROY HOOLIGANS HOLIDAY. RN 08884401. 05-26-05. By Ch Jo-Na-
Da's Shawn Rae Wild Lord - Ch Jay-Roy Olivia Wild Obsession.
Owner: Robyn G Hand., Glen Campbell, PA 15742. Breeder: Robyn G
Hand.

SKYE TERRIERS. 12 to 18 Months Bitches.

A 14 MOUNTAIN SKYE MAEVE OF CARYNDALE. RN 10270203. 12-13-05
By MT Skye Gold Dust Of Locust Hill - Seasing Dusky Rose Of Glencoe.
Owner: Karen Steinhaus., New Canaan, CT 06840. Breeder: Tim Biagi.

A 24 CLANDONAN ORANGE BLOSSOM LTD. RN 11105201. 12-07-05. By Ch
Clandonan The Super Chief - Ch Clandonan The Royal Caledonian.
Owner: Anne & Don Brown., Ridgeland, SC 29936. Breeder: Anne & Don
Brown.

BOZ



Ch. Gleanntan Gottalookatme

(Ch. Gleanntan Going For It x Ch. Gleanntan Grandxpose)

#1 Skye Terrier in the United States - All Systems (through May 07)

Best of Breed - 33rd Potomac Skye Terrier Club Specialty

April 20, 2007

Judge: Michael J. Dougherty

BOB - Old Dominion KC - April 21, 2007

BOB and Group 2 - April 22, 2007

Thank you Michael and Maida for giving me this opportunity and congratulations on all of the successes you have had with "Boz".

The best is yet to come!

Travis S. Wright, Ed.D.

Washington, DC

SKYE TERRIERS. Bred by Exhibitor Bitches.

- 1 10 LADYBANK'S SHADOW MUSIC. RN 07469701. 11-10-04. By Skyecrest Steal The Thunder - Talakan Lilac At Jo-Na-Da. Owner: Peggy Kopf., Cupertino, CA 95014. Breeder: Peggy Kopf & Nona Moliason & Judy Davis.
- 2 18 SERENDIPITY'S WEE THISTLE. RN 04136501. 11-11-03. By Ch Skyeotts Opus One - Ch Orasaidh Tibbie Shells. Owner: Joan Fingar., Rochester, NY 146244223. Breeder: Joan Fingar.
- 3 20 JAY-ROY HOT TOPIC. RN 10852701. 03-12-06. By Ch Olivia Noble Skye Lord - Ch Jayroy Olivia Wild Infatuation. Owner: Robyn G Hand., Glen Campbell, PA 157428400. Breeder: Robyn Hand.

SKYE TERRIERS. Open, Prick Ears Bitches.

- 1/W/BW 12 GLEANNTAN GLINDATHEGOODWITCH. RN 06417701. 08-19-04
(4 Points) By Ch Gleanntan Going For It - Ch Gleanntan Grandxpose.
Owner: Gleanntan Kennels Reg., Aspers, PA 17304. Breeder: Gleanntan Kennels Reg.
- 2/R 16 GLEANNTAN GOODNESSXPOSED. RN 06417706. 08-19-04
By Ch Gleanntan Going For It - Ch Gleanntan Grandxpose.
Owner: Shirley Deasy & Maida Connor., Wake Forest, NC 27587.
Breeder: Gleanntan Kennels.

SKYE TERRIERS. Veteran, 7 Years & Over Bitches.

- 1/OS 22 CH WINDSHIFT MISS MARPLE. RM 30349802. 03-11-00. By Ch Jo-Na-Da's Spellbound Talakan - Ch Benway Roserun Exquisite. Owner: Sally Poole., Arlington, VA 22201. Breeder: Sally Poole & Peggy Kopf.

SKYE TERRIERS. Best of Breed Competition.

- B 7 CH GLEANNTAN GOTTALOOKATME. RN 06417702. 08-19-04
By Ch Gleanntan Going For It - Ch Gleanntan Grandxpose. Dog.
Owner: Travis Wright & Gleanntan Kennels., Aspers, PA 17304. Breeder: Gleanntan Kennels Reg.
- 8 CH GLEANNTAN GOODIETWOSHoes. RN 06417703. 08-19-06
By Ch Gleanntan Going For It - Ch Gleanntan Grandxpose. Bitch.
Owner: Anne D O'Reilly & Suzie Lingerfelt., Hummelstown, PA 17036.
Breeder: Gleanntan Kennels Reg.
- 15 CH FAIRE SKYES MAGIC IN THE MIST. RN 01987001. 01-28-03. By Ch Olivia Mandolin Wind - Ch Seamist Silverspun Treasure RA. Dog.
Owner: Maryanne K Gallagher., Rochester, NY 14609. Breeder: Maryanne K Gallagher & Elaine D Hersey.



New Title for Gracie



Gracie (Gleanntan Graceunderpressure, CGC) completed over 50 therapy dog visits and was therefore granted the title of TDIA (Therapy Dogs International Active Volunteer).

Gracie, along with her “sister” Skye, Coco, has been delighting residents of Oak Ridge Rehabilitation Center, Lakeland Convalescent Home and Arden Court Assisted Living in Northern New Jersey.

Gracie is owned and loved by
Sue Chandler
Wayne, New Jersey

Become Your Dog's Trainer

By Shirley Deasy

Chapter 1: Introduction – To Train or Manage? – that is the question

When starting a new basic dog training class, I try to find out what the owners really want from their dog. This may seem obvious, a well behaved dog that doesn't cause any trouble, right? Usually I get a laugh when I suggest getting a stuffed animal in their chosen breed and giving up the one that sheds, eats, chews, poops and pees!.

But seriously, what is a well-behaved animal to the owner of a little terrier and the owner of a Bull Mastiff could be very different (reminds me of seeing a handler with two Bull Mastiffs at a show – she had all she could do to stay upright with these pulling monsters. I was thinking a little leash training, starting at 6 weeks of age, would be a good approach!

I was amazed when, out of desperation, she yelled "RIGHT" and they both turned to the right, down the aisle she wanted to go.). Anyway, one advantage to having a Skye Terrier is that they are smaller than a mastiff but it also means, that like owners of other small breeds, we can physically manage our dogs instead of training them. Gets us off the hook a bit but can result in an unmanageable, insecure, unhappy dog and owner.

So what do you want from your Skye Terrier? A dog that will come when called? When called in your house? When called to dinner? When called in your backyard? When called when running an agility course? Or perhaps a dog that doesn't jump up on guests? A dog that doesn't pull you down the street? A dog that can move around the breed ring "like a ship in full sail"[1] and stack beautifully, or run an agility course, compete in Rally, traditional obedience or freestyle? Perhaps some of the above, perhaps all!

Where to start: Three solutions.

Most people coming to my basic dog training class want their dog to stop doing something. Stop jumping, stop digging in the yard, sit when told, walk nicely on leash, etc.

Simply put, there are three ways to solve almost any dog behavior problem:

Train the dog. Teaching your Skye basic manners will require some investment by you. By learning how to teach your dog, you become your

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**He is a proud dog, a brave dog,
and as good as any dog that ever
came out of the Isle of Skye,
or the rest of the world...**

**Sandra Goose Allen
Joy, Abigail & Janice**

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Skye's personal trainer. Take a class or two or more, read training books. So if the dog jumps on you and you train it to sit before you greet it, you have fixed the jumping up problem.

Decide it's not a problem. If you don't mind your Skye jumping on you (and truth be told, I don't mind my Skye or the two silly corgis or my dearly departed Scotty jumping on me), then it isn't a problem. If I had a 160 lb. mastiff, believe me, I would mind and would train the dog not to jump on me. (But as a friend points out, I need to train them NOT to jump on guests!)

Or perhaps your Skye doesn't come when called. If you never let it off lead and don't do competitive dog sports, then perhaps this isn't a problem (although it might be a safety issue if the dog gets away from you). So "deciding it is not a problem" could mean you have to manage the dog or the situation its entire life rather than the dog managing himself.

Shoot the dog. Please, let's not go there...

I think that the first two solutions are reasonable and neither is THE right answer for every situation or behavior. When you think of what you want your dog to do or not do, decide if you want to manage the situation for the life of your dog or train the dog. Training does require time but it is quality time that should be fun for both of you and enhance your relationship. It will give your Skye more confidence and result in a happier companion. He will know the rules and equally important, know how to manage himself. It is also essential to the mental health of your dog – training is mentally challenging and enjoyable if done using positive techniques.

Next issue: Chapter 2, Positive Training the Clicker Way

[1] Anne Rogers Clark



Two of Yountville's Treasures - The French Laundry & Panya



Dinner for two at Per Se - \$740

Matinee tickets for "Wicked" - \$535

Retiring at Westminster ("The Garden") - Priceless

After a show career including a "Best in Show" and multiple group wins and placings, Panya is home in Yountville to help give directions to the "Laundry" and to refer grooming and boarding clients (dogs, cats, rabbits) to her newly retired handler, Sally (& Mark) George at Aberglen Pet Resort in Sonoma, California. We thank you all for your support and your love through this incredible journey.

Carol Fink & Panya

www.frenchlaundry.com

“Champion Gleanntan Great Guns - Chumley”

By Karoyle Smith

I met Chumley (and Judy Fatzinger) because where I lived, people would tell me that there was another “Scotty” also living there. I watched for the “Scotty” whenever I went outside and then one day I spotted this lady walking “the Scotty” and thought to myself that this dog must be a “half breed” because it sure wasn’t a pure bred “Scotty” with that long body and short legs. The “Scotty” turned out to be “Chumley” the Skye Terrier and his two legged mom, Judy Fatzinger.

At the time I first met them and Judy explained the breed to me, I did not realize the impact that “Chumley” would have on my life! I immediately fell in love with this dog. He wasn’t like any other dog that I ever had. He was more intelligent and appeared to really know what we were saying to him. And he was always very happy to see me! I spent many a weekend going to the dog shows with Judy as “Chumley” was working toward finishing his AKC Championship. He would enter the ring and sometimes do as he was supposed to, and then there were times that he thought he was in charge!!

I met many people including the breeders of Gleanntan Kennels and began to understand the dog show world and especially the Skye Terrier breed. Whenever I visited with Judy and “Chumley”, I spent a lot of time with him. After Judy got “Gertie”, whenever we went for walks, I took “Chumley”. He became my “home away from home Skye”. Through this wonderful Skye I acquired a wonderful friendship with Judy, and many other “Skye people”. I have experienced so many great moments at the dog shows and have learned so much. I became a “Skye” owner with my wonderful “Maggie” because of “Chumley” and there are no words to express the gratitude that I have for these things. There was one thing he did that stood out for me and that was sitting up on his hind legs and awaiting praise on how gorgeous he was! And he loved every minute of the attention! I used to tell him that he was “my hunk”!

On April 19th we had to say good-bye to him. This was a very difficult time for me. It was amazing how bonded with this guy I really was. He will always have a special place in my heart. I will always love “Chumley” and appreciate all he has given me.



Welcome new members!

Margaret (Peggy) Kopf, Cupertino, CA
Sally Poole, Arlington, VA
Frances L. Reid-Sanden, La Vista, CO

Chumley



Beyond The Rainbow

As much as I loved the life we had and all the times we played,
I was so very tired and knew my time on earth would fade.
I saw a wondrous image then of a place that's trouble-free
Where all of us can meet again to spend eternity.

I saw the most beautiful Rainbow, and on the other side
Were meadows rich and beautiful -- lush and green and wide!
And running through the meadows as far as the eye could see
Were animals of every sort as healthy as could be!
My own tired, failing body was fresh and healed and new
And I wanted to go run with them, but I had something left to do.

I needed to reach out to you, to tell you I'm alright
That this place is truly wonderful, then a bright Glow pierced the night.
'Twas the Glow of many Candles shining bright and strong and bold
And I knew then that it held your love in its brilliant shades of gold.

For although we may not be together in the way we used to be,
We are still connected by a cord no eye can see.
So whenever you need to find me, we're never far apart
If you look beyond the Rainbow and listen with your heart.

Judy Fatzinger



Anticipation

Looking forward to
the adventure of
raising a new Skye.
Looking forward to
all the challenges
and the inherent successes.
Looking forward to
all the joy
and the fun times.
Looking forward to
getting to know each other.
Seeing in a new little one
the similarities that
have been seen in those
that have come before.
Seeing the depth and purity
of a soul becoming only
to that of a Skye.
Finding such contentment
in their presence.
Finding such delight
in their whimsical surprises.
Filled with Hope.
Filled with Expectation.
Filled with the Promise.
Filled with the Dreams
that can come true!

Marijane Parrish

What is a Skye?

Show me a Skye
And I will show you
a heart of gold -
A heart so true,
A treasure to behold.

Show me a Skye
And I promise you
You will find
the missing piece
To the puzzle of your life
You've been looking for.

Show me a Skye
And I will tell you
Of a creature so bonded
in Love
That can never be changed
or broken.

Show me a Skye
And he will show
me and you
The eternal glue
That holds the heart of man
With the heart of his dog.

My inspiration -
Tommy, Meggie, Johnnie,
Bevie, Ch. Fonnies, Charlie and
Bobby.

Marijane Parrish
(Owner of Skye Terriers
for 45 years)



A Really Great Kiss!

By Travis S. Wright

“You haven’t been kissed.... ‘til you’ve been smooched by a Skye” was the headline for the Skye Terrier Kissing Booth sponsored by our club at the Potomac Skye Terrier Specialty. For the entire day, Skye volunteers and their people took turns sharing the wonderful gifts of our breed with passers-by.



Kate Kozeliski visits with “Emily” at the Potomac Booth

As an event that attracts mostly terrier fanciers and exhibitors, as opposed to the general public, the Columbia All-Terrier Group Show turned out to be an interesting location at which to do public outreach. Though initially disappointed that we might not be able to reach many novice exhibitors or potential pet owners, we soon discovered that there is much opportunity for education among our fellow dog show enthusiasts. Many long-time terrier owners approached the booth curiously, asking, “Can you really kiss a Skye,” or “Won’t they snap? I thought they could go at you?”

It seems that there are still many lingering stereotypes and misunderstandings about our breed. Indeed, several popular “finding the right puppy” books still represent the Skye as mean and nasty. Though it is true that our breed has terrier instincts, is no Labrador Retriever, and that there are individuals with sharp tempers, we must let folks know and witness the gentle spirit, devoted affection, and sense of humor that Skyes may also possess. As a critically rare breed, the Skye Terrier community must develop new stewards, more homes, and a cadre of allies to sing the praises of our breed, letting folks know that the Skye can be a wonderful companion for many different types of individuals and families.

As such, we can’t take for granted that the people who “set up” next to us at shows each weekend understand our breed. There is still great value

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pleasure of knowing Roxana Rohrich.

What do you love most about the Skye Terrier? Having had Skyes for near 35 years we obviously have fallen in love with the breed. They are so very loving, loyal and fun to have around. They are strong willed and extremely intelligent. And Oh, what a beautiful breed to look at.

When people ask you about your Skyes - what do you like to share (attributes/characteristics)? We share many things when asked about the breed. In particular, their loyalty and intelligence, and no.... they are not difficult to groom and do not shed.

What do you feel is the biggest challenge facing the breed today? The biggest challenge for the breed today is preservation. Finding people who will truly do justice to the breed. Skyes are becoming too rare and I have such a fear that one day they will not longer be on this earth.

Personalized Pet Portraits

Colleen McKinnon, **Artist**

www.petportraitsbycolleen.com

colleen_imagesink@yahoo.com

717.731.9054



Images, Ink.

A New Generation of Gleanntan Skyes



April 17, 2007

Ch. Finnsky Gladiator x Ch. Gleanntan Givemebusybee!
4 boys, 5 girls

April 24, 2007

Ch. Gleanntan Getouttadodge x Ch. Gleanntan Stargazer Lily
1 boy, 1 girl



Gleanntan Kennels, Reg.
Classic Skye Terriers - Since 1970

B. Nolan Dale
Michael J. Pesare & Maida Connor
Roxan Rohrich
www.gleanntan.com

Puttin' on the Ritz

By Susan Chandler

We all love our dogs, but how many opportunities do you get to dress up and go out on the town with your favorite girl (or guy)?

Gracie (Gleanntan Graceunderpressure CGC, TDIA) and I recently attended "The Canine Cotillion" sponsored by St. Hubert's, a non-profit animal welfare organization based in Madison, New Jersey. This annual black tie event is the group's biggest fundraiser for their animal shelters throughout the state. The event took place on March 24th at the Birchwood Manor in



Whippany, NJ and was billed as an evening of cocktails, dining and dancing for you and your canine companion (if you so desire!). A silent auction also took place during the cocktail hour, with many beautiful items donated by local businesses, all to benefit activities at St. Hubert's.

The preparation: For Gracie it just meant a bath and extra grooming time and lots of Vellus and Static Stabilizer to make her sparkle. I added some strings of pearls to dress her up (although you couldn't see them!) For me, it was a bit more complicated, of course, but who doesn't like to shop?

Getting there: It was just another car ride for Gracie, who sat quietly (don't mess up that part!) in the back seat of my car. We arrived at the banquet hall and proceeded to the entrance - try walking a very energetic Skye Terrier in a cocktail dress and three inch heels sometime! We were immediately confronted by a couple of Bernese Mountain Dogs accompanied by women in evenings gowns. This was going to be an experience and I wasn't the only crazy lady bringing a dog.

The Event: There were 300 people and 100 canines in attendance - more

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than I ever imagined - and all very well behaved. I don't know what Gracie was thinking about all of this. She was quite comfortable at dog shows and has seen different breeds, but this was confusing! All the dogs were walking around on this fancy carpeting! Where are the mats? The grass??? And all these people (and some dogs too) with fancy clothes?? All of a sudden, she became quite humbled (rare). We met many people; several knew of the Skye Terrier but had never seen one. Dogs were not excluded from the cocktail hour festivities - they had a table filled with fancy treats courtesy of Bon Chien, a local dog bakery. Unlike her owner, Gracie does not like to "eat out" but I did slip a few fancy treats in my bag for Coco (Brenmoor Beguiler at Gleanntan) to enjoy at home. I also learned quite quickly that it is nearly impossible to juggle a dog, glass of wine and a plate of hors d'oeuvres.

By the time we sat down for dinner, we had looked at all the auction items, got our picture taken several times and met a lot of dogs, some in fancy attire. We met "Jennifer," the canine poster dog for the event, Abigail Breslin, the young actress from "Little Miss Sunshine" and saw some minor NJ celebrities including Dr. Brian Voynick from "The Pet Shop," a show on NJ12 TV. Gracie was now glad that she didn't have to socialize with all those "other dogs" and happily laid at my feet for the meal. It was a fun evening out for both of us, socializing with fellow animals and animal lovers and supporting a good cause.



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in educating our colleagues and competitors, because they help spread the word about Skyes and will also become the judges of tomorrow. As a rare breed, the show ring is one of the only places that many people may be able to see our breed. Watching a Skye win big or hearing folks ring side say good things about our breed cannot hurt, and in fact, may help us a great deal in attracting new folks to our community. So, the next time you're at a show, make it a point to tell a fellow exhibitor, friend or stranger, something you "bet they don't know" about our breed.

Many thank to those who helped make the Skye Terrier Kissing Booth a success. If you would be interested in hosting a similar display in your area, please feel free to contact me (traviswright@yahoo.com; 202.210.5142) and I will be happy to email you the graphics utilized on the display. Any member may print them out and post them onto their own boards for use in her or his local area. Let's all spread the word!

About the Potomac Skye Terrier Club

The Potomac Skye Terrier Club is an AKC-sanctioned club devoted to preserving and promoting interest in the Skye Terrier in the Middle Atlantic region of the United States. Since 1972, the club has fulfilled its mission by annually holding a Specialty show as well as meetings, educational seminars, and through communication with its members.

If you are interested in supporting the Potomac Skye Terrier Club through membership, please contact Maida Connor, Secretary, 225 Opossum Hill Road, Aspers, PA 17304-9504, Phone: 717-677-0700 or e-mail: maidaconnor@comcast.net.

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