

good luck follows us into the show ring.

—Virginia Matanic;  
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## Glen of Imaal Terriers The Letter

It has been seven years since the inaugural installment of a Glen of Imaal Terrier breed column appeared in this magazine. I feel that we have gotten to know each other sufficiently well by now that you are, how should I say, "ready" for this.

What I am about to reveal is considered shocking in some Glen quarters—even scandalous—so much so that conspiracy theories exist that question its authenticity. Trust me, it's authentic. Some find it truthful but terribly politically incorrect. Others, and they are probably the vast majority, see it as a window into the unrecorded history of our breed that fills in the undocumented gap that exists between the 1930s, when the breed was first recognized in Ireland, and the 1960s, when the breed was thrust into a bona fide revival.

That gap, the Depression and war years, was a period when our breed faced near-extinction for a second time. All of our modern Glens have pedigrees that go back no further than the revival period of the 1960s. It has been claimed, by colleagues in Ireland, that pedigrees do exist that trace back to the 1930s, but these have never been produced. Even the coolest of cynologists among us find themselves dropping their jaws when they read this document for the first time. In Glen circles, these fascinating but explosive few paragraphs are known simply as "the letter."

The letter, dated May 1997, was written by Frank Fallon, former secretary of the Glen of Imaal Terrier Club in Ireland. It is addressed to a Dutch Glen enthusiast. It was published in a Dutch monograph about the breed written by Susanne Bagaya and Jean Beats.

Regarding the names mentioned in the letter, Maureen Holmes was a titanic figure in the history of Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers. Dan O'Donoghue was equally iconic in the

history of Glens. During the 1930s he wrote a column about canines under the *nom de plume* "Danny Boy" in *The Irish Field* that frequently documented goings-on in the Glen world. His column is one of our most invaluable sources for Glen history during the period. Finally, the names Fearless Dan and Tinahely Lad refer to founding sires in the breed's revival period of the 1960s. Behind them, the trail vanishes and does not pick up again until 1934.

Here's Mr. Fallon:

"In the early days, Glens and Wheaten Terriers often came from the same litter. In the late thirties, Maureen Holmes registered the long-legged dogs as Soft Coated Wheatens Terriers, and Dan O'Donoghue registered the short-legged ones as Glen of Imaal Terriers ... Fearless Dan's sire was called Tinahely Lad, part old Irish Terrier, part Staffordshire Bull. His Dam was a long-legged Wheaten bitch, part Kerry Blue, part White Bull Terrier. Tinahely Lad was a long, low, powerfully built dog with a short, hard red coat. This bitch also bred several litters of Wheaten Terriers depending on which sire was used. ... In the old days, a dog could be registered on inspection by a member of The Irish Kennel Club, if they conformed to the standard laid down by Dan O'Donoghue."

In the next installment of this column we'll examine the significance of Mr. Fallon's revelations. Meanwhile, as comedian Jack Benny used to say with a gasp, "Well!" —Bruce Susman;  
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## Irish Terriers Codes of Ethics—to Praise, Not to Bury

Most breed clubs have them. The MAKC has its Code of Good Sportsmanship. Is this just good business, or is it just good PR? Do we mean it? Should we? Here is what I think.

Having a code of ethics shows our commitment to providing a good product with a reliable warranty, and with it

we create in the minds of the public, our purchasers, and fellow club members the expectation of fair dealing. Further, it says we want to make sure that our dogs have happy and healthy lives and that their families are satisfied with their decision to buy from us. New owners understand that we will be there for them in good times and bad. It is more than good PR. It says that we have integrity and that we care for our dogs and for our club's reputation.

But having a code of ethics and living by it are very different things.

Recently an article appeared in this magazine that addressed the futility of litigation involving dogs, contracts, and general unhappiness with deals we as breeders thought we had. This reality makes our codes of ethics all the more critical to the maintenance of customer satisfaction and breed protection.

There is no need for costly and acrimonious litigation if everyone adheres to the code of ethics. If we "walk the walk" of our commitment to the fundamental role the breed club community is supposed to be playing (that is, breed protection), the likelihood of harm or foul is greatly diminished.

Membership in a breed club is like being part of any other special-purpose group. By becoming a member, we surrender some individual rights to the greater purpose. We are willing to do this because we believe that breed protection trumps individual preference or self-promotion. We subscribe to a sense of community, where our love of the breed and enjoyment of our dogs is shared by like-minded people. We sign the club's Code of Ethics not only because it is a condition of membership, but because we believe in our special purpose.

I suppose there was a time when a code of ethics would have been considered so obvious, so ingrained in the fabric of the community, that its recitation would have been considered superfluous—even a silly wasted effort. Today the environment is different, however.

As a group we have been offended by the assertion of some that breeders

are just "in it for the money"; that breeders choose to pass on genetic defects, health issues and questionable temperaments; that breeders are more concerned about a dog's outline than its insides. We have fought legislation based on these allegations, and I suspect we will continue to do so, since that battle is long from being won. We hold up our Codes as proof of our commitment.

Then there is the need to protect the reputations of the scores of people who try their best to do their best—in every situation, every day. They need protection from the few who don't. A code of ethics can help define and identify behavior that falls short of fair dealing, breed protection, and respect for the club's reputation. Then it logically follows that once identified, breaches must be addressed—with care and understanding to be sure, but with the club's purpose (breed protection) clearly in mind. Because breed protection is the bottom line. —*Marianne Kehoe; m\_dkehoe@verizon.net*

### Kerry Blue Terriers Are You a Good Breeder?

It takes more than having a litter of puppies to say you are a good breeder. It is hoped that you did your homework investigating the pedigrees of the sire and dam, including possible health clearances required. However, are you ready for the hard work and the responsibilities that escalate after the puppies are born?

Puppies are cute and fun, but it is important to consider your responsibilities for the litter before moving forward with a breeding. Assuming proper nutrition and veterinary care of the dam and her litter helped produce a healthy litter of puppies, you now have to start the process of raising well-adjusted puppies for at least 10 to 12 weeks, until they are placed with their new owners.

- Do you have the time and money to maintain the puppies in a clean and healthy environment, offering them any necessary veterinary care? Three or four visits to a vet may be required before

they are ready to leave home.

- Do you have a safe space to allow the puppies to run and play as they mature? A fenced-in area that offers the puppies stimulation with ramps, toys, and tunnels will help build muscle tone and confidence.

- Are you able to crate-train each puppy so that when they go to their new homes they will be secure in a new environment? This will take some patience and more than a few early-morning wake-ups to make sure the puppy does not soil his crate.

- Once the puppies have had the necessary vaccinations, will you socialize each puppy, bringing them for car rides, trips to a park or a walk on a leash? Offering each of them new experiences, independent of the other puppies in the litter, promotes the self-confidence needed during this developmental stage.

- Do you have the equipment and expertise to groom your puppies, or do you know someone who is willing to do this for you? As the breeder, you may need to teach the new owner the breed's basic maintenance requirements. If you are not personally able to do this, you will need to contact someone in the owner's area and ask them to help the new owner in this process.

- Should ears need to be set, can you do this for the length of time required, or do you know someone who will do this for you? Other responsible breeders will usually be more than willing to help you. Give them a call first, however, before forwarding their information.

- Are you willing to thoroughly interview each potential new puppy owner and perhaps even visit their home if reliable references are not offered? Placement of the right puppy with the right owner is not the easiest task. Does the dog need a fenced-in yard? Are all members of the family on board for the purchase of a dog? Does the age of the children present an issue? What other pets are in the home? Does anyone in the family have dog allergies?

- Are you able to present the new owner with AKC-registration papers, a contract, the dog's medical history, and

a list of grooming tools required, as well as information about the dietary needs and the puppy's basic maintenance and training requirements?

- Are you willing to act as a resource for the new puppy owner, answering their e-mails and phone calls as questions arise?

- In the future, should the dog need to be relocated, will you accept responsibility for its rehoming?

Good breeders are committed to placing a happy and healthy dog in the most suitable environment for that dog. They are willing to spend the time and money required to do so and accept all the responsibilities as a resource for the new owners. Join the community of good breeders across the country who strive to place the right puppy for you and your family. Visit [ukbt.com](http://ukbt.com). —*Carol Kearney; heritagekerry@optonline.net*

### Lakeland Terriers Breed Characteristics

Many thanks to Pat Peters for her years of writing the breed's GAZETTE columns. She has passed the baton to me, and I would like to take this opportunity to remind the readers that this column belongs to you. Please e-mail me with topics you would like addressed and with feedback on the columns.

One of the objectives of the breed columns is to inform readers who might be interested in owning the breed about characteristics that are unique to Lakeland Terriers, so I will begin with that topic.

Terrier trainer extraordinaire Pat Muller summed it up best when she used a military analogy to categorize various breed personalities. "If you compare dog breeds to the military, terriers would be the Special Forces. And Lakelands would be Black Ops!"

Lakelands are constantly analyzing situations to determine what is to their best advantage, a heritage from their working origins. For a Lakeland to be included in the original gene pool, they needed to have enormous intensity and bravery, tempered with ability to read