

# **WIT, WISDOM & WINDHOUNDS**

A Publication of the International Silken Windhound Society



Winter 2020/21 - Issue 1

## Table of Contents

<b>Officers &amp; Officials of ISWS</b>	<b>2</b>
ISWS Board of Directors	2
ISWS Registrar	2
ISWS Committees	2
SilkenFest Committees	3
<b>Letter from The President</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Features</b>	<b>5</b>
Competition Winner	5
Breeder Spotlight – Founder: Francie Stull	5
Competition Time	12
Silkens As Service Dogs / Segs The Service Dog	13
<b>Rankings</b>	<b>14</b>
ASFA	14
LGRA	14
NOTRA	15
UKC	15
NADAC	16
BHA	16
<b>ISWS Shows Round Up</b>	<b>17</b>
BooFest	17
Upcoming Events 2021	19
New ISWS Champions	19
<b>Beyond America</b>	<b>20</b>
ISWS Specialty Shows	20
Performance Reports	22
Silken PR	23
<b>Meet the Ed's</b>	<b>24</b>
Nanci Byers	24
Vicki Bratcher	25
Justine Rodgers	25
<b>Silken Scrapbook</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Embark</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Next Issue</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Mission Statement</b>	<b>28</b>
Statement of Intent	28
Policies	28
Guidelines	28

# Officers & Officials of ISWS

## ISWS Board of Directors

Founder:	Francie Stull: <a href="mailto:Francie@Borzoi.com">Francie@Borzoi.com</a>
President:	Lynn Wall: <a href="mailto:iswspresident@gmail.com">iswspresident@gmail.com</a>
Vice President:	Hilary Tringham: <a href="mailto:iswsvicepresident@gmail.com">iswsvicepresident@gmail.com</a>
Recording Secretary:	Brenda Young: <a href="mailto:iswsrecordingsecretary@gmail.com">iswsrecordingsecretary@gmail.com</a>
Corresponding Secretary:	Sue Lewis: <a href="mailto:iswscorrespondingsecretary@gmail.com">iswscorrespondingsecretary@gmail.com</a>
International Delegate:	Carsten Bank: <a href="mailto:iswseuropeandelebrate@gmail.com">iswseuropeandelebrate@gmail.com</a>
Treasurer:	Jolene Hicks: contact email: <a href="mailto:jolenejones@sbcglobal.net">jolenejones@sbcglobal.net</a>

For PayPal payments only: [iswstreasurer@yahoo.com](mailto:iswstreasurer@yahoo.com)

## ISWS Registrar

Position currently vacant.

Information, current and future registration requests need to be submitted by email to:

[iswsregistrar@silkenwindhounds.org](mailto:iswsregistrar@silkenwindhounds.org)

The TRC (Temporary Registration Committee) are managing the registrar in the interim

**DNA requests** are being processed by Vicki Bratcher. Please email: [iswsregistrar@silkenwindhounds.org](mailto:iswsregistrar@silkenwindhounds.org)

We encourage members to send in their litter applications, puppy registrations, ownership transfers, and DNA requests to the email address listed above with a copy of the PayPal payment, or at least the PayPal transaction number. **We are trying to get away from sending these registrations through the mail.**

**Note:** All PayPal payments to be sent to [iswstreasurer@yahoo.com](mailto:iswstreasurer@yahoo.com)

## ISWS Committees

Below are the current ISWS Committees, their chairs and contact information:

### Show Points Committee - Vacant

Please send reports to: [iswsshowreports@gmail.com](mailto:iswsshowreports@gmail.com)

(Note: Exhibitors are reminded to be sure that Show Reports are sent in **within 2 weeks after the show**, that **legible** pictures of **complete** judges' sheets accompany them. Each exhibitor should receive the same report that is sent to the Show Points Committee.)

NB: Copy of all results should also be sent to the Corresponding Secretary:

[iswscorrespondingsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:iswscorrespondingsecretary@gmail.com)

### AKC Committee

Chair(s):

Joyce Chin - [joyce@talismanhounds.com](mailto:joyce@talismanhounds.com)

Keith Hicks - [khicks7780@sbcglobal.net](mailto:khicks7780@sbcglobal.net)

### Health Committee

Chair: Joyce Chin - [joyce@talismanhounds.com](mailto:joyce@talismanhounds.com)

Members: Alison Brendel, Hutsie Brown, Jolene Hicks - [jolenejones@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jolenejones@sbcglobal.net), Lydia Jorgensen, Michelle Smith

### Illustrated Standard Committee

Co-Chairs: Gill Grist and Kathryn Houghton

Members: Vicki Bratcher, R.Lynn Shell, Francie Stull, Chris Swilley, Hilary Tringham,

### Show Rules Committee

Chair: Cyndi Dell,

Members: Charliann Cross, Jan Decker, Iola Stetson, Hilary Tringham

### Genetic Diversity Committee

Chair: Jerilynn Adin Safran - [je.ri@verizon.net](mailto:je.ri@verizon.net)

Members: Alison Brendel, Gill Grist, Francie Stull- [Francie@Borzoi.com](mailto:Francie@Borzoi.com)

### Rescue Committee

Chair: Joyce Chin - [joyce@talismanhounds.com](mailto:joyce@talismanhounds.com)

Member: Jolene Hicks - [jolenejones@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jolenejones@sbcglobal.net)

### USA PR Committee

Vacant

### EU PR Committee

Chair: Lorraine Marchant [starboro@btinternet.com](mailto:starboro@btinternet.com)

Members:

Helena Arh [volkowokennel@gmail.com](mailto:volkowokennel@gmail.com)

Kristina Bank [silkenjoy@gmx.com](mailto:silkenjoy@gmx.com)

Susann Stjernborg [susann.stjernborg@gmail.com](mailto:susann.stjernborg@gmail.com)

### ISWS Lure Coursing Officer,

Lori Silvestri: [iswslurecoursing@gmail.com](mailto:iswslurecoursing@gmail.com)

\*Committees: Please contact the relevant Committee Chairs should you have specific questions or interest. If the position is vacant contact: Hilary Tringham - [iswsvicepresident@gmail.com](mailto:iswsvicepresident@gmail.com)

## SilkenFest Committees

### SilkenFest Planning Committee (Core Committee)

(These are the core people, regional people come in and out as the locations change; some take on more than one task and that varies from year to year):

SilkenFest National Coordinator- effective 2020 for 2021 and future SF's - Jerilynn Adin-Safran - [je.ri@verizon.net](mailto:je.ri@verizon.net)

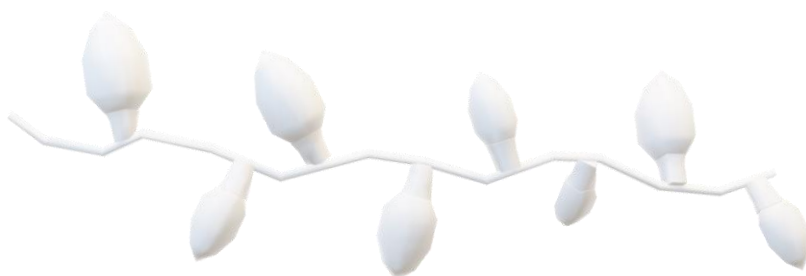
Positions	Point of Contact
Founder	Francie Stull
National SF Rosettes & Medallions	Jerilynn Adin-Safran
National SF Trophy and Judges Gift Chair	Vacant
National SF Silent Auction Coordinator	Barb Franklin
National SF Health Clinic Coordinator	<b>Vacant</b>
National SF Fundraising	<b>Vacant</b>
National SF Public Relations (Chair & Committee)	<b>Vacant</b>
National SF Clothing and Special Event Items	<b>Vacant</b>
National SF Performance Events	Karen Sanders
National SF Lure Coursing Secretary	Lori Silvestri
National SF Obedience & Rally- Obedience	Kathy Moore, Keith Hicks & Jolene Hicks - <a href="mailto:jolenejones@sbcglobal.net">jolenejones@sbcglobal.net</a>
National SF Website Coordinator	<b>Vacant</b>

\*If the position is vacant contact: Jerilynn Adin-Safran - [je.ri@verizon.net](mailto:je.ri@verizon.net)



Welcome to all things  
**SilkenFest 2021**  
Olympia, Wa  
  
Join us  
**September 16-21, 2021**  
  
[silkenFest@gmail.com](mailto:silkenFest@gmail.com)

Credit: Pauline Ng



## Letter from The President

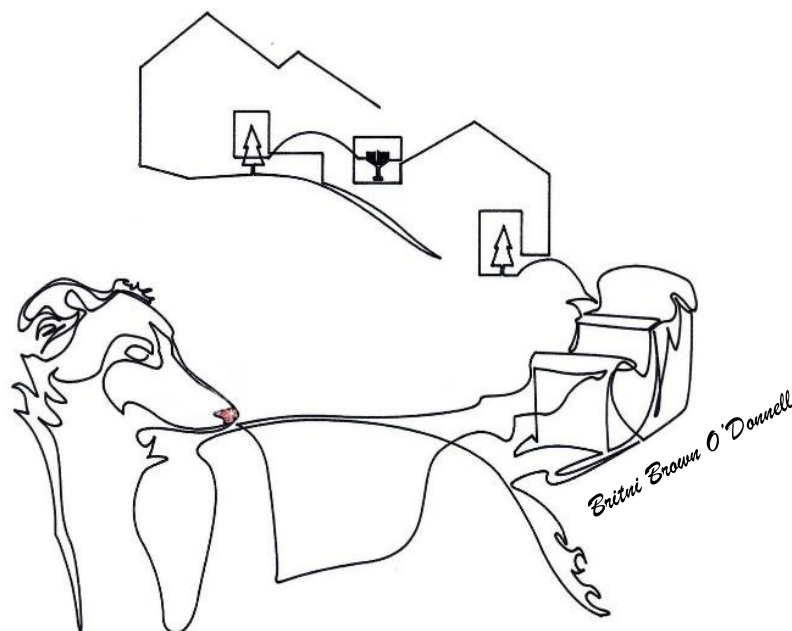
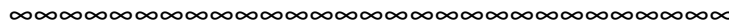
Welcome to the first ISWS Newsletter! We sincerely thank all contributors, whether your submission appears in this edition or future editions. A special thank you to our Editor's Nanci Byers, Vicki Bratcher and Justine Rodgers for the hours of hard work and dedication to produce this publication, and also to Britni Brown O'Donnell for her festive artwork. Starting with a blank canvas is always the hardest part, made more so by the difficult year we have had and are still experiencing. With the baseline and format established I am already looking forward to future issues and its ongoing evolvement. Of course, we are always open to your creative ideas and suggestions, so please share.

By way of introduction, we have a special 'Meet the Editors' section and our Breeder Spotlight begins with our Founder, Francie Stull. We plan to have many more of these.

We do hope you enjoy the newsletter, and, in the meantime, I wish you all every happiness this Holiday Season and throughout the coming year, however you are celebrating it, but most of all, Stay Safe.

Best wishes,

Lynn Wall  
ISWS President



## Features

## Name the Newsletter Competition

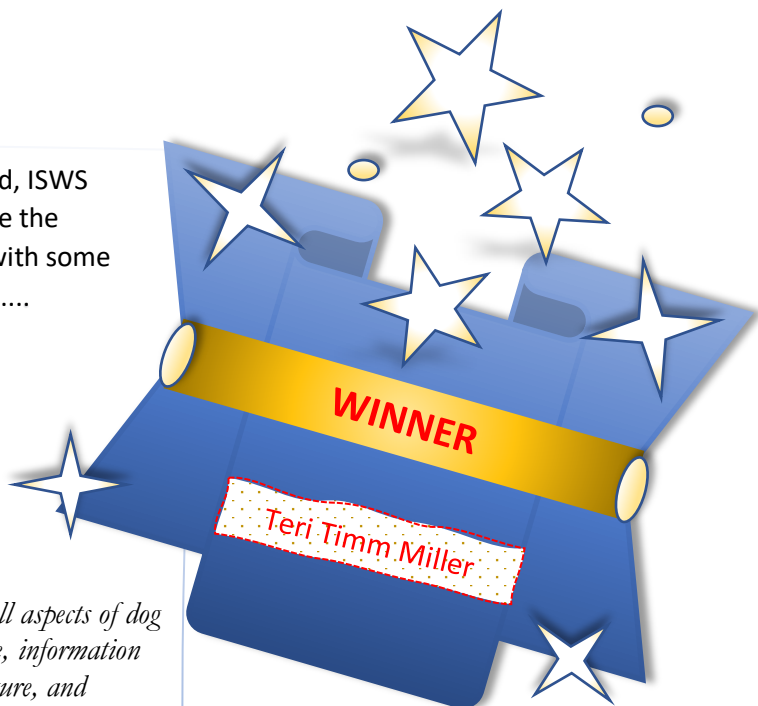
It would be rude not to open the first, and much anticipated, ISWS Newsletter without acknowledging the winner of the 'Name the Newsletter' competition. We had a whopping 75 entries, with some members submitting more than one name! So here we go.....

## CONGRATULATIONS

To **Teri Timm Miller** who wins a subscription to:  
'The Whole Dog Journal'

*Whole Dog Journal offers well-researched, in-depth articles about all aspects of dog care and training. We feature natural care, diet and training advice, information about complementary therapies like chiropractic, massage, acupuncture, and homeopathy, and advice from experts in the field. We also test, review, and evaluate products. This is a task we can take on without fear, for we are 100 percent subscriber-supported; we do not and will never carry advertising.*

[www.whole-dog-journal.com](http://www.whole-dog-journal.com)



## Breeder Spotlight

Within each publication the ISWS would like to include the feature 'Breeder Spotlight' to allow members to gain a personal insight of their experiences, ambitions, aspirations etc. For our first issue we start with **Breed Founder**, Francie Stull of Kristull Silken Windhounds in Texas.

**Is there a story or meaning to your kennel name?**

*When we started breeding Borzoi, we wanted something to do with our name, but Stull is really a harsh word (I married it, so take no blame). We tried Stullengrad, or Stullinski for Russian flavor, but nothing worked. Then we hit on Kristull, which is short (great for not taking up too much room in the registered names), easy to pronounce, has a good connotation and pleasant sound, and was unused by any other breeders. All of our businesses have been Kristull ever since.*

**When did you get your first show / performance dog and why did you decide to get it?**

*My parents bought a Borzoi when I was 5 years old. They were artists and it was the most artistic dog I had ever seen. When I grew up, I wanted a show dog, and said to Chuck, "when I was a kid, we had a Borzoi," so we went looking for one. The first couple that we got were not good representatives of the breed, so I finally bought two lovely*



International, American, Mexican Ch. Krustull  
Hhigh Voltage shown winning the Hound Group  
in Mexico City in the late 1970's. A son of the  
Dutch Import Ch. Vorenoff Kyril Tolkai, and out  
of the Top Winning Lure Coursing Bitch, Int.  
Amer. Mex. Ch. Krustull Ffuture Shock Fld. Ch.  
LGM



International, American, Mexican Ch. Kristull Iced Unicorn Fld.

*finished champion bitches (Ch. Shondar's Coral Sea Ebon Will and Int, Amer, Mex. Ch. Rising Star's Ghost Dancer C.D., Fld. Ch.) and Jackie (my sister) brought a gorgeous male back from Holland (Ch. Vorenoff Kyril Tolkaia) before most people were able to import new dogs into this country.*

*That was in the early 1970's. I won the points at my first three dog shows, with a puppy and was hooked for the rest of my life.*

#### **Who were your mentors when you started?**

*My sister and I did not have any mentors and had to reinvent the wheel for ourselves. Our first dogs came from two continents and multiple breeders, but nobody was local who could help us.*

*Since I was enamoured with the self-brindle Borzois that were not in favor at the time, we broke open the color barrier in the breed in about 1976. The October issue of the Gazehound magazine had five of our self-brindle Champions on the cover and that set us on the path to*

*notariety.*

*We used to practice by show stacking a dog and then the second person would come in and hold that dog, while the "handler" went out to where the judge would be. She could then readjust the dog until it looked right. Then come back into the handler position and see what the correct set looked like from above. We used store window reflections before people had access to walls of mirrors. You have to know what your dog looks like from the judge's position, not just guess from up above.*

#### **Who do you most admire in the dog world?**

*Gosh, that is a long time to consider. So many people have come and gone in the last 50 years. Rather than name a name, I admire those who have a good eye for a functional dog and maintain the quality of their breeding over time. Currently, one of the most knowledgeable people that I know is Chris Swilley.*



Renaissance Jett a F1 generation half Borzoi, half Silken bred by Chris Swilley.

*When she came to the Silkens, she brought with her an eye and the ability to explain what I was seeing. I was able to pick a good dog, but not always know why I liked it. As I look back through the years and photos, I liked the right dogs, but now I know why, and can pick them out intellectually, not just by gut feel. That is often thanks to Chris and her patient explanations.*

#### **How long have you been breeding dogs?**

*I bred my first litter of Borzois in 1971. A dog from our first litter, Ch. Kristull Image, won the Dog World Award of Distinction for never having been defeated by another dog of its breed, on the way to its championship, and he did that both in the US and in Canada. We went one and a half times through the alphabet in Borzoi litters (40 litters), and starting in 1984, Chuck and I have gone through the alphabet in Silken litters nearly four times now.*

#### **What draws you to the Silken Windhound breed?**

*It is my image of the dog that I always wanted. I was just lucky that it was what others wanted as well. I think that those people have good taste.*

### Why did you decide to start breeding Silkens?

*By 1982, I had done just about everything that I hoped to do in Borzoi. I finished more than 200 titles on my dogs, all owner/breeder/handled. I did not count any dogs finished by a professional handler, only those handled by the owner, or myself. I have gone Best in Show on three different continents. I have shown a Borzoi brace 13 times and have 13 Best Brace in Show awards. We bred, owned and ran the top winning Lure Coursing Borzoi in history for about two and a half years. So, we were looking around trying to decide on a second breed. We did breed a lovely line of Deerhounds, producing one litter per generation just for ourselves. Sadly, our last Deerhounds got too old and we lost the line. They were great, but too short lived in all honesty. The smallest longhaired sighthound was an Afghan, and they did not fit my lifestyle at all. There was no option but to try to breed a smaller Borzoi, down to about knee high. That became the Silken Windhound.*



The Scottish Deerhound International, American, Mexican Ch.Kristull Black Cat (with Kent Jones) in 1988.

### What is the typical number of dogs you have at your kennel?

*I currently keep between 25 and 40 depending on how many puppies are around at the time. Right now, I have 7 litters under a year of age. That is really high even for me. I don't recommend it to others ~ if you don't have lots of time, money and hired help. Fortunately, we live on a 27 acre ranch, bordering a 550 acre park. The nearest traffic is about a mile away.*

### Are they house or kennel dogs?

*There are usually about 8 dogs in the house, and the rest in huge pens with compatible groups put together. They take turns on who gets to be house dog, although there are always one or two, usually older dogs that are permanent house dogs.*



left to right:  
Kristull Mother of Dragons,  
K. Magenta Knight,  
K. Kalahari Snowfall,  
K. Moonbeam Whisper,  
K. Mermaid Memory at 7 months old.

### What is your feeding regimen with your dogs? And do you feed everyone the same, or do different dogs get different diets?

*I can't be convinced that one food is perfect for everybody all the time. For that reason, I tend to rotate through different brands, as long as it is at least 24% protein and 14% fat. We are currently using Victor. But more important than that, we feed raw chicken thigh quarters once or twice per week, and never have to do a dental visit on any of our dogs. Even the really old ones.*

### What do you do to keep them socialized and ensure that they have enough people and training time?

*I practically hire people to socialize the dogs. We have two people who are kennel help, being sure that the hoppers are always full of food and fresh water, but also just taking time to socialize puppies. I am proud of the temperaments on our dogs. Each dog pen has at least two chairs in it at all times, so that people can go in and spend time with the dogs. We have three AirB&B's on the ranch, so there are always new people wanting to sit with, and socialize, the pups, and adults as well.*

### How do you play with your dogs?

*I can no longer run, so I don't run with them much any longer. Mostly I just enjoy having them around, nuzzling and cuddling them and practicing with them to show, etc.*

### How do you train your dogs?

*I only show train them. We don't do obedience or rally ourselves, but many dogs that we have sold have gone on, with solid temperaments, to compete in different venues. So the underlying talent, temperament, and ability are there if somebody wants to bring it out.*

*For show training, it is just part of living. When a puppy comes to check on me at the computer, for instance, I practice stacking them as a part of being loved. At first, they only have to hold their feet where I place them, not necessarily that they are in the right place. They have to hold it a short time, that gets longer and longer. With that training, they can be shown by anybody, since they will hold the position that they are put in, right or wrong. I don't teach a lot of sitting, because they tend to sit in the ring, offering previously successful actions at an inappropriate time.*

### What is your favorite training treat?

*Chuck makes what we call hot dog coins -- take hot dogs and cut them in slim round pieces for reward. Chuck gets up in the morning and calls "hot dogs!" and everybody comes running. Thicker pieces are great for hiding pills and capsules in. We use capsules for flea treatment, so having each dog grab their treat and wolf it down is a big help.*

### What is the most important training command that every dog needs to be able to do?

*Come, or recall. That, above all else will save its life, and at the same time, make for a more perfect companion. It is more important even than their name, since many don't learn their names until their new owners pick one out. Everybody comes to a high pitched "Puppy! Puppy! Puppy!" even after they know their individual names. That is also handy for generally calling in groups.*



Kennel help Ali with a yard full of puppies. People who visit here are in Puppy Heaven.



### Do you do anything special in the way you raise your litters, if so, what do you do?

*We do super puppy exercises when little. We try to mimic nature in both training and discipline. We do not do heroic measures to save a puppy that is defective or struggling and very weak. That is why dogs have litters. I want the people who get our puppies to have the healthiest and strongest puppies that they can get, whether show, or pet. I don't think of socializing as "something special". It is what every dog needs and should get 7 days a week. There was a year when I was really sick, and a couple of litters did not get well socialized. It made a huge difference and was a big lesson to learn. The owners could still pull out the good temperaments, but it is so much harder than having them human oriented from the very beginning.*

## Do you use a specific method to evaluate your puppies?

*My lines tend to look best at about 8 weeks of age. That is when I try to take 5 photos ~~ a side shot (both sides if they are marked differently), a photo from the front, a photo from the rear, a head shot, and a candid (personality) shot. At that time, if they are not built right, they probably will not improve. They are pretty flexible at that age, so I can stack them well, but I can also tell when the stack is not natural or comfortable for the puppy. So, photos can lie, but you can't lie to nature. If the puppy is not comfortable in the correct pose, then he is not built right. I drop dogs to "pet" quality fairly easily over the months as they develop. Sadly, I have been talked out of many incredible show quality dogs to pet homes. Recently, I have been trying to save some of these better ones, for show and breeding homes only. All pups, show or pet, should be healthy and happy. Structure or minor points are what would drop one to "pet" quality.*



How to evaluate a good puppy at 8 weeks old.

## What are you looking for when you evaluate your puppies?

*Soundness. I know that there is controversy between soundness and type in some breeds, but for me, if the dog is not sound, it is not good Silken "type". A typy Silken is a sound Silken. I am not a headhunter, although I can appreciate a pretty one. I am not particular about coat or color, although I can also appreciate a coated dog and a pretty color, but if the dog is sloppy coming or going, or has poor side movement, then it is simply not attractive to me, no matter the color, coat or head.*

## In your opinion, what is the most important aspect of a dog's anatomy?

*I am a fanatic on soundness coming and going. A dog needs a build that will last all of its life. If they are cowhocked or deviated in the front (toed out, toed in, knuckled over), they can compensate with muscle support while young, but when they age, they need muscle strength to hold them up, if they don't have sound build. So, it is important for puppies, but imperative for the aged, to have solid columnar support, and our breed is a long-lived breed.*



A poor structure will not support a dog easily into old age. This puppy is cow hocked.

**In your opinion, what makes a show/performance/breeding prospect and what makes a companion dog?**

*A companion dog is any of the dogs with a good personality and health. A show dog has all of that, but also approaches perfect structure. I am horribly critical of toed out fronts and cow hocked rears. They are unpleasant to me.*

**What is the one piece of advice you would give to a new person who wants to start breeding?**

*Think twice about it. I know that it looks easy, but it really is not. If you don't have the room to run the dogs on for many months or a year, then you will have to sell them young, before you can evaluate them for show potential, so they will sell as pets only. If the parents have no titles or accomplishments, then there will not be a big demand for the puppies.*

*Be sure that you (and your children) can wall your hearts off and let puppies go to good homes. If you fall in love with every one of them and are loath to let them go to somebody else, breeding is not for you. At the same time, especially if you have children, realize that not all of the lessons learned, by having puppies, are cute and wonderful. Not all puppies survive. Be prepared for potentially big vet bills. They seldom happen, but if they do, you need to be ready. A C-Section can run well over \$2,000. I have only had one, but I lost the entire litter and almost lost the mother too.*



Breeding dogs is a thrill, until it becomes a burden. Think twice.

**Do you have a mentor program for new owners who want to show or breed dogs that they buy from you? If so, please describe**

*Not really. I am getting old and have trained so many people that I am hoping that some of that knowledge will flow down to others. At the same time, I am always happy to help at the shows and evaluate what might help a person or a dog show better.*

**What dog have you bred who you are most proud of?**

*Wow, where to start? There have been special dogs through each decade that have made my heart soar. It is not always based on show criteria, but almost always on a personality that crawls into my heart and won't let go. The original proto-Silkens of Nameless and his mother Ruby were with us for many, many years and visited at gatherings and SilkenFests for as long as possible to help remind us where we came from and where we wanted to go. Currently, Chuck's favorites are Bolero and his famous mother Tirza. My sidekick is definitely Really.*



ISWS Ch. and Emerald Grand Ch. Gryffyn's Kristull Bolero (Bolero) after winning Best in Show in Tennessee.



ISWS Ch. and Grand Ch. Kristull Tirza, the mother of the Gryffyn B litter, plus the Kristull Y, H, M and Q litters



Ch. Kristull Virtual Reality (Really) shown by Chuck.

**What is your biggest contribution to the breed?**

*I hope that history will record that.*

**What is the one accomplishment that you would still like to achieve?**

*I think that AKC recognition would be huge. Whether it will happen in my lifetime, I don't know, but I have faith that whoever is in charge will get it done eventually. I had always joked that if I had another lifetime to live, I would develop a miniature Deerhound. They are dear to my heart and just like Borzoi, the Deerhound is too big for most owners, but one, say, about knee high, would be a hoot. I think that it could be done, and done in a healthy way.*



A wirehaired Galgo Espanol, a possible path to a miniature Scottish Deerhound?

A Scottish Deerhound and a Bedlington Terrier/Whippet cross. The owners told me that the smaller dog had the speed of a Sighthound and the personality of a Terrier. Maybe not the perfect cross.



A miniature Afghan Hound with me in the early 1980's.



**If you had a magic wand and could change any one thing in the breed or your line what would it be?**

*I would eliminate fronts that are set on too far forward and have straight shoulders. Those are two different things, but both of them make a poor-quality front.*

*I would solidly establish the trait of grinning. That would be the final touch to make them perfect in my opinion.*

**Is there anything in the breed standard that you think needs better definition or explanation or should be modified?**

*I do wish that more people understood the old terms that still populate the breed standards, but are no longer universally understood. Newbies don't understand "well let down hocks" "slight rise over the loin" "short back" "hare feet". What surprises me is the number of judges who don't understand these terms either, and yet supposedly pass judgement on our dogs. Show me a judge that can tell you where the anticline is, and I will enter under him/her every time.*

**Do you have a favorite dog event or show?**

*SilkenFest, of course. What could be better than having a hundred people and 200 Silkens come together to celebrate their love of this breed?*

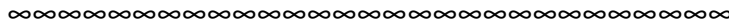
*People that are not nice to each other. My mantra is, "offense is taken, not given." Even if the other person INTENDS to give offense, it is still your choice to take that offense or not. This single decision, to never "take" offense again, can make a huge difference in your life. It is a choice. Make the choice to not be offended no matter what somebody else does.*



Ch. Kristull Ggarland Bandit Fld. Ch. LCM Bandit won a huge Hound Group at the Astrohall Series of dog shows, and later that afternoon, won Best in Field, judged by the father of lure coursing, Lyle Gillette.

We did a LOT of Lure Coursing many years ago, before straight racing was a "thing". There were times when we took a full stake of (10) Borzois, plus a Saluki and three Scottish Deerhounds to Lure Courses. When we first started, entry fees were \$3 each. We organized and ran the first ASFA Lure Course east of California. We have shown conformation around the world. We used to go twice per year to Mexico City. The World Winner Dog Show is held somewhere different in the world each year. Those used to be the times that we would get to see new and emerging breeds. We showed Chinese Cresteds in Chapultepec Park in the 1980's before they were accepted into the AKC, for instance.

*I honestly LOVE showing dogs, but the dogs LOVE the running events, so it was often a toss-up which we would do.*



We had an enormous response to our 'Name the Newsletter' competition. Staying with this theme 'Wit, Wisdom & Windhounds' abbreviates to 'www'. It's very clever. So, my thinking is a silken logo intertwined with the name would really set the front cover page off and make it instantly recognisable.

As before there will be a prize in the offing for the winner, and of course the continued accreditation of the logo to that person.

Submit to: [nancinessilkens@gmail.com](mailto:nancinessilkens@gmail.com)



## Silkens as Service Dogs

It's exciting to see how many people are being helped by Silken Windhounds. Of course, most of us are helped simply by them being a part of our lives. However, there are some more specific ways that silken help us live in our world in a very special way.

When the phrase Service Dog comes up in conversation, other terms can as well. Support Dog, Therapy Dog and Emotional Support Animal. These are all different types of more public ways, that dogs help people out in the world.

Find out more in the following article from the AKC website, which does a thorough job of explaining the differences in the United States: : <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/lifestyle/service-working-therapy-emotional-support-dogs/>

## Sega The Service Dog: A Story from one of Our Members

Hi! This is Bette McIntyre. I want to share the story of Sega and how he changed my life.

Before I got Sega, I was feeling extremely desperate. I was in a major depression, totally isolating myself and engaging in extreme behaviours to avoid environments where I did not have total control. I have severe sensory issues that have progressed as I have gotten older. When I hear certain noises, I can have a meltdown or have compulsive episodes. I totally avoided going out, eating meals with others, and even sleeping indoors.

Thankfully, I learned that service dogs can be trained to respond to sensory episodes. I got in touch with Pam Kilby, who had produced a therapy dog before. Though she had not yet produced a service dog, she was willing to work with me to match me to a puppy.



I hoped from birth that Segá was going to be my match and he was! He was an old soul from day one and was so easy to train. He loves being with me, is super calm and collected, and is quite biddable. Funnily enough, the biggest challenge we have had to work through on his training is HIS sensory sensitivity. I would say this is not uncommon in the breed - he is very sensitive to heavy gear. He now has a specially made harness with extra padding, that is now sold to other service dogs that have the same issue! He did not like to sit or lay on anything but carpet. Now, we compromise. He will sit or lay on any floor, but I bring a fluffy mat for him anyway. He takes care of me, so it's my duty to take care of him!

Now that he is almost 4 and we have been a fully working team for a couple of years, it's easy to see how he has drastically improved my life. There are certain places I just could not go to before. Now, I don't have to miss out. I am fully secure and know that even if my condition is triggered, Sega is there, waiting to respond. I feel so much less paranoid.

The other day I was out walking in a field with Sega trotting by my side. He started to roll in the grass happily. I almost cried from the feeling of love for this dog that welled up in me. I will never have another quite like Sega.

Bette

∞ ∞

## Rankings

Silkens are adaptable to many disciplines, in particular those whose purpose is to chase. In America silkens can affiliate to one of three racing groups, each specializing in their own format. Most up to date rankings are as follows:

### ASFA – America Sighthound Field Association

This group promotes the sport of lure coursing where hounds are judged on their speed, enthusiasm, ability, follow and endurance. The club is broken down into 10 regions, each region having their own clubs and events. See [www.asfa.org](http://www.asfa.org) for more details.

#### **ASFA @ Nov 2020**

Rank	Call Name	SilkenWindhound	Owner	Region	Top 20 points	BOB Wins	BIF Earned
1	Sienna	Windspirit Allagante Sienna LCM2	P. & K. Sanders	1	55	4	0
2	Grade A	Allagante Above Your Pay Grade	K. Sanders	1	42	2	0
3	Electra	Windspirit Allagante Electra FCh	K. & P. Sanders	1	35	0	0
4	Harley	UKC Ch Starfyre Harlequin	J. & K. Hicks	10	28	3	1
5	Possum	Inphenite Awesome Possum FCh	J. Vookles	1	26	0	0
6	Chyna	Allagante Beyond Compaire	K. Sanders	1	22	0	0
7	Kenai	Starfyre Whimsical @ Allagante	K. & P. Sanders	1	20	0	0
8	EZ	Allagante Perfect Isn't Easy FCh	K. & P. Sanders	1	18	0	0
9	Camper	Inphenite Sumrsprt HappyCamper	D. Murphy/J. Vookles	1	17	0	0
10	Phyn	Allagante Inphenite-Y & Beyond	J. Vookles	1	16	0	0
10	Oliver	Firebird Clayborn Sea Dragon FCh	J. Casey/C. Wester	3	16	2	0
10	Smoky	UKC Ch Starfyre Smoky Quartz LCM	J. & K. Hicks	10	16	1	0

### LGRA - Large Gazehound Racing Association

This groups specializes in straight grass track racing over a distance of 200 yards. Winning hounds earn points towards champion titles, GRC and Superior titles, NRC. See [www.lgra.org](http://www.lgra.org) for more details.

#### **LGRA @ 2019 Top Dogs**

SILKEN WINDHOUND						
LRN	NAME	REGISTERED NAME	OWNER	GRC	NGRC	YTD
SW-471	Sienna	Windspirit Allagante Sienna SGRC	Sanders/Sanders	12	133.25	53
SW-565	EZ	Allagante Perfect Isn't Easy SGRC2	Sanders/Sanders	12	74.5	50
SW-609	Shoku	Allagante Eclipse Del Sol SGRC	Sanders/Hoffman	12	32	32
SW-588	Aria	Maria De Medici SGRC	Vondermuhll/Port	12	39.5	25.5
SW-571	Bourbon	Allagante Bourbon Street GRC	Sanders/Sanders	12	17.83	17.83
SW-435	Ranger	SummersSpirit Chipotle SGRC3	Hayes	12	141.33	17.25
SW-623	Rocky	Siendo's Rocky Mountain NP GRC	Brown	12	16.83	16.83
SW-595	Carina	PR HHF Catarina De Medici GRC	Vondermuhll	12	18	14.5
SW-556	Denali	Siendo's Denali NP GRC	Brown/Hunter	12	27	9.5
SW-512	Foray	Siendo's Buffalo Bill SGRC	Buerger	12	37.5	9
SW-604	Rhys	Joyrun Allagante Smokin Hot GRC	Evans	12	9	9

## NOTRA - National Oval Track Racing Association

This group encourages competitive oval racing, and it is possible to earn points towards the Oval Racing Champion (ORC). See [www.notra.org](http://www.notra.org) for more details.

### NOTRA @ 2019 Top 10

RANK	REGISTERED NAME	OWNER
1	Maria De Medici SGRC	Vondermuhll/Port
2	Allagante Perfect Isn't Easy SGRC2	K & P Sanders
3	Gryffyn's I'm your Boggieman SOR ORC	Shell/Whitlock
4	Windspirit Allagante Sienna SGR2	K & P Sanders
5	SummersSpirit Chipotle SGRC3	Hayes
6	PR HHF Catrarina De Medici GRC	Laura Vondemuhll
7	Gryffyn's Aeryie All the Right Moves SOR ORC	Vicki Frey
8	Gryffyn's With a little Luck JOR	Shell/Whitlock
9	SummerSpirit Captain Morgan JCR	Lisa Golebiewski
10	Kohana's Autumn Midnight Magic SOR ORC	Laura Vondemuhll

A big shout out to Allagante Perfect Isn't Easy and Windspirit Allagante Sienna both who rank in the Top Ten in all three race disciplines!! Other silken who rank well across two disciplines include: Maria De Medici and PR HHF Catarina De Medici.

Regardless of rankings it's great that silkens are out there competing and representing the breed. Well done All.

oo

## UKC – United Kennel Club

UKC have accepted silkens windhounds on their registry meaning silkens can compete competitively at UKC Conformation shows and earn points which count towards the ISWS Champion title.

*NB. This is only open to silkens registered with UKC.*

### UKC @ Dec 2020

BREED: SILKEN WINDHOUND ( <a href="https://www.ukcdogs.com/conformation-top-ten">https://www.ukcdogs.com/conformation-top-ten</a> )			
Rank	Registered Name	Owner	Points
1	DGCH'PR'Broadway's All I Care About Dna SPOT	Janis Bastian	156
2	GRCH'PR'Huntersrun Time 4 Butterscotch	Richard Hunter	39
3	EGCH'PR'Esprit Du Vent Casey Tibbs	Susan Kroeger, Gwen Little	30
4	EGCH Gryffyn Kristull Bolero Dna	Francie Stull	23
5	GRCH'PR'Windsatin Play N Jax @huntersrn	Richard F Hunter Jr, Chris Hunter	19
6	EGCH'PR'Firebird's Han Solo	Janell Sharber, Barbara A Deis	13
7	GRCH Gryffyns Kristull Blue Bayou	Monica Moline	11
7	CH Kristull Supersonic	Francie Stull	11
7	CH Kristull Loyalty To The Creed	Terri Lewis, Kaitlyn Johnson	11
10	GRCH'PR'Scirocco's Blue Djinn Dna	Gem Skinner Or Brian Skinner	10
10	CH Kristull Virtual Reality Dna	Francie Stull	10

GROUP: SIGHTHOUNDS AND PARIAH DOGS ( <a href="https://www.ukcdogs.com/top-ten-group-standings">https://www.ukcdogs.com/top-ten-group-standings</a> )			
Rank	Registered Name	Owner	Points
1st	DGCH'PR'Broadway's All I Care About Dna SPOT	Janis Bastian	251
9th	GRCH'PR'Huntersrun Time 4 Butterscotch	Richard Hunter	60

∞ ∞

Sadly, Barn Hunt do not appear to have a Ranking record. However, their records show 16 silkens with the titles of RATN or RATI.

Breed	Registered Name	Owner/Co-owner
Silken Windhound	Aeracura Dare to be Different, RATN	Christina Klahn
Silken Windhound	Bre-Z-Rds Fawnwood Tempest, RATI	Brenda Katz
Silken Windhound	Clayborn's Jamaican Mango, RATI, RATN	Megan Lundberg Nathan Lundberg
Silken Windhound	CS Beck Agent Quarrel @ BreZrds, RATI	Brenda Katz
Silken Windhound	Debs SmallWorld Kentucky Derby, RATI	Laura Berg
Silken Windhound	Firebirds Mirage on BreZrds, RATI	Brenda Katz
Silken Windhound	Kohana's WW Aspen, RATI, RATN	Christine Kinsey
Silken Windhound	Kristull Avalon Gamine, RATI, RATS	Laura Berg
Silken Windhound	Morgandell Heart of Gold, RATI, RATN	Carla Wilson-Leff
Silken Windhound	Starfyre Chrysocolla, RATN	Ruth Ann Miller
Silken Windhound	Sullivan, RATI, RATO	Carla Wilson-Leff
Silken Windhound	Tangaloor Escape Velocity, RATI	Kim McNeill
Silken Windhound	Tangaloor Nothing But Dreams, RATI, RATN	Christine Kinsey
Silken Windhound	WindnSatin Floating On Ayr, RATI, RATN	Carla J Fette
Silken Windhound	WindnSatin Smokin' Express, RATI	Carla J Fette
Silken Windhound	WindnSatin Voltage, RATN	Carla J Fette





## ISWS Shows - Round Up 2020

2020. Certainly a year like no other. What started full of optimism, hopes and dreams and a diary of scheduled events soon paled into insignificance with the uprise of Covid-19. Many scheduled events were cancelled, including SilkenFest 2020, as too much uncertainty made planning impossible. Thank you to all Show Secretaries, Committees and Volunteers for all your behind the scenes planning and preparations that still needed to be done until that final decision to cancel was called. So, disappointing all round.

Against all odds, two ISWS shows did manage to go ahead, one of which was BooFest (below). The Lone Star Classic, Fall 2020 to follow next edition.

### BooFest ISWS Specialties

Silken Windhounds of California hosted a Western Regional Silken Specialty weekend Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October and Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> November at Solano Community College, Fairfield, California. Saturday comprised of 2 ISWS Specialty shows whilst Sunday was dedicated to a Sprint Race Meet under LGRA rules.

#### Show One – Judge: Jayme Jones Principle Winners

##### Best of Breed, BOW & WD:

UKC Ch Clayborn's Gepetto (127) O. J Sharber, DVM

**BOSS:** Wyndolyn Helia of Talisman (114) O. J Chin

**AOM & BVIS:** MBISS, MBIS, ISWS Dual Ch, UKC Gr Ch, IABCA Ch Elessar's Marvel Storm SRCXVI, SGRC4, CIC, CGC (130) O. L&M Silvestri

**BBE:** Allagante Wall Street (133) O. P&K Sanders

**BPSS:** Wyndolyn Just a 'Mo (155). O. S Mohler



**BOB, BOW & WD**



**BOSS**



**BPSS**

**BOPSS:** Morgandell Wyndolyn Elysium (174) O. S Mohler



**AOM, BVIS & JH**

**BIS Altered:** ALCH Firebirds Star of Sagitta (162) O. J Vookles

**BOSS Altered:** ALCH Summer Spirit InPhenite OO Seven (149) O. J Vookles & D Murphy

*Photos courtesy of Ashley Cirimeli*

## Show Two – Judge: Kris Brolin

### Principle Winners

**Best of Breed, BOW & WB:** Wild Rose Allagante True Love (140) O. T Mills

**BOSS:** UKC Gr Ch, ISWS Ch Morgandell Borodin (107) O. M Laudenslager & C Dell

**WD:** Gryffyn's Brave Talisman (111) O. J Chin

**AOM:** Starfyre Koroit Opal @ InPhenite (160) O. J Chin

**BPSS:** Morgandell Wyndolyn Elysium (174) O. S Mohler

**BIS Altered:** ALCH Firebirds Star of Sagitta (162) O. J Vookles

**BOSS Altered:** ALCH Summer Spirit InPhenite OO Seven (149) O. J Vookles & D Murphy



## BOB, BOW & WB



# BOSS



WD

*Photos courtesy of Ashley Cirimeli*

## LGRA Results

**High Score:** Silken Mythology Briggs. O. S Mohler

**Best Opposite:** Windspirit Allagante Electra. O. P&K Sanders

**High Score Veteran:** Wyndolyn Sir Belvedere. O. S Mohler

**Turtle Award:** InPhenite Sumrsprt Happy Camper. O. J. Vookles



**LGRA Candid's**

If anyone missed their pictures from Boofest they can be found and ordered from here:  
<https://ashleycirimeliphoto.shootproof.com/gallery/13402646/home>



## Upcoming Events - 2021

*\*\*\*Please let us know of upcoming events so we can share them here.\*\*\**

Don't forget to check ISWS Website for updates too  
[www.silkenwindhounds.org](http://www.silkenwindhounds.org)



## NEW ISWS CHAMPIONS

A section to showcase an awesome picture of your new ISWS Champion.

The last ISWS Champion recorded before Covid-19 struck and kept us all at home:

Attained 12/31/2019: **ISWS Ch. Allagante Wall Street** B/O: Karen & Paul Sanders



*Congratulations!!*

A catalogue of ISWS Champions is held here: <https://silkenwindhoundchampions.weebly.com/isws-chdate.html>



## Beyond America

### ISWS Specialty Shows

Due to Covid-19 there were no ISWS Specialties in countries outside of the USA. For the record, below is a quick fire round up of the ISWS Specialties shows hosted in 2019.

**Canada:** *There are no reports from Canada at this time*

**Finland:**

SuSVK ISWS Specialty Show – Judge Jouni Mulari

BOB: Allagante Windspirit St.Kitts O. K. Saarikko

BOS: Tsar's Denarius. O. M Saarikko

BV: Allagante Windspirit St.Kitts O. K. Saarikko

<http://www.silkkivinttikoirra.net/susvk-erikoisnayttely-2019/>

**Germany:**

#### **Results Drei Länder Winner Judge Kevin Young**

BISS: Pengybrook Endeavor Justadude  
BOSS: Endeavor CloudNine  
BOW & WD: Kushbudar Velvet Moon  
Winners Bitch: Endeavor CloudNine  
BISS Junior: Kristull Journey's End  
BOSS Junior: Golden Gigolo Silkendream  
BISS American. Bred: Wyndolyn Hawkeye  
BOSS American. Bred: Kristull Yamaha  
BISS Bred by Exhibitor: Kushbudar Velvet Moon  
BOSS Bred by Exhibitor: Endeavor CloudNine  
BISS Veteran: Kumbaya Esmeralda

BISS Altered: Tanner's Bayra  
BOSS Altered: Tangaloor Nothing But The Best



**BISS**

#### **Results Bodensee Winner Judge Sheena Booth**

BISS: Adonai's Beautywhite Bendeguz  
BOSS: Endeavor B\*Witched  
BOW & WD: Adonai's Beautywhite Bendeguz  
Winners Bitch: Endeavor B\*Witched  
BISS Junior: Wyndcharm Orinoco Flow  
BOSS Junior: Kristull Journey's End  
BISS American. Bred: Wyndolyn Hawkeye  
BOSS American. Bred: Satsuma Miss Yvonne  
BISS Bred by Exhibitor: Endeavor CloudNine  
BOSS Bred by Exhibitor: Kushbudar Velvet Moon  
BISS Veteran: Kristull Halona Silkenjoy

BISS Altered: Tanner's Bayra  
BOSS Altered: Tangaloor Nothing But the Best



**BISS**

**Japan:** *There are no events to report from Japan at this time*

## Slovenia:

### Silken Windhound Specialty Planica

**Judge: Lynn Wall**

BISS: Pengybrook Endeavor Justadude. O. S Lewis & J. Rodgers  
BOSS: Bon Zoiz Summer Snow. O. C Soenveld  
BOW: Starborough Ice Ice Baby. O. L Marchant  
BAB: Kristull Yukon Gold. O. C&C Soenveld  
BISJ: Starcastle Hounds Galaxy. O. O Ljungqvist  
BVIS: Endeavor Prince of Thieves. O. G Grist  
BISP: Leicross SW Autumn Leaf. O. J Kleundienst  
BOSP: Wyndcharm Mississippi Mist. O R&L Lloyd

BISS Altered: Bon Zoiz Summer Sparkle. O. C&C Soenveld  
BOSS Altered: Honorabe Hero Wolkowo. O. R Krisper



**BISS**

## United Kingdom:

### UKSWC Show: Judge: Mr M Sanders

BISS: Faolan of Silkenjoy O. G Grist  
BOW & WD: Faolan of Silkenjoy O. G Grist  
BOSS & WB: Endeavor B\*Witched O. G Grist  
BPIS & BJ: Wyndcharm Swallow Falls O. B Theobald  
BAB: Morgandell Tioga O. H Tringham, Lewis, Grist  
BBE: Endeavor Cloudnine O. G Grist  
BVIS: ISWS Ch. Endeavor Prince of Thieves O. G Grist

BISS Altered: Starborough Smoke Gets 'n' Your Eyes  
O. L Marchant

BOSS Altered: Aslan of Silkenjoy O. T Greatorex  
Best Baby Puppy: Variare Pot O' Gold O. J Middleton



**BISS & BOSS**



**BISS & BOSS**

*Photo credit: J Middleton*

### GOWER Show: Judge: Mr P Yardley:

BISS: ISWS Ch Kumbaya Believe in Magic O. L Marchant  
BOSS, BOW, WB & BBE: Endeavor Cloudnine O. G Grist  
WD: Kushbudar The Hearts Cry O. S Lewis  
BPIS: Wyndcharm Mississippi Mist O. R&L Lloyd  
BJ: Starborough Serendipity O. C Cook  
BAB: Morgandell Tioga O. H Tringham, Lewis, Grist  
BVIS: Endeavor Veleta O. J Rodgers

BISS Altered: Starborough Smoke Gets 'n' Your Eyes O. L Marchant

BOSS Altered: Kushbudar Reel Around The Sun O. T Greatorex

Best Baby Puppy: Variare Pot O' Gold O. J Middleton

## Track Racing - UK

## West Somerset WRC Charity Sprint - 13th September 2020

WSWRC kindly permit Silken Windhounds to compete at this event. There was a great entry with 16 silkens running over four stakes: 2 x Open Dogs; 1 x Novice Dogs and 1 x mixed Bitches. The results, alongside some candid photos from the day, as follows:

### Stake 1: Open Dog

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Kushbudar Chu Chulain - H.Tringham  
2<sup>nd</sup>. Kumbaya Moon Tide Effect - H.Tringham  
3<sup>rd</sup>. Kushbudar Lift The Wings - M.Robinson  
4<sup>th</sup>. Pengybrook Endeavor Justadude - S.Lewis & J Rodgers

## Stake 2: Open Dog

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Kushbudar Velvet Moon - H.Tringham  
2<sup>nd</sup>. Kushbudar The Hearts Cry - S. Lewis  
3<sup>rd</sup>. Aslan of Silkenjoy - T.Greatorex  
4<sup>th</sup>. Kushbudar Reel Around The Sun -  
T.Greatorex

### Stake 3: Novice Dog

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Variare Noir de le Noir - D.Hastie
- 2<sup>nd</sup>. Wyndcharm Rio Grande - M&R Willis
- 3<sup>rd</sup>. Wyndcharm Orinoco Flows L&R Lloyd
- 4<sup>th</sup>. Wyndcharm Swallow Falls - B.Theobald

## Stake 4: Mixed Bitches

- 1<sup>st</sup>. Kristull Xquizeet -S.Lewis, G Grist, H Tringham  
2<sup>nd</sup>. Wyndcharm Mississippi Mist - L&R Lloyd.  
3<sup>rd</sup>. Kushbudar Star of Cashmere - H.Tringham  
4<sup>th</sup>. Pengybrook Endavor Justaminx - S.Lewis, J Rodgers



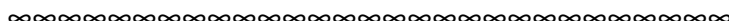
## Lure Coursing - UK

The British Sighthound Field Association (BSFA) have a Breed section for Silken Windhounds. Each year all breeds can earn points (based on a set of criteria) throughout the season to claim the top spot for their own breed.

**Top Silken Windhound Courser 2019 - ISWS CH & UKC GCH Allagante Winsome Riveria.**

The award would have been presented at the 2020 Annual AGM for BSFA but Covid intervened.

River has contributed so much to the development of racing and lure coursing in the UK both with his own achievements and those of his children.



## ISWS Field Champions - Finland

Early 2020 welcomed the 5<sup>th</sup> ISWS Field Champion attained in Finland. Congratulations to Tintti Tsaarikon Baronessa and her owner Anna-Maija Marttinen

### FINNISH SILKEN WINDHOUND FIELD CHAMPIONS (ISWS FCH)

1. "Ella" Talisman of Electra Sarafias 5/14/2011 - Klemetti
2. "Keiki" Sarafias Eryk 5/11/2013 - Tokkeri/Klemetti
3. "Martta" Tsaarikon Ambassadora 8/3/2013 - Saarikko
4. "Puna" Tsaarikon Aristokreetta 6/14/2015 - Saarikko
5. "Tintti" Tsaarikon Baronessa 9/8/2019 - Saarikko/Marttinen



## Silken PR in the UK

The UK is proud to have been representative across several mediums, generating good PR for the Silken Windhound. Some key moments include:

### The Afghan Hound Association (UK):

A seminar hosted by the AHA focused on mentoring new, young and/or inexperienced judges. There were various presentations including one on Sighthound Conformation which was delivered by ISWS member, Hilary Tringham. To compliment the presentation were two display boards dedicated to Silken Windhounds. In a room full of experienced UK Kennel Club Judges this was a great opportunity to showcase the breed. Being invited to participate as a non-recognised breed was an achievement in itself, and many made very complimentary remarks about them.



### Silkens on TV:

A National UK television network commissioned a series following the growth and development of puppies spanning various breeds. Kushbudar Kennels had a litter on the ground and were invited to participate. The crew followed their development from flirt poles to watching straight racing to their first shortened lure coursing trial. Due to football the series was never fully aired, however with much rescheduled this year, the series was aired in full, albeit under a new name!

The uptake in enquiries to the UKSWC post airing on both occasions was noticeable, the elegant puppies having captured the heart of the nation.

### Publications

A UK bred silken appears in an international hardback book of architecturally superb houses around the world: Resident Dog by Nicole England

There is continued support and representation in the sole National Dog Paper 'Our Dogs' and their International Annual

## Meet The Ed's (not the Elf's!!)



A short bio from each of the Editors:

### Nanci Byers

How I became enthralled by sighthounds.  
Dreams start early...

My mom always dreamed of having an Irish Wolfhound. After I met her girl Erin, I dreamed of owning one too.

We bought two Irish Wolfhounds from the only Wolfhound breeder in Utah. They both died very young, one at four from Autoimmune Hemolytic Anemia, and our second at six from osteosarcoma. Losing them so young was a huge blow. Then I recalled a conversation I had heard years ago at a lure coursing event about a small to medium longhair sighthound that was noted for listening to their owners more than most sighthound breeds. ;-)

So, I began researching this small to medium sized sighthound that had long, soft hair and an amazing temperament. It was pure luck to find Dr. Janell Casey nee Sharber of Sunera Silken Windhounds, living nearby in Salt Lake City, Utah. She had a litter on the ground, three weeks old, I think. It was funny because I was more interested in meeting her adults as I really didn't have a good understanding of their sizes. It can be hard to tell from pictures on the Internet. At the time Janell had 8-10 Silkens, so I was able to meet lots of dogs in different sizes, colors and temperaments.

September 2018 was the first time I ever saw a Silken Windhounds outside of pictures.

Janell introduced me to Cathi Wester of Clayborn Silken Windhounds who, amazingly enough, had a few boys available from her October litter. So during the last few days of 2018, I became a terrified new parent to a sweet and mischievous little man. Clayborn Sunera S'mores (Oliver). It had been 9 years since I was a puppy parent and I was a nervous wreck

Over the next few months, Oliver and I bonded in many ways. He learned how to do lots things including how to fetch!. But he needed a buddy, and then I was offered an opportunity to share our home with Silken number two: Sunera Galileo Galilei—Leo. The boys are only 4 months apart and are crazy together. Two very different personalities and I love them dearly. They are my heart.

And the rest is history. We have done a little bit of conformation. I am just a beginner but do have two great mentors: my breeders Cathi Wester and Janell Casey. Both Oliver and Leo are working on a novice trick title, and we have tried straight racing. We also did a barn hunt seminar and some training. I also do games-based training that the dogs love. There are such few events in Utah that I have to drive at least eight hours to attend a practice or a show. Oliver doesn't appear to be interested, but I might have a runner in Leo. Time will tell.

There are so many activities that Silkens can do. And we've just gotten started!



## Vicki Bratcher

I have been involved in the dog world since my early 20s, which I am not sure if I should tell you or not, is more than 40 years now or not.

My first breed was American Eskimos, and I started showing in UKC all those years ago, so I am going back to my roots. I had several champions and breed a few litters and became a UKC licensed American Eskimo Judge, this was all before UKC started doing all breed shows. In the late 80s I meant some people with Borzoi and fell in love with these unique and beautiful dogs. Two of my first dogs came from Francie Stull which is where I originally met her all those decades ago. I enjoyed showing and lure coursing with my Borzoi and even bred a couple of litters.

Fast forward to the 2000s and I am now involved with Mini Aussies or what will eventually be called Mini American Shepherds. I showed in IBACA and Rare Breeds venues with them. I was very involved with doing herding trials with my dogs as I thought it was vitally important that even though the breed was morphing into mostly a companion dog that the original purpose was still kept strong in their genetic makeup. I was also a founding member of the committee that worked to take the Mini Aussie into AKC.

Due to circumstances caused by my work I have been inactive in the dog world for the last 8 years. About a year ago I started looking to get back involved with dogs again and after much looking and searching, I tripped across the Silken and went to a local show to reconnect with Francie and met her Silken and I was lost. I brought home my first Silken "Driver" recently and couldn't be happier. I know that silkens are the breed for me.



## Justine Rodgers

My journey with Silkens began when Fira, the first Silken Windhound to grace UK shores, planted herself on our sofa to spend her first night in Blighty before continuing to her home the next day. This was back in 2005.

Prior to this my days were filled with Arabian horses, mainly showing both in-hand and under saddle, but also various disciplines from dressage to endurance. I trained and passed the Arab Horse Society Ridden Judges exam which covered conformation as well as 'way of going'. Alongside this I was Secretary for the AHS Regional Group responsible for hosting a very well attended show to include ridden qualifiers for Horse of The Year Show and in-hand qualifiers for 'ECAHO'. At this time the rich and famous were amongst my exhibitors, all of whom provided me with exemplary feedback. Once I hung up the reins on this position, I took a seat on my local Riding Club committee, again responsible for organising shows as well as team events.

A silken puppy joined the family in 2007, and our silken family has grown from there. I cannot deny the boy from our 'Just' litter has become incredibly special to me, and he himself has produced a stunning litter. Through silkens new friendships have formed and many new 'travels' I far from expected!

Not one to get bored, I have been an active committee member of the UK club (UKSWC), producing the club newsletter (something I also did for the AHS), managing social media PR, am Breed Notes columnist for 'Our Dogs' the only UK newspaper dedicated to dogs and more recently Show Secretary for our ISWS Specialty Shows. Thankfully, many of these skills are transferrable to help the guys produce this first newsletter. I will then be taking a back seat, acting as the UK/European point of contact and of course assist where needed.



## Silken Scrapbook



## Embark - General Information

DNA kits may be ordered one of two ways:

### (1) Ordering your DNA kit directly through Embark:

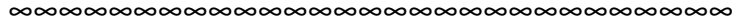
The DNA kits are \$124.00 for members & \$139 for non-members through Embark (subject to their own offers).

## (2) Ordering your DNA kit from ISWS:

The DNA kits are \$120.00 through ISWS for ISWS members (this includes shipping but international shipments will require additional S&H charges when ordering).

When ordering Embarks tests from ISWS please follow the instructions below:

- PayPal \$120 to [iswsembark@yahoo.com](mailto:iswsembark@yahoo.com).
- Send a copy of the transaction detail to both the Treasurer Jolene Hicks at [jolenejones@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jolenejones@sbcglobal.net) and Alison Brendel at [tangaloor@yahoo.com](mailto:tangaloor@yahoo.com).



## Next Issue

## Coming Up:

\*\*\*\*\*Lone Star Classic, Fall 2020 \*\*\*\*\* Breeder Spotlight - Susanne Stjernborg\*\*\*\*\*  
Competitions\*\*\*\*\*Rankings 2020\*\*\*\*\*and lots more

## What do you Want to see in Your Newsletter?

So, folks what do you want to see in your newsletter? We need all the ideas and energy we can get. Some ideas that have been suggested are columns in each edition, maybe on a specific sport that someone competes in could introduce to the rest of us to, Interviews with Judges, Letters to the Editor, Having additional contests: maybe poetry, art, photography, holiday contests.

Please if you have an idea you are interested in, plan to bring some energy to making it happen.

We want to hear any and all interesting thoughts.

Please submit any ideas to Nanci at [nancinesSilkens@gmail.com](mailto:nancinesSilkens@gmail.com)



## Mission Statement of the ISWS Newsletter

This is the official publication of the International Silken Windhound Society. Our mission is to publish quarterly in order to inform, educate and entertain the members by providing historical and current information on the Breed and issues affecting the well-being of our Silken Windhound.

**STATEMENT OF INTENT:**

It is the intent that this publication:

- Serves as a record of ISWS and its activities
- Provides a convenient forum for the reporting of statistics on the accomplishments of the members in conformation and performance events.

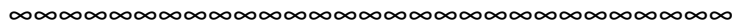
**POLICIES:**

- Deadlines for submission of material for this publication will be communicated ahead of each issue. A separate Specialty issue may be offered so that the results can be published as soon as possible after SilkenFest.
- Deadlines established by the ISWS BoD will be strictly adhered to.
- The right to reasonably edit all material or refuse to print material thought to be questionable or not in the best interest of the breed or Club is reserved by the ISWS BoD and the Editor.
- Only signed letters or articles will be accepted for use.
- Only Silken Windhound-related artwork will be utilized for the cover of this publication. If artwork is not available for a particular issue, then the Club Logo shall be utilized for the cover.

### GUIDELINES:

Articles submitted by ISWS Committee Chairs will be included as available:

- Any claims or statements by writers in this publication represent their own opinions and are not necessarily those of the ISWS Committee or the Officers and Directors of the International Silken Windhound Society.
- All content is subject to the final approval of the ISWS Board of Directors.
- Results and photos from ISWS Specialties and affiliated Groups will be included as provided by the representative for that Association



All official links and forms including registry and membership can be located on the main website:

[www.silkenwindhounds.org](http://www.silkenwindhounds.org)

## Footnotes:

*The information contained within the body of this Newsletter is correct to the best of our knowledge.*

Editors: Nanci Byers, Vicki Bratcher, Justine Rodgers