

WIT, WISDOM & WINDHOUNDS

A Publication of the International Silken Windhound Society



******STOP PRESS******
SILKEN HISTORY MADE
Read More on Page 14



Summer 2021 - Issue 2

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Officers & Officials of ISWS

ISWS Board of Directors

Founder:	Francie Stull:	Franciestull@gmail.com
President:	Joyce Chin:	iswspresident@gmail.com
Vice President:	J Vookles:	iswsvicepresident@gmail.com
Recording Secretary:	Michelle Smith:	iswsrecordingsecretary@gmail.com
Corresponding Secretary:	Sue Lewis:	iswscorrespondingsecretary@gmail.com
International Delegate:	Carsten Bank:	iswseuropeandelebrate@gmail.com
Treasurer:	Jolene Hicks:	Contact email: jolenejones@sbcglobal.net PayPal payments only: iswstreasurer@yahoo.com

ISWS Registry

Information, current and future registration requests need to be submitted by email to:
ISWSRegistrar@SilkenWindhounds.org

DNA requests are being processed by Vicki Bratcher. Please email: 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



ISWS Committees

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

Committee	Chair(s)	Committee Members
Registry	C Cross	J Decker, V Bratcher, J Rodgers
Website	J Pracht	N Cross, F Stull
	Email:	
Genetic Diversity	J Adin Safran je.ri@verizon.net	G Grist, A Brendel, F Stull, K Fink
Illustrated Standard	G Grist	L Wall, F Stull, V Bratcher, K Houghton, A Cirimeli, C Swilley, H Tringham
Show Points/Reports	H Tregillus	B Goodell, B O'Donnell
	<p>Please send reports to: 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</p>	
Show Rules	Vacant	H Tringham
International Show	S Lewis & C Banks	Committee to be selected relative to the task
AKC	J Chin joyce@talismanhounds.com	K Hicks khicks7780@sbcglobal.net
Health	J Chin joyce@talismanhounds.com	A Brendel, H Brown, J Hicks, M Smith, L Jorgenson
Rescue	J Chin joyce@talismanhounds.com	J Hicks jolenejones@sbcglobal.net
Color	A Cirimeli	C Beckerman, K Ng
Newsletter	Vacant	V Bratcher, J Rodgers
Welcome Pack	Vacant	H Rosenthal, B O'Donnell, K Torres
European PR	L Marchant starboro@btinternet.com	S Stjernborg: susann.stjernborg@gmail.com H Arh: wolkowokennel@gmail.com K Bank: silkenjoy@gmx.com
ISWS Lure Coursing	Lori Silvestri iswslurecoursing@gmail.com	
ISWS Fund Raising	J. Vookles (Acting)	Lydia Jorgenson, Kelsey Torres, Melody Jackson, Regina Kurandina,

*Committees: Please contact the relevant Committee Chairs should you have specific questions or interest. If the position is vacant contact: J Vookles - iswsvicepresident@gmail.com. Committee Chairs/members must be ISWS members

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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

Positions	Point of Contact
National SF Rosettes & Medallions	Jerilynn Adin-Safran
National SF Trophy and Judges Gift Chair	J Vookles
National SF Silent Auction Coordinator	Chair: J Vookles Assisting: Barb Franklin/Kelsey Torres
National SF Health Clinic Coordinator	Tammy Mills / Maybelle Gruber
National SF Fundraising	J Vookles
National SF Public Relations (Chair & Committee)	J Vookles / Lori Silvestri / Karen Sanders
National SF Clothing and Special Event Items	Pauline Ng
National SF Performance Events	Karen Sanders
National SF Lure Coursing Secretary	Lori Silvestri
National SF Obedience & Rally- Obedience	Kathy Moore, Keith Hicks & Jolene Hicks - jolenejones@sbcglobal.net
National SF Website Coordinator	J Vookles
Founder	Francie Stull

*If the position is vacant contact: Jerilynn Adin-Safran - je.ri@verizon.net

A selection of SF Trophy prizes



More on FB: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1732528767076767>

Letter from The Founder

It certainly has been a long year and a half. Life has changed for so many of us. But you know what hasn't changed? Our glorious Silken Windhounds and the love, comfort, pleasure, and entertainment that they give us every day of the year.

As our country opens up, the first thing that many of us want to do is get to the Dog Shows. Not just to compete, but to rekindle friendships, reconnect with others with the same interest, and establish more relationships that make our lives so much more complete.

Along that line, we have two Specialties to report. SilkenFest is the big one, of course. Mark your calendars for September 16-21, 2021 in Olympia WA. It is always the highlight of the year for Silkens.

For those who cannot make it to SilkenFest in the PNW, we have a second opportunity to wallow in gorgeous Silkens. The Ohio Classic is planned to be held September 10 and 11th, at the Lorain County Kennel Club Park, in Oberlin, OH. On a unique year like this, it is almost the SilkenFest of the East and unless Texas manages one later this year, will be the only Silken Specialty east of California. Not to be left behind, a new Specialty is on the horizon. The SoCal Silken Soiree will be hosted by Silken Windhound Fanciers of SoCal on August 1, in Cypress CA.

The Future is bright for us and our dogs as we all recover and realign. Silken Windhounds have expanded in the last two years beyond anything that we might have imagined. I don't even recognize so many of the names of new club members and puppy owners. Be sure to reach out and make friends with other Silken people. Send me a friend request on Facebook. Let the club know if you want to become a member by filling out the membership form to join the ISWS. <https://silkenwindhounds.org/isws-forms/> We can use all the help that we can get from long term breeders, and newcomers alike.

Francie Stull
Mother of Silkens



2020 End Of Year 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 for more details.

ASFA: Top 10 2020 Rankings

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	Electra	Windspirit Allagante Electra FCh	K. & P. Sanders	1	52	0	0
3	Chyna	Allagante Beyond Compare FCh	K. & P. Sanders	1	49	3	1
4	Grade A	Allagante Above Your Pay Grade FCh	K. Sanders	1	42	2	0
5	Possum	Inphenite Awesome Possum FCh	J. Vookles	1	34	0	0
6	EZ	Allagante Perfect Isn't Easy LCM	K. & P. Sanders	1	32	0	0
7	Kenai	Starfyre Whimsical @ Allagante	K. & P. Sanders	1	31	0	0
8	Bourbon	Allagante Bourbon Street FCh	P. & K. Sanders	1	27	1	0
9	Harley	UKC Ch Starfyre Harlequin FCh	J. & K. Hicks	10	25	5	2
9	Phyn	Allagante Inphenite-Y & Beyond	J. Vookles	1	25	0	0

ASFA New Titles 2020:

Call Name	SilkenWindhound	Owner	Date
Field Champion			
Noella	Clayborn's Prairie Warbler, A639,601, B, Apr 03 2013	Cathi Wester	Jul 10, 2020
Electra	Windspirit Allagante Electra, A934,283, B, Jul 11, 2016	Karen & Paul Sanders	Aug 16, 2020
Bourbon	Allagante Bourbon Street, A992,495, B, May 02, 2017	Paul & Karen Sanders	Sep 19, 2020
Harley	UKC Ch Starfyre Harlequin, B177,249, D, Apr 01, 2018	Jolene & Keith Hicks	Sep 19, 2020
Chyna	Allagante Beyond Compaire, B245,069, B, Jan 31, 2019	Karen & Paul Sanders	Oct 24, 2020
Grade A	Allagante Above Your Pay Grade, B245,495, B, Jan 31, 2019	Karen Sanders	Sep 07, 2020
Deuce	Gryffyn's Aeyrie Empire, A469,739, D, Jan 11, 2011	R. Lynn Shell & Victor Whitlock	Nov 28, 2020
Raven	Empyrean Harvest Moon, A795,775, B, Sep 23, 2014	Vicki Frey	Nov 28, 2020
Lure Courser Of Merit			
EZ	Allagante Perfect Isn't Easy, FCh, A955,719, D, Oct 02, 2016	Karen & Paul Sanders	Oct 24, 2020

Cont./

This group 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 for more details.

SILKEN WINDHOUND					
RANK	LRN	NAME	REGISTERED NAME	OWNER	Points?
1	SW-471	Sienna	Windspirit Allagante Sienna SGRC	Sanders/Sanders	36.00
2	SW-648	Briggs	Silken Mythology Briggs GRC	Mohler	17.00
3	SW-565	EZ	Allagante Perect Isn't Easy SGRC3	Sanders/Sanders	16.50
4/5	SW-628	Bayou	Gryffyn's Kristull Bayou GRC	Moline	11.50
4/5	SW-513	Raven	Empyrean Harvest Moon GRC	Frey	11.50
6	SW-595	Carina	PR HHF Catarina De Medici GRC	Vondermuhll	8.75
7	SW-533	Walker-W	Gryffyn's I'm Your Boogeyman SGRC	Shell-Whitlock/Whitlock	7.00
8	SW-656	Kenai	Starfyre Whimsical @ Allagante GRC	Sanders	6.83
9	SW-568	Electra	Windspirit Allagante Electra	Sanders/Sanders	5.83
10/11	SW-571	Bourbon	Allagante Bourbon Street GRC	Sanders/Sanders	5.75
10/11	SW-609	Shoku	Allagante Eclipse Del Sol SGRC	Sanders/Hoffman	5.75

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

PL	NRN	NAME	FULL NAME	OWNER	NORC
1	SW-286	Aria	Maria de Medici ORC	Vondermuhll/Port	6
2	SW-138	Hudson	Fantasy Farms Puccini JOR	Hayes	2
2	SW-200	Sienna	Windspirit Allagante Sienna SORC	Sanders	2
4	SW-268	Carina	HHF Catarina De Medici SOR ORC	Vondermuhll	1.5
5	SW-320	Azuma	Clayborn's Jamaican Mango	Lundberg	1
5	SW-318	Coco	PR Avalon Beyond The Veil	Johnson Allen	1
5	SW-177	Smoky	Starfyre Smoky Quartz JOR	Hicks	1
5	SW-255	EZ	Allagante Perfect Isn't Easy ORC	Sanders	1
9	SW-279	Harley	Starfyre Harlequin	Hicks	0.5

Title	NRN	CALL NAME	REGISTERED NAME	OWNER	DATE EARNED
SOR	SW-268	Carina	HHF Catarina De Medici SOR ORC	Laura Vondermuhl	Sep 26, 2020
ORC	SW-268	Carina	HHF Catarina De Medici SOR ORC	Laura Vondermuhl	Sep 26, 2020

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.

BREED: SILKEN WINDHOUND (https://www.ukcdogs.com/conformation-top-ten)			
Rank	Registered Name	Owner	Points
1	DGCH'PR'Broadway's All I Care About Dna SPOT	Janis Bastian	202
2	EGCH Gryffyn Kristull Bolero Dna	Francie Stull	44
3	GRCH'PR'Huntersrun Time 4 Butterscotch	Richard Hunter	39
4	EGCH'PR'Esprit Du Vent Casey Tibbs	Susan Kroeger, Gwen Little	30
5	GRCH Kristull Tirza Dna	Francie Stull	26
6	GRCH'PR'Allagante Broadway Abbey Road Dna SPOT-ON	Tina Klahn	22
6	CH Kristull Magenta Knight	Francie Stull	22
8	GRCH'PR'Scirocco's Blue Djinn Dna	Gem Skinner Or Brian Skinner	19
8	GRCH'PR'Windnsatin Play N Jax @huntersrn	Richard F Hunter Jr, Chris Hunter	19
10	EGCH'PR'Firebird's Han Solo	Janell Sharber, Barbara A Deis	13

Rank	Registered Name	Owner	Points
1st	DGCH'PR'Broadway's All I Care About Dna SPOT	Janis Bastian	305



This purpose of this group is to demonstrate the ability of a dog and its handler to work as a smoothly functioning team with appropriate challenges, whilst combining speed, accuracy, distance and teamwork. See www.nadac.com for more details

RANK	NAME	FULL NAME	OWNER
1	Devon	Tangaloor Escape Velocity	Kim McNeil

Sadly, Barn Hunt do not appear to have a Ranking record. However, their records now show 17 silken with the titles of RATN or RATI. One more silken participated in this event during 2020 gained a RATI title (previous years in Issue 1)

BREED	REGISTERED NAME	CALL NAME	OWNER	ST	DATE/TRIAL
Silken Windhound	'PR' The Impossible Dream @ Spirit, RATI	Quixote	Jenny Hatten	WI	11/14/20 Mendota Heights, MN

ISWS Shows - Round Up 2020

Lone Star Classic, Fall 2020

A Southwest Regional Specialty sponsored by Silken Windhounds Texas Tapestry. Held Thursday 12th November at Bell County Expo Center, Belton, Texas

ISWS Specialty – Judge: Jo Lynne York

Principle Winners

Best of Breed: ISWS Ch & UKC EGCH Ch. Gryffyn's Kristull Bolero. O. F Stull

BOSS & WB: Kristull Mermaid Memory. O. F Stull

WD & BOW: UKC GRCH CD Firebird's B-1 Lancer URO-2 Spot CGCU. O. D Young

RWD: UKC GRCH IABCA Intl CH Clayborn's Apache O. C Buhrdorf

RWB & BBE: UKC CH Entourage Jusrics One Love. O. J Decker

BVIS & AOM: ISWS CH UKC GRCH Gryffyn's All The Right Moves FCH, SGRC2, ORC SPOT. O. V Frey

BPSS: Kristull Slipped Thru T'Cracks (pending). O. F Stull

Junior Handler: Empyrean Moscato d'Asti. H. Dylan Sydow

BIS Altered: UKC GRCH IABCA Intl Ch Firebird's Lone Ranger. O. R&C Buhrdorf



Best of Breed



BOSS & WB



BOW & Winners Dog



Res Winners Bitch & BBE



Res Winners Dog



Best Puppy in Show



Altered BOB

A special congratulations to
Dylan Sydow aged 3 ½ years
attaining **Best Junior Handler**
with Empyrean Moscato d'Asti



NEW ISWS CHAMPIONS

The following silken windhounds have recently received acknowledgement of their ISWS Championships:



ISWS Ch Kristull Loyalty to the Creed

Attained 03/07/2020:

O: Kaitlyn Johnson & Terri Lewis

B. Francie Stull

ISWS Ch Gryffn's Brave Talisman

Attained 05/01/2020:

O. Joyce Chin

B. R.Lynn Shell & Victor Whitlock



ISWS & UKC Ch Kristull Mermaid Memory

Attained 11/14/2020:

B/O: Francie Stull



ISWS & UK Ch Kristull Idol of Royal Sooner

Attained 06/13/2021:

O. Frank & Brenda Young

B. Francie Stull



Photo Credit: Malinda Julien Photography



ISWS Ch Wildrose Allagante True Love

Attained 10/31/2020:

O. Tammy Mills

B. Tammy Mills / Karen & Paul Sanders

ISWS Ch Gryffyn's Aeyrie Aces Are Wild

Attained 03/07/2020:

O. Sherita Tabner, R. Lynn Shell & Victor Whitlock

B. R. Lynn Shell & Victor Whitlock





ISWS Ch Firebird's B-1 Lancer

Attained 11/12/2020:

O. Denise Young

B. Barbara Deis

ISWS Ch Kushbudar The Heart's Cry

Attained 07/20/2019

O. Sue Lewis

B. Hilary Tringham



Congratulations!!

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



(at the time of going to press)

UKSWC ISWS Specialty Shows, Kent, UK: 10th July 2021
To include 2 x conformation shows and track event following day
Hosted by UKSWC www.ukswcwindhoundclub.org

2021 Ohio Classic, Oberlin, Ohio: 10-12 September 2021
Hosted by MSWA
More details to follow

silkenFest@gmail.com

Features

Silken Windhound History Made.....

On May 16, 2021 Silken Windhounds achieved another history marker. **Allagante Beyond Compare FCH, BII, GRC, SRC, aka Chyna**, owned and bred by Paul and Karen Sanders won the **ASFA Best in Event** at the ASFA International Invitational, usually just called the ASFA II, which was held in Cedar Falls, Iowa this year.

Every year ASFA (lure coursing for all sighthound breeds) holds the national ASFA II. It is the pinnacle for lure coursing sighthounds to achieve. To be eligible to participate, you must have accrued at least a certain amount of predetermined points prior to entering the event. Run over 2 days, top lure coursers for all sighthound breeds are represented from all over the country. After the end of the second day breed winners of each day are given the honor of running for Best in Event. This means all the different breeds run together in groups of three.



Chyna was paired up with an Ibizan and a Borzoi, both excellent coursers on their own. Chyna faithfully followed the lure and went deep into the corners. She ran equally as fast as the Borzoi who has a stride 3 times as long. Chyna powered to the finish to give a very impressive run.

When Chyna was announced the winner of the BIE, Karen screamed OMG and started crying. This win was a HUGE win for Chyna, Paul & Karen, and for the Silken breed as a whole. It made everyone take a second look at our breed, even the Lure Ops remarked how well the Silken Windhounds were running.

Travelling home, Paul and Karen put the big President Cup trophy on the dashboard of their RV to visually see the win Chyna had achieved. They could not believe this monumental win Chyna had performed. In Karen's words "You hope, you pray, you dream.....but you never really expect to win. I cannot tell you what a high this is or how proud we are of our Chyna. She got ribeye steak after the win....RIBEYE!!"



Karen Continues "I was told it takes about 2 weeks to come down (by previous winners) from the high but I don't know, this seems like I keep having to remind myself it happened"

The awards and the ribbons presented to the Sanders were outstanding, but most importantly they will help to remind them that this really DID happen.

At just turning 2 in January of this year, Chyna has already achieved an impressive record as follows:

- NOTRA Champion (Oval racing)
- ASFA FCH (including 3 Best in Fields)
- GRC (Straight Racing)

As a final side note we asked what the next big goal is for Chyna and was told going for BIE again in 2022 of course! No other dog has ever won it twice.



A small team of ISWS members have diligently worked with the Orthopedic Foundation of Animals (OFA) to enable the Silken Windhound to participate in the CHIC Certification Program.

- Eye Examination
- Autoimmune thyroiditis
- Cardiac Evaluation (auscultation OR echocardiogram)
- Multiple Drug Sensitivity (MDR1)
- Collie Eye Anomaly (CEA)

Once the results of all five requirements have been registered with OFA, a CHIC number will be authorised. (Note: a dog must be able to be identified via microchip or tattoo).

Thank you to Joyce Chin, Megan Lundberg, Aitana Shough and Bella Goodell for their enthusiasm and support in setting this up.

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ISWS FAST Dash Program

During April 2021 Sandra Moore initiated the ISWS FAST Dash Program, an adaptation of the AKC FAST Cat program. For those unfamiliar with FAST Cat, dogs run a 100 yard dash which is timed. The recorded mph is converted to points and accumulated points build up to obtain a title.

The ISWS FAST Dash rule are as follows:

- a. The Silken Windhound must be 12 months or older AND be registered with the International Silken Windhound Society. When an owner is providing the record keeper for the program with documentation for the Silken's first timed event they must also provide a copy of the dogs ISWS registration certificate. This can be done by sending the record keeper a link to your dogs page in the pedigree database or by scanning and emailing its ISWS papers to the recordkeeper.
- b. The AKC club or other organization that is administering the Fast CAT tests (100 to 200 yard speed timed event) must be amenable to providing either a ribbon with the dogs call name, owner and speed written on it or write the information on an index card or some other document that the owner can take and then later provide the documentation to the record keeper for the program.
- c. All Silken's will receive their miles per hour as their score for each test and may participate in 2 tests per day. They will not receive any extra points for being smaller or larger.
- d. Owners are advised that if you agree to pay TO THE ADMINISTERING CLUB a FULL ENTRY FEE rather than a practice fee the clubs are much more likely to be amenable to timing your dog and providing you with written documentation of dogs name, owners name, date, speed, and name of the club and the person (secretary) for the event on a card or ribbon.
- e. Titles shall be as follows
 1. 150 points (mph) shall be the BFAST title (Beginning Fast)
 2. 500 points (mph) shall be the IFAST title (Intermediate Fast)
 3. 1000 points (mph) shall be the FAST title
 4. Should a dog participate to 2000 points etc. it shall be FAST2, FAST3 etc.
- f. Owners are responsible for providing proof of participation and scores along with the dog's registration with ISWS to the registrar for the program.
- g. Dogs achieving any of the above titles will be posted on the ISWS official email groups as having done so and will receive a certificate stating such via email that they may print out. At any ISWS shows they are to be used as suffix titles to the dog's name.

The record keeper is Sandra Moore and the address to submit scores is: avalonborzoi@blomand.net

We have already heard the UK is setting up its own program coordinated by the UK Silken Windhound Club. For UK silken owners please contact ukswcshowsec@aol.com for more information

This is a great opportunity on many counts. For those in America it affords the opportunity for silken's to be seen running at AKC events around AKC people, all good PR for our path towards AKC recognition. Additionally, it is hoped this program will encourage more owners, be that breeder and/or owners to participate in running sports and be able to achieve an award. Further, it is a program that is not limited to the USA. Any Country can get involved by coordinating with their own organisations to fit in with their own country specifics. The important element is registering the mph which is in turn converted into points. The ISWS record keeper will total the scores and declare titles based on the AKC point scale. Looking forward to announcing the first DASH titles soon!

****STOP PRESS****

Mid South Fox Terrier Club of Memphis were the first to hold a Dash event, April 2021:
Congratulations to the following for kicking this off:

Coco – Avalon Beyond the Veil CGC
Penny – UKC CH Siendo's Pinnacles NP, CGC
Drifter – Summerspirit Clint Eastwood, CGC
Summer – Kristull Irish Summer Satsuma, CGC

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. Our second issue hears from **Susanne Stjernborg, Starcastle Hounds, Sweden**

Is there a story or meaning to your kennel name?

Starcastle is roughly a translation of my last name, Stjernborg.

Stjerna means star and borg is a fort. Starfort did not appeal to me and I choose Starcastle instead.

When you apply for a kennel name here it first goes to the national kennel club, in my case the Swedish Kennel Club. They send it to FCI that checks all kennel names within FCI.

In my case I had applied for the name "Starcastle" but it was denied because there is already a kennel within FCI with that kennel name.

I have never been able to figure out in what country or what breed that name has been used and have never been able to find a dog with prefix Starcastle within the FCI sphere. It is probably an old kennel name, no longer in use. There seems to be an American Bedlington kennel using Starcastle by the way. American kennel names are not registered with FCI so that was not a problem. But.... Back to the drawing board



As I came from Borzoi originally, one of my good friends was one of the breeders who I had Borzoi from. She suggested Starcastle Hounds. This was approved by FCI and once it had been published in the Swedish Kennel Club magazine Hundsport and no protests came in, the kennel name was finally mine. Starcastle Hound's.

Since FCI and not just the national kennel club is involved plus the time it takes until an issue of the magazine comes out, enough time has gone to allow protests, this results in a rather lengthy process to get a kennel name.

My kennel name was approved by FCI in May 1999.

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

Sweden does not have the concept of "rare breeds". A breed is either recognized and registered by the Swedish Kennel Club or it is not considered to be a purebred dog. During my time with Silken Windhounds this way of looking at things has changed a lot but basically this is still true.

Silken Windhounds can't be shown in the shows of the Swedish Kennel Club.

We can also not compete in any sighthound performance sport, for the same reason, not being a recognized breed, we are not allowed. We may, sometimes, be allowed to train but it is difficult to get to do even that. The few spots for training are taken by sighthounds that are actively training and competing and the young sighthounds that are still working on getting their license to compete.

There are laws governing how performance sports can be held, even training and unfortunately the authorities gave all the power to the kennel club to decide when and where etc, and they passed it on to the Swedish Sighthound Club. There are no legal ways to arrange something on our own, outside the kennel club and sighthound club trainings and competitions.

I tried a couple of times to attend trainings but to drive for hours to the place of training, wait for hours and then have to return home without any of my dogs getting a chance to train, and getting the evil eye from people not approving of unregistered dogs all the time you were there. Quite frankly I gave up. I did not feel welcome, and it was very uncomfortable, it was not for me.



Kristull Rowan

The Swedish Silken Windhound Club was founded in 2005 and we have off and on had an annual Specialty. Not every year because we are so few with Silkens in my country that during the years when we were only 2 owners interested in shows, we did not think it was much meaning to arrange a show. Sweden is also a very long and narrow country, about 2000 km from north to south, people are not prepared to especially far for something that is not much more than a get together.

During 2019 a small Swedish dog club, Svenska Hundklubben, allowed Silken Windhounds to show. This club has no affiliations to FCI and titles from these shows are only valid in this club. So far 3 Silkens have been shown there, all bred by me and one of them got the intermediate champion title (dogs 15-24 months old) during 2019.



Windspirit Brendan of Renaissance

I've imported 2 UKC Champions from Francie but they have never been shown in Sweden.

My most successful Silkens at the few shows I've been to have been SBIS SuSVK W-03, W-05 Kristull Rowan (Robban) and SBIS SSWK W-08, W-09, W-10 Windspirit Brendan of Renaissance. Both of them were Specialty Winners on several occasions.

With the situation being what it is in my country I have never imported a dog as a show prospect, but for breeding.

Who were your mentors when you started?

Francie Stull. We had been in contact since 1992 when I discovered her dogs, at first by telefax and phonecalls as internet was not yet widely available. From about 1995 we used internet, email and eventually Skype, to communicate.

Ever since the Windhound list started at E-groups in 1998 you could say we all acted as mentors to each other. There was only a handful of us at first and Francie was of course the person in the world that knew everything there was to know about Silkens. The rest of us had to find our way in uncharted territory but we did it together.

We embarked on a new adventure where most of us, except Francie who was already an experienced breeder, had no clue what we were doing. But we learned together. Back then it was really no I, me, my kennel. We could not afford that, the dogs could not afford that. We held nothing back, we shared everything, good and bad.

I like to think that is where the rather unique way of the Silken Windhound community started, by sharing and being open minded and honest with each other. We had no choice in the beginning, but the community has to a large extent kept those unspoken traditions until today.

Who do you most admire in the dog world?

There are two people I would consider my heroes.

*First of all **Francie**, for creating the breed and sticking her neck out and persevere with Silken Windhounds and never giving up. And then **Joyce Chin**, for being level headed and well informed in a number of areas and helping the community along and keeping us on the right track in a sensible way, especially in the first years.*

How long have you been breeding dogs?

My first litter was born in 2001 when Lizzie (Starcastle Hounds Firelizard) was born. She was the first Silken Windhound born in Europe. I had Borzoi for 15 years before that but not as a breeder, as an owner only.

What draws you to the Silken Windhound breed?

Coming from Borzoi my first reaction was how cute! And interest was sparked. When my first imports arrived at the airport, I looked into the crate, saw the eyes of Nuna. And was helplessly lost and in love.



Starcastle Hounds Firelizard



Kristull Annunciata (Nuna)

That very first evening the 2 Silken girls Omni and Nuna was with me in the kitchen, and I remember thinking; why did I waste 15 years on the wrong breed when I could have had these all the time? Until that moment in the kitchen Borzoi had in my opinion been the ultimate breed for me. There is something about Silkens that just tells me they are my destiny.

Why did you decide to start breeding Silkens?

I didn't ☺

Not being a breeder but just a pet owner of Borzoi I told Francie she did not have to send me top quality dogs to Sweden. But Francie refused that idea!

She was not going to send something mediocre to Europe, she wanted the best to represent her and the breed.

Kristull Omniscense

Before my Silken girls came over to Europe it was also arranged for a male to go Finland, the neighbour country of Sweden. The first imports then and in the first few years after that were planned to compliment each other for breeding.

Can't remember but I guess Francie said early on that it would be a pity not to breed the girls since they were here.

It still took me 3 years from purchasing my girls in 1998 to having the first litter in 2001. I eased into the idea but it took time to get the courage to finally do it, the life of a breeder had never been in my dreams of my future but it felt like a natural development. But without a little pushing from Francie it might never had happened.



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

Between 5 and 8 adults.

Are they house or kennel dogs?

They are house dogs. My house is a 100-year-old cottage, not very big but big enough for me and a handful dogs.

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

My dogs get mostly kibble because it is easiest for me. They are all given different kinds of kibble as well as different kinds of fresh foods for extended periods of time.

I need to know that every dog I will breed can eat any kind of protein, with or without grain etc. Unless they do try out different diets for longer periods it would not be possible to know if they were sensitive to something and thereby not be suited for breeding. With the exception of pregnant girls and puppies, they all get the same food.

When Lizzie was really old she got her own diet that I knew she would eat. A dog into her late teens develop her own habits and of course I indulged on her every whim 😊

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

Being a super introvert that need a week to mentally prepare for a visitor and need to sleep around the clock for the week afterwards, I don't socialize IRL. Neither do my dogs obviously.



In spite of this I have a few dogs that adore people to the point of wanting to crawl under their skin when people come. But I have to confess that super social dogs are not my cup of tea, I prefer the somewhat reserved sighthound that says hello and then couldn't care less about the visitor 😊

How do you play with your dogs?

It is mostly the puppies and youngsters I play with. With the puppies it is part of how I discover the personality of each one, what do they like, what are they interested in and how do they react one on one to those things as well as how do they react with their siblings in such situations.

For small puppies it is at first mostly a question of providing them with things to discover. Tunnels, things to crawl over and under, different surfaces, the sea of balls, such things. When they are a little older but still too young to move to new homes the lunge whip is introduced to see who wants to chase, and they have to start using their noses, to find things and solve puzzles.

My last litter was a bit of a disappointment in that last regard, they were 9 weeks before they showed any interest at all in any kind of treats. Here I was, had just gotten the Puppy Culture material and no puppies wanted to play or train as they completely ignored any kind of praise in the form of treats or toys for that matter. Here is to hoping next litter will be different!

How do you train your dogs?

Obedience training is something I find incredibly boring and to have dogs doing a lot of stuff by command is not something I need in my everyday life. Common household training like recall, knowing what no is and such things will make life easier of course.



Some of my dogs have been extremely communicative and we develop a kind of language between us that let's us know what the other one wants. That is not training per se, it is something that grows over time in a natural way.

There has been dogs where I felt they would be happier if they got to use their brain a lot more than in my home and they have been rehomed for this reason. You must be honest and realise your short comings, my way of life is not the best for all dogs and some need to live somewhere else, more suitable to them.

What is your favorite training treat?

It is not so much a question of what I favor, it is more what is the favorite treat of each dog.

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

Recall and no.

Something I need to look into is hand signals. Living with old Lizzie that lost her hearing during the last years made me realise it would have been good to be able to use hand signals she could see at a distance.

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

Learning about and looking into Puppy Culture have been an eye opener. Since my last litter was the first after learning about PC and them not being interested in treats and training at all, there is a lot for me yet to learn, that much is clear. When those puppies finally discovered treats, I had been very ill for months and had so little strength that just going out through the door was more than my strength allowed some days.

Luckily this litter moved to new homes rather quickly. I suspect it will take several litters to learn PC. For me it is a completely new way of looking at puppy training and I am very much looking forward to putting it into practice in the future.

Do you use a specific method to evaluate your puppies?

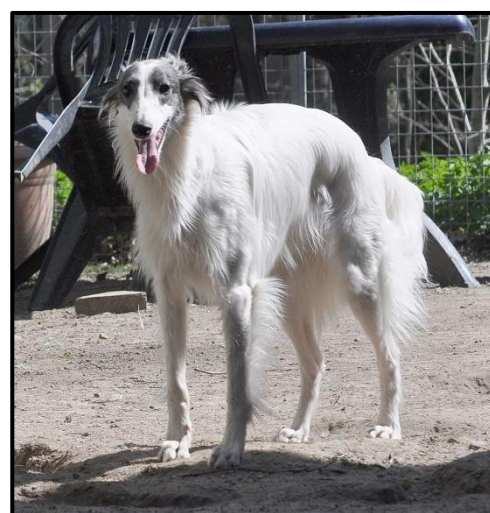
No, no specific method. Being retired has it perks, you are home all day and can spend all the time you want to study the puppies as they grow up.

It helps to know how the previous generations grew but when I have added new dogs to the breeding program that produce puppies that grow and develop at a different pace than what I am used to, then it gets a bit confusing 😊

When it comes to conformation I can usually pick my favorite within the first 24 hours of life. Personality and temperament comes in later and will influence my final pick puppy to stay.

What are you looking for when you evaluate your puppies?

Living in a country where showing and performance is not a really an option it is personality and temperament that is what I look for most in the puppies that will not stay. Trying to pair the right puppy with the right home is essential.



Bandit at 11 months

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

Balance.

Regardless of the amount of angulation, it has to be balanced. In my opinion a balanced dog have a bigger chance of holding together even in old age.

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

Health and temperament first of all. Much is very subjective. A dog that I for different reasons do not think is a breeding prospect but will be a good companion is what someone else may like a lot. Maybe that dog has some details I do not like but are not important to someone else. And vice versa. Without the possibility to evaluate performance in performance sports in my country I don't have any opinions on that.



SBIS SSWK Jr W-08, W-09, W-12 Starcastle Hounds
Hesjan

To me a show prospect and a breeding prospect are two very different creatures. They can be all and the same, but not always. A show dog that has a lot of attitude, a really good handler, a good groomer and is of enough impressive size can win over dogs that are structurally superior but do not look as impressive in the show ring. If you know your judges you can pick shows that will increase your dogs chances. If you have enough money you can travel to a lot of shows until you get that elusive title. And that is why titles do not impress me at all unless you consistently win at shows with very big entries, winning BIS at Silkenfest is impressive. Winning BIS at Silkenfest several times, that is REALLY impressive!

A show dog is the end result of a breeding program. A breeding prospect is not just a result of a breeding

program, it is the foundation of continued breeding. That entails much more.

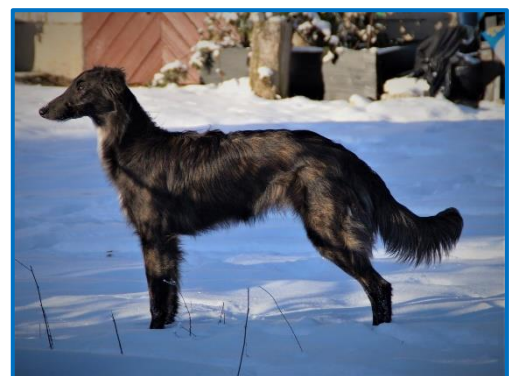
This means that the breeding prospect is a conveyor of traits from previous generations in a way that may neither be visible nor important in the show dog. A good dog for breeding does not have to be absolutely gorgeous to look at even if it helps 😊

What can be found in the dogs behind the breeding prospect may be just as, or even more important than the dog itself. A few dogs will stamp all their offspring heavily, most will not. You need to mate your dog with the right one to get the results you are hoping for and that means knowing what is behind that partner too.

And sometimes a good breeding prospect is the dog that impresses nobody but you, because you know what is behind that seemingly bland dog, you know what may be lurking in the genes and the little detail here and the little detail there that you are lacking in your own breeding program, that just may be brought forward in combination with your dog and it's ancestry.

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

Don't be in a hurry. Make sure you are in the breed for several years, learning and learning, before you start breeding



Seven month old silken



Starcastle Hounds Saab

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

Yes, I started my mentor group somewhere around 2015. It is a basic requirement from me for people wanting to get a Silken from me. Pet owners come from the general population and many of our future breeders will come from those that are pet owners today. There is no point in having a mentor group just for potential show people or potential breeders.

It is a rare numbered breed, every owner is automatically an ambassador for the breed and should as much as possible be given the opportunity to learn as much as possible about the breed. Mind you, you can give people the opportunity to learn, you can't force them to actually learn.

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

That would probably be SLO Ch Starcastle Hounds Silver Lining.

Slovenia was the first country in the world to recognize Silken Windhounds, the Slovenian Kennel Club is associated with FCI. They recognized the breed in 2004 and in 2005 Silver Lining and SLO Ch Kristull Coco Chanel became the first champions. As males are judged before females, Silver Lining beat Coco to it by a few minutes 😊

This makes these two the first official champions of the breed in history, since a champion title from a national kennel club would be considered official everywhere 😊



SLO Ch Starcastle Hounds Silver Lining

What is your biggest contribution to the breed?

Haha, that would probably be the uttering of the magic question at the first Silkenfest (in 1999, when we founded ISWS): What chance was there that Silken Windhounds could become an AKC breed? See <https://silkenwindhoundnews.wordpress.com/2010/08/09/the-first-silkenfest/>

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

To be around the day when Silken Windhounds are recognized in Sweden.

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

We need to differentiate between males and females when it comes to the size in the standard. And quite possibly shrink the total allowed size interval altogether.

Looking at my almost 7 month old female puppy that might not even quite reach up to the minimum size and see her next to one of my males that is right at the top of the standard, that is like looking at dogs of 2 different breeds. The difference in size is huge, not just in height but the length of body, everything.

Do you have a favorite dog event or show?

No.

Of all things in the dog world, what really raises your hackles?

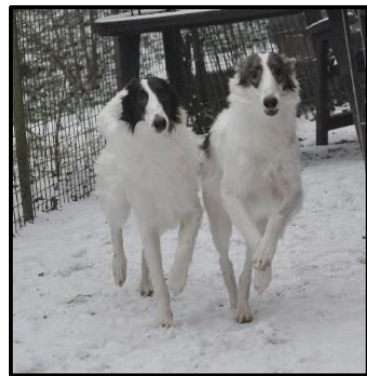
The inability to accept the idea that breeds are truly breeds even if they are not recognized in your country but are indeed recognized somewhere else.



What is your favorite dog activity to participate in with your dogs?

Walking in the forest or sitting on the cliffs by a lake in the setting sun, just me and the dogs.

Susann Sternborg



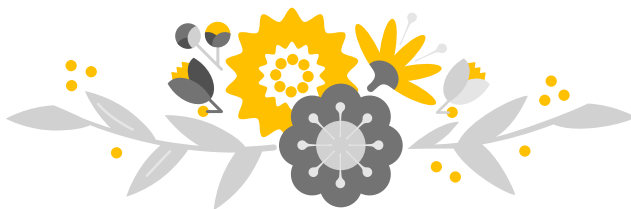
Beyond America

ISWS Specialty Shows

Finland: Please note a correction to Issue 1. BOS for SuSVK ISWS Specialty Show – Judge Jouni Mulari – should read BOS: Tsaarikon Denaari. O. M Saarikko

United Kingdom: ~~2 x IWS Conformation Shows scheduled for July 2021.~~ Sadly, at the final hour, due to extended Covid regulations, the venue made a last-minute decision to prohibit UKSWC from hosting the shows on their grounds. With just two weeks' notice the committee were (and still are) devastated, not just for themselves but to all the exhibitors who had entered and were looking forward to meeting up. Rosettes, exhibitor bags, prizes etc were all ready to go.

The club is still going ahead with the Track event, which is generally held the following day to the Specialty, at The Meadow. With encouraging support from members still wishing to participate UKSWC are looking forward to the day.



Silken PR

Slovenia

Silken Windhound on Slovenian National TV



Slovenian national TV is very fond of animals, so once a week they have a guest to talk about different issues. This time I was invited to present our beloved breed. First we talked shortly about the difference between borzoi and silken, then about what the founder of the breed, Mrs. Francie Stull, wanted to gain with this new breed, when we are expecting the breed to be recognized and also about the first import in Slovenia by Helena Arh, where I have first seen SW in live and immediately fall in love with it.

In continuation we talked about the shows. Given that I am both a breeder and an international judge for sighthounds, the host of the show asked some information about why to go to the show, what judges are evaluating at the dog and where SW can be shown. Slovenia was the first country in EU, which did allow SW to be a part of the show, where SW can gain CAC and also the title of the Champion.

At the end we talked more about the character of SW and about Kimmy's show results as well as about coursing licence. Kimmy is the first Slovenian SW with coursing licence.

Bojana



UK

It is with great excitement we can report Silken Windhounds (UK) have been granted full membership status with British Sighthound Field Association (BSFA). The upgrade of status means Silken Windhounds can now compete for Best In Field (BIF) alongside the other competing breeds, i.e. whippets, salukis, beagles etc. The proposal to upgrade the Silken Windhound to full membership was put to the BSFA membership to vote on at the recent AGM (March 2021), and thankfully the vote was in favour.

This is a great step forward for the Silken Windhound in the UK - the breed is already accepted in American racing groups such as ASFA, LGRA and NOTRA, and also by the equivalent racing group in Finland.

Their performance in the UK over the years has earned them the respect of the racing and coursing communities, and on more than one occasion, including their very first appearance at BSFA, silken scores have been close or equal to BIF scores giving the other sighthound breeds a run for their money! As soon as Covid restrictions permit we look forward to participating with full member status and competing for the ultimate BIF award.

Thank you to everyone who has helped the breed reach this point, be that competitor or campaigner, we have all been ambassadors of the breed.....although we do have one or two coursers that make it a very entertaining affair!!



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.
- Send a copy of the transaction detail to both the Treasurer Jolene Hicks at jolenejones@sbcglobal.net and Alison Brendel at tangaloor@yahoo.com.

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Next Issue

Coming Up:

*******Round up of SilkenFest 2021 *******

*******Breeder Spotlight - TBC*******

*******Show Reports*******

*******End of year Rankings*******

*****DASH Titles*****

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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

Footnotes:

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