Prepared by Janet Petros and presented during the 2001 SCWTCA, Inc. Annual Business Meeting this presentation provides an historical account of SCWTCA’s Migration from the 2000 Dockers Project to the 2001 Informative Family and Geriatric Dog Projects.
SCWT DNA Family Study

Montgomery 2001
SCWTCA Annual Meeting
Update by
SCWTCA Health Committee

Presented MCKC 2001 - Janet Petros
SCWT DNA Family Study

“Motion to begin immediately a project, under the auspices of the Health Committee, to identify the owner of each bitch bred to Ch. Carlinayer’s Brendon Murdock ROM and as many of their offspring as possible in order to gain as much Information as soon as possible.”

Motion from Montgomery 2000
Mission Statement of the SCWTCA Health Committee

The objectives of the SCWTCA Health Committee shall be:

- to advance and protect the health of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier.
- to develop and oversee research pertaining to the health of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier.
- to develop and promote health education for members and owners of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier worldwide.
- to promote a global exchange of information regarding the health of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier.
- to maintain registries pertaining to the health of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier.
“Dockers Project”

The SCWTCA Health Committee compiled a list of the dams to whom Dockers was bred and their breeder/owners. Committee members in charge of this task were:

- Carol Carlson (PA)
- Mary Ann Dallas (PA)
- Kathy Eichman (WI)
SCWT DNA Family Study

SCWTCA Health Committee felt it was critical to answer two questions before proceeding……

- **What information would we want to collect in order to support any future SCWT DNA Study?**
- **What would be the best way to gather and compile this information?**
SCWT DNA Family Study

“Dockers Extended Project”

This project explored the merit of a questionnaire that would be sent to the “Dockers family”, a subsequent database and what usefulness it would have in relationship to any future SCWT DNA Study.

- Beth Verner (IL) - Coordinator
- Janet Petros (CA)
- Dr. Meryl Littman (University of Pennsylvania)
It was determined that three informative families consisting of 30-40 members each, would better serve any future SCWT DNA Study.

The Dockers “family” might be included in this study if it meets the criteria established by our DNA Researchers.
SCWT DNA Family Study

Then in June…
AKC - CHF approved Grant No. 2279
Longitudinal Field Study of Families of Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers
Affected with Protein-losing Enteropathy and/or Protein-losing Nephropathy
and the *Foundation of a DNA Bank*

*Meryl P. Littman, VMD, DACVIM*

*School of Veterinary Medicine*

*University of Pennsylvania*

*Sponsor by SCWTCA & SCWTAC*
What is the role of the Health Committee in this DNA research study?

The SCWTCA Health Committee will work to assist our DNA researchers to find at least three informative SCWT families needed for their DNA study and help coordinate the efforts of the formation of a SCWT DNA Bank.

- Beth Verner (IL) - *Coordinator*
- Anna Marzolino (CA)
- Jana Carraway (OR)
- Janet Petros (CA)
- *We will be adding more working members to this group.*
SCWT DNA Family Study

An informative family consists of:

- An affected SCWT and all its littermates
- Its parents and their littermates
- Its grandparents
- And perhaps... a dog/bitch bred to the affected SCWT and their offspring.
Sample of an Informative Family

Sire and Dam of Known Affected Bitch

Generation with Known Affected Bitch

Test Breedings to Known Affected Bitch

Offspring of Known Affected Bitch
What is required from each family member?

- Each family member must be followed throughout their lifespan to track their health status.
- In order to do this, an annual health screening will be required of each family member.
- Post-mortem/tissue sample at time of death will be needed from each family member.
SCWT DNA Family Study

SCWTCA Health Screening Tests for PLE/PLN:

✓ Biochemical profile
  (include total protein, albumin, creatinine, BUN, cholesterol, Na/sodium, K/potassium & phosphorus, etc.)

✓ Complete blood count

✓ Routine urinalysis
  (specific gravity, dipstick, urinary sediment)

✓ Urine protein/creatinine ratio

✓ Fecal API
The breeder/owner of each family member will be asked to send blood, urine and fecal samples to the Dr. Littman at Veterinary Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania each year of the “family members” life. Lab work for the health screening and its interpretation will be provided by Dr. Meryl Littman.
Also provided by Dr. Littman, is consultation concerning other tests pertaining to the study and consultation on health concerns related to SCWT’s in the family study.
So what does it take…

Commitment to SCWT Health by everyone!
SCWT DNA Family Study

and...

Financial Support from the SCWT Community!
SCWT DNA Family Study

New logo design
For the SCWT Endowment Fund

- Concept by Gay Dunlap
- Graphic Design by Jody Sylvester
SCWT DNA Family Study

The SCWT Endowment Fund

- The purpose of this endowment fund is to give the Wheaten community more options for making donations that will advance projects devoted to Wheaten Health.

- The funds will be used for health related issues of the Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier. They will be used to fund grants, whether selected by the SCWT Endowment Fund Board or to provide matching funds for grants approved by the American Kennel Club – Canine Health Foundation.
SCWT DNA Family Study

Some of the Health Fundraisers we have planned!

Gifts with donations…

Jewelry

“I will always love you”

Snow Globes

SCWT Health Pledge Drive

Health Raffles – Fabulous Stain Glass

Wheaten Walk-for-Health-a thon 2002

SCWT First Aid Kit
The task ahead of us...
SCWT DNA Family Study

Meryl Littman, VMD, DACVIM
University of Pennsylvania – School of Veterinary Medicine
Principal Investigator
AKC-CHF Grant 2279
Longitudinal Field Study of Families of Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers
Affected with Protein-losing Enteropathy and/or Protein-losing Nephropathy
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