Eastern Irish Setter Association
Calendar 2016 – remaining year as of Mar. 27, 2016

*April 15-18 Irish Setter Club of America Walking Field Trial, Bloomingdale, OH
http://www.irishsetterclub.org/2016_hunt_test.html

May 7 (Sat) EISA Supported Entry; General Membership & BOD Meetings
Bucks County KC (MBF)
Breed: Sheila Smith
Sweeps: Kristofer Kelso
Annual Awards and picnic (Lydia Miller, liaison)
EISA General Membership Meeting after conclusion of judging
(followed by EISA Board Meeting)

May 28th EISA Supported Entry (NOHS), Staten Island KC
(Rau)- Freehold, NJ
Breed: Ramon Valenzeula Podesta
Sweeps: Maria White

*May 30-Jun 4 Irish Setter Club of America National Specialty, San Diego, CA
http://www.irishsetterclub.org/2016_National_Specialty.htm

July 14 (Thursday) EISA Agility Match
Location: Allen’s Kennel, Moorestown, NJ
Registration & information: Lynne Godshall at email: lyngdsh@aol.com

July 24 (Sun) EISA FUN DAY- Picnic (noon),
General Membership & BOD Meeting
Location: Allen’s Kennel, Moorestown, NJ. Liaison: Lynne Godshall
Times: 9:30 am EISA Board Mtg; noon General Membership Mtg

Sept. 10th (Sat) EISA Supported Entry and General Membership Meeting
Somerset Hills KC
Judge: To Be Confirmed
Sweeps: Johnny Shoemaker
Picnic & General Membership Meeting after Irish setter judging
Anne Marie Kubacz, Liaison
Oct 7, 8, 9
Harvest Setter Specialty Cluster, Vernon, CT
EISA independent specialty is Saturday October 8
in conjunction with
ISCNE specialty and ISCCC specialties the same
weekend
Chairperson: Barbara Joyal;
Judges' hospitality coordinator: Karolynne McAteer
Chief Steward: Karolynne McAteer
Breed: Bob McKay
Sweeps: Coleen McGee
Obedience & Rally - Tibby Chase (AM EISA, PM
ISCCC)

Oct. 15-16 EISA Field Trial & General Membership
Meeting, Dillwyn, VA
Liaison: Susan Sullivan
Secretary: Sandy Jones
Will feature VCX and VCA stakes

Oct. 29- Nov 5 Irish Setter Club of America National
Field Championship, Booneville, AR

Nov. 11 (Fri) ISCA Agility Trial (fundraiser for
2017 National Specialty
Location: Dream Park, Logan Township, NJ
Liaison: Lynne Godshall
Brief EISA BOD Meetings at the show site

Dec 3 (Sat) EISA Holiday Party & General Membership
Meeting & Election
Liaison: Fiona Geiser; Location: TBD
EISA 2016 Officers & Board of Directors  
(alphabetical order)

Fiona Geiser  (President) geiserfamily@msn.com; Tel 610-358-2950  Cell 484-437-8777  
Address:  1054 Wilson Avenue, Glen Mills, PA 19342

Lynne Godshall (Class 2017) lyngdsh@aol.com;  Tel 856-461-1389  Cell 856-986-1345  
Address:  724 Kossuth St., Riverside , NJ 08075

Debra Hamilton (Class 2016) dhamilton413@gmail.com;  Tel 914-273-1095  Cell 914-552-5021  
Address:  6 Pioneer Trail, Armonk, NY 10504

Lynn Kwiatkowski  (Treasurer) lynnstar1@yahoo.com;  Cell 201-274-6293  Address:  3 Brook Dr., Chester, NJ 07930

Debra Krasley (Class 2018) hearthsd@ptd.net  Cell 484-239-0041  Address:  103 Evergreen Ct, Saylorsburg, PA 18353

Rick Krasley (Class 2017) hearthsd@ptd.net  Cell 484-239-0041  Address:  103 Evergreen Ct, Saylorsburg, PA 18353

Anne Marie Kubacz (Corresponding Sec.) rsetter@att.net  Cell 908-216-2357  Address:  170 S. Hope Chapel Rd., Jackson, NJ 08527

Peter Kubacz (Class 2018) pkubacz@att.net;  Cell 908-770-4271  Address:  170 S. Hope Chapel Rd., Jackson, NJ 08527

Patricia Lyons (Class 2016) seanpat11@msn.com;  Tel 610-558-0976  Address:  1734 Middletown Rd., Glen Mills, PA 19342

Lydia Miller (Class 2017) calidixie@aol.com  Tel 610-838-8532  Cell 610-730-4588  Address:  10 Butternut Rd., Hellertown, PA 18055

Mariette O’Malley (Recording Sec.) mtomalley@comcast.net  Tel 856-829-0936  Address:  1 Jeffrey Lane, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077

Meghan Sheehan (Class 2016) mlsheehan82@gmail.com;  Cell 908-246-6748  Address:  131 Pennington-Hopewell Rd., Hopewell, NJ 08526

Susan Sullivan (Vice President) Susansullivan@mac.com;  Cell 443-286-7713  Address:  1728 Tacoma Rd., Edgewater, MD 21037
2016 Eastern Irish Setter Association Committees:
* - Liaison to the EISA BOD

Standing Committees

**Annual Awards:** Lydia Miller*, Plaques: Meghan Sheehan; Bucks Picnic: Lydia Miller

**Audit:** Susan Sullivan*, Lynne Godshall, Karen Schwartz

**Blarney:** Susan Sullivan*

**Constitution:** Mariette O’Malley*, Debra Hamilton

**Judge Selection Committee:** Charlie Sloughfy, Lynn Kwiatkowski*

**Membership:** Debra Krasley*, Richard Krasley

**New Jersey Dog Federation:** Susan Sullivan*, Susan Kwiatkowski (rep)

**Nominations:** Fiona Geiser*

**Public Relations:** Debra Hamilton*, Website: Fiona Geiser*; Facebook: Lynn Kwiatkowski*

**Supported Entries:** Peter Kubacz*, Anne Marie Kubacz*

**Trophies:** Anne Marie Kubacz*, Nancy Salmon (chair), Mariette O’Malley, Bob Feizet

Event Committees

**Agility Events:** Lynne Godshall*, Sue Sullivan, Anne Marie Kubacz

**EISA Field Trial:** Susan Sullivan*, Sandy Jones (Secretary), Pat Lyons

**EISA Fun Day:** Lynne Godshall*, Sue Sullivan

**EISA Harvest Cluster:** Debra Hamilton*, Barbara Joyal (Chair), Karolynne McAteer (chief steward)

**EISA Indoor WGS (Winter Garden Specialty):** Ann Marie Kubacz*
   Karolynne McAteer (chief steward), Bob McKay, Lynn Kwiatkowski, Susan Sullivan

**ISCA Nationals (2017):** Anne Marie Kubacz*
   Karolynne McAteer show chair, Lynne Godshall Agility, Lynn Kwiatkowski Obedience

Bench Show Committees

**Indoor & Outdoor:** Peter Kubacz, Pat Lyons, Debra Hamilton, Lynne Godshall, Susan Kwiatkowski, Rick Krasley, Susan Sullivan

**Field Trial:** Susan Sullivan, Karolynne McAteer, Kevin Culver, Jean Culver, Sandy Jones

**Agility Trial:** Lynne Godshall, Lynn Kwiatkowski, Susan Kwiatkowski, Sandy Ambrogi,
Susan Sullivan, Anne Marie Kubacz
From the President

“Dogs truly recognize emotions in humans and other dogs. This cognitive ability has until now only been evidenced in primates and the capacity to do this across species only seen in humans.” Biology Letters 2016, 12:20150883
N. Albuquerque et al: Dogs recognize dog and human emotions

http://www.easternirishsetters.org/assets/eisadogemotion.pdf

Decide for yourself. Does the above statement mean that dogs have human-like intelligence? Although any dog owner would answer a resounding “YES,” I am sure that you know some skeptics. You can read the paper, authored by Brazilian scientists, at the above EISA website link.

The experiment (as shown below) simultaneously exposed dogs to an emotional vocal sound (dog or human) along with a corresponding dog or human picture of the emotion. Like humans, dogs correctly matched the picture to the sound although they spent more time viewing the picture of the angry dog (bottom right frame) showing that they had a preference for dog over human images. The authors suggest that during domestication, such skills could have been retained by unconscious selection.

Since the sound is independent of language in the study, I am experimenting with my own dogs just using a sound without words but WITH a facial expression. This article helped me realize that in training I often forget to use the two modes.
EISA has lost a very special friend.

A very special EISA member recently passed away. As you can see in the attached photo from her memorial service, Fran Sloughfy touched many lives throughout the years. As a sign of our love and respect for Fran, the Touch of Blarney is sharing member's memories of Fran.
RICK AND DEBBIE KRASLEY

Two plus years ago we brought home "Teddy", Ch Fyrethorn It's Elementary, from the last litter that Fran and Charlie bred. We had gotten "Mocha", Ch Fyrethorn Just Expresso Yourself, less than a year before that when the last of our English Setters was not doing well. Debbie was in a panic; she could not be without a dog. Mocha filled an empty spot in our hearts, especially when our last English Setter passed. But a puppy! A chance to start anew.

It had been 12 years since we had had a litter of puppies, but we had raised so many. How hard could one male Irish Setter puppy be?

Little did we know that our mild-mannered English Setters were nothing compared to "Teddy". After a few blessed, sweet baby puppy weeks, we had a super inquisitive, super intelligent, high energy, non-stop, fearless Irish Setter male puppy on our hands. We would call or text Fran with Teddy's latest escapades - opening drawers and doors, standing on the back of the sofa like it was a balance beam, using the automatic ice and water functions on the refrigerator door. To these stories, Fran would calmly say "Teddy read the standard, he is supposed to be rollicking".

When he got old enough to go to work with me, he learned to open the car windows, open the sunroof and try to stick his head out, and take lids off of coffee cups. He would rummage through blue prints and various paperwork, and once sprayed a can of blue paint marker inside the car. Then, to the amusement of the construction workers, he would innocently offer his prize toy to anyone he could. But he "was supposed to be rollicking" was the only comment Fran would make.

Seeing how much he loved the show ring, no matter how difficult it was to keep him under control, Fran would quip, "Rick, you know you can't buy that!" or "I think you paid extra for that."

So throughout Teddy's life and his ever growing list of shenanigans, we will always hear Fran's voice "he read the standard, he is supposed to be rollicking" and "Rick, you can't buy that!" echoing through our memories.

May the shamrocks fall softly dear friend
Rick & Debbie Krasley

Memory 2
This all began almost two years ago. After much encouragement from Fran, I started training Mocha in obedience. It was Fran's belief that our Irish Setters are capable of anything and we should do everything with them. Fran came to watch a few times then decided that this was something she could do with Henry.
Thursday mornings became our training day with two other ladies, Diane with Golden Retriever Teagan, Janet with Doberman Pia, and our good friend Gretchen watching. Now we are all ladies of a certain age, all with some form of physical challenge. We often joked that all of us together still wouldn't make one whole healthy person. The training was relaxed and fun, helping and cheering each other on. We became great friends and starting going out to lunch after training. Lunch became longer than training. We were accused of training just so we could go out for lunch.

Thursday lunches turned into additional birthday lunches, thus we became known as the "Ladies that Lunch". Some of the best of times happened with these lovely ladies, not least because of Fran's wonderful wit and dry humor. We all agree that Thursday's and birthdays will never be quite the same without our dear friend, but we know that Fran is there with us in spirit, laughing and joking and cheering us on.

Debbie Krasley and "Mocha"  CH Fyrethorn Just Espresso Yourself, BN, CGC, Therapy Dog
ANNE MARIE KUBACZ

Fran's incredible love of family, friends and dogs is legendary. She was so passionate about her family and shared so much with Charlie, Chuck and Liz and their families.

We were fortunate in the Irish setter world to have Fran as an important part of many facets of our clubs and our dogs.

She traveled all over the country to Irish Setter club of America events, embracing new things and enjoying making new friends. I fondly remember our trips to Booneville AR where Fran embraced everything about field trials, and loved making new friends and learning about new aspects of our sport of dogs. She always helped that the ISCA Health Clinics and would step up and fill in at the Welcome Desk for nationals no matter where they were held. She actively participated in ISCA Board meetings, listening thoughtfully and asking questions.

Fran did every job for Eastern Irish Setter Association, and always welcomed newcomers and returning enthusiasts. Even after her diagnosis, she wanted to stay in touch with the EISA membership, offering to solicit trophy donations for our EISA Indoor 2016. She and Charlie are also the judge's selection voting chairs.

I loved seeing her Santa collection at the holidays. And loved talking dogs and breeding programs with her.

At her memorial service, it was clear she had touched many lives, and enriched so many people with her volunteerism and her friendship.
LYNNE GODSHALL

There are so many memories, but think I think the one that best shows our friendship and love of the Sport of Dogs is when I had to call her to tell her that her precious little Green Girl AKA Lady had sliced open her side and required over 40 stitches and would be out of showing for at least 4-6 months. Her reply was, “it’s not the Judges side?” I said no and we both smiled, cried and laughed in the same breath. It was then I knew we would have a great time during the journey we call friendship, I will always remember the statement, we are born into family and friends are the family we choose.

KAREN GOLDBERG

Fran Sloughfy was one of the kindest, supportive and wise people I have ever met. I met Fran way back in 1992 when I had my very first litter. When I lost my 4 year old girl quite suddenly in 2007 Fran offered me a puppy from her up coming litter Celine X Harry. On January 7th 2008 Celine gave birth to a beautiful litter of puppies from which Fran allowed me to have my beautiful girl who came to be known as CH MACH Fyrethorn Straight Flush UD, MJG, MXS,MXF, T2B,CGC

Also known as "Rubyrose".
Fran was a great mentor and friend.
Peace & Love, Thank you Fran--& Charlie too!
LYNN KWIAKTOWSKI

Fran was my friend, mentor and the center of my dog family. Fran was really into the movement of a dog. I’ll always remember sitting ring side with her while she explained how the front end should reach and pull in the ground while the rear was driving the dog forward. She was a great educator. She inspired me to go and research and understand everything about the breed whether it was the genetics manual from AKC she gave me, the history of my dog’s pedigree and why she and Charlie chose to bred each litter, or some health related issue to be aware of. At 11:00 at night I’d call and ask her questions and we’d chat for an hour or so, on some obscure dog topic. She knew how I loved to go find out stuff about the dogs and she was willing to listen to me rattle on about what I found and discuss what it might mean. My favorite time was when the memo arrived. I’d call and we’d look at the pictures and critique the dogs. Love the head on this one, no front on that one, check out the rear on this one. As corresponding secretary for ISCA she was constantly on the phone answering questions from strangers about Irish Setters and she loved it. She spent countless hours promoting our breed and helping whoever wanted questions answered. Fran came from a family of educators so I think it was bred into her and I think she’d be happy to be remembered as one herself. I have so many Fran stories, but I think the priceless education she gave me is the greatest gift I could have asked for.
HEIDI LAABS

Her work ethic and dedication to the ISCA - During the time that she served on the ISCA Board, she did her job as Corresponding Secretary with great enthusiasm and attention to detail. She always attended board meetings and participated very thoughtfully. You always knew where Fran stood on issues that came up - she had strong opinions and expressed them eloquently.

Her "red pencil" - Fran was a great editor of any document that was sent to her for review and editing before publication. She found typos and grammatical errors with her eagle eye. She once told me that she inherited a "red pencil gene" from her mother, who was an English teacher.

Her sense of humor - Fran found humor in just about everything, including her illness. When I asked about how her treatment was going, she replied "Well, it's tough, but at least I'm not blowing coat!"

Her love for Charlie, her family and her dogs.

FIONA GEISER

Fran REALLY loved attending Irish Setter Nationals. I especially enjoyed the opportunity to collaborate with Fran at the 2015 Georgia ISCA Nationals where we helped to register participants - all of whom Fran had known for many years!!
I met Fran in 1997 when I had my first show dog. We grow close when she moved near me to be closer to her daughter and her family. I became friends with her family. I have so many wonderful memories. One of them were the countless hours we would spend at her kitchen table going through pictorials and memos studying pedigrees, health and structure of our setters. Aside from the countless hours of dog talk, we would get together with our friends and go to a restaurant called the Pit Stop. Fran loved her steaks. We would laugh the night away. I was also part of the lunch birthday ladies group. Boy did we have fun with Fran at those luncheons. But my most cherished memory is when we were at the Atlanta National and I was standing with Rich and Fran walked over to us and said to Rich, you better take good care of her because she is my friend. I will always love you and miss you my friend.
SUSAN SULLIVAN

I’ve always had a difficult time sitting through a breed show. Lots and lots of beautiful red dogs and I would sit there and wish I was at an agility trial or a field trial or anywhere else after the first 30 minutes. That was until I was lucky enough to sit next to Fran during the Best of Breed at last year’s national. She noticed how bored I was and started telling me about the dogs in the ring, the judge’s job as each dog ran by and what the handlers were trying to do with each dog. Fran worked her magic and made the breed come alive for me. I will never watch a breed show without thinking of her and the new perspective about our dogs and their conformation that she shared with me.
DEBRA HAMILTON

Over the years I have respected Fran for her dedication and love of Charlie and her children. Her love, knowledge and devotion to the Irish setter was equally amazing. No job in support of our breed was too tedious or difficult. Blarney editor, board member, trophy chair, constitution chair, membership chair, she tirelessly did whatever was asked of her.

Fran introduced many of us to the breed over the years. She explained confirmation and obedience, attended hunt tests and graded puppies. She always supported her puppy owners in all of their endeavors.

Yet, in spite of her constant hard work, Fran was fun. I can still see her dressed up at the National parties having a great time with her friends. She will be missed!
SANDY JONES

I will always remember the many dog show weekends when I parked my van with Charlie and Fran’s. When we weren’t getting the dogs ready, we would just sit and talk – it was so nice to have someone I knew to hang around with. I usually travelled alone, so the company was most welcome, and equally nice not to have to go to dinner by myself! When I had Rebecca with me, she would usually get around to visiting Sloughfy’s van to see if there were any goodies inside. She knew Frannie usually packed something good that might be found in the back of their van… I will surely miss the friendship!

SUSAN KWiatkowski

My first encounter with Fran occurred many years ago at an obedience match. Fran was thoroughly convinced that Irish setters were the smartest dogs and that most of them outsmarted their owners. More recently she had encouraging comments about Calypso. You could always depend on Fran to have an interesting comment during a discussion. She so loved the Redheads.
Fran and I worked closely together on a lot of projects over the years, not always agreeing, but always respectfully, and for the good of EISA and Irish Setters. The projects we shared were tough - the evaluation of ending Combined Setters; developing a fair Judge selection process; the development of Harvest Cluster and 20+ years of writing approving and then re-doing EISA's Constitution - Fran was passionate about each task, volunteering for these committees because she was passionate about our club and our dogs. You learn a lot about someone when they are that passionate, that committed. You learn that they will make themselves available for the meeting regardless of the inconvenience to themselves; you learn that they will listen to every favorable and unfavorable comment, weighing each the same, because they are important to someone; you learn their process as they sift through facts and details to draw their decision and conclusion; and you learn that they will stand stoically, solidly by your side, regardless of their opinion, to support and defend the ultimate conclusion of the group. Fran did not work in the shadows, her disagreements were expressed, her doubts verbalized and her displeasure was made clear. She was equally enthusiastic with our successes, expressing absolute joy in the new opportunities EISA gave our members and our dogs and supporting, in every way, the effort to continue them. EISA, ISCA, our dogs and each of us lost a very good friend. Rest softly, until we meet again, my friend.

Fran did not strike most of us as funny, she was not the "clown" of any group and I don't think I ever heard her tell a joke. However, she was inclined to funny observations that, when delivered, could just knock you down laughing, partly because it was funny and partly because it was so unexpected and true. My favorite moment occurred on the day EISA was seeking to re-certify for their Obedience Trials and we were running a "B match" on a Wednesday night at Allen's Kennels. For those who don't know, the purpose of a "B match" is to prove EISA can do the paperwork, we must have advanced entries etc, they can be expensive to run and generally are not well attended; to make matters worse, we were in a time crunch to get re-approved. The decision to run this at Allen's Kennels was financial and convenience but it stuck us with a Wednesdays night event in July (I think). With a membership as widespread as EISA, who was going to enter? Conveniently, I (and 5 dogs at that point) live about a mile from Allen's, so did Lynne Godshall, Anne Marie was not far, about an hour away and Fran and Charlie were about 90 minutes, so the conclusion was we would all enter our show dogs to meet AKC's requirements, no one needed to pass, they just needed to be pre-entered and some had to show up.
In any event, the evening is lovely, we are all having a good laugh at the antics of our very untrained dogs who are clueless about any of the commands being given. Fran and I are chuckling as Lydia Rogers puts my Charles in a down stay and he promptly belly crawls across the field right behind her. Fran is equally amused/embarrassed as one of her girls, perhaps Celine?, bounces around the field when recalled, leaving Charlie standing there. My final humiliation, shared by Lydia, is when Tia is commanded to sit and she stands looking dumbly at Lydia, truly not knowing what "sit" means - she really didn’t! She was the final dog of the night and as everyone comes out of the rings we are all laughing and joking about our untrained "pets" and I express my embarrassment about the total lack of training in my dogs. At this, Fran turns to me and says, "Mariette, I think your dogs are very well trained, every single one of your dogs came on call! I could stand outside and call my dogs all day long and not a one would do that! Any dog that comes "on call" is trained as far as I am concerned." We all just howled with laughter! A classic Fran moment.
**Call to order:** A meeting of Eastern Irish Setter Association was held on Sat. February 13, 2016 at the Winter Garden Specialties in Rye, NY. This was a “special” general membership meeting called by the President, Fiona Geiser. It was a limited agenda meeting. The meeting was called to order about 5:38 pm, following the conclusion of ISCLI judging. Attending members included: Fiona Geiser (President), Lynne Godshall, Suz Sullivan, Susan Kwiatkowski, Debra Hamilton, Pat Lyon, and Mariette O’Malley (Recording Secretary). Attending guest included: Carolyn Greenland.

**Approval of minutes:** No prior Minutes were presented.

**Membership:** The President, Fiona Geiser, on behalf of the membership chairman, Fran Sloughfy, explained that through an oversight the membership application for Harvey & Carolyn Greenland had not been read at the previous General Membership meeting on December 26, 2015. The Membership Chair, Fran Sloughfy, was very concerned about the error and asked the Board to take some remedial action. The proposed solution was a special meeting, called by the President, as described in the Constitution to rectify the matter.

Carolyn Greenland, who was present at the meeting, was asked to introduce herself and give a brief history of her involvement with Irish Setters. She thanked EISA for the extra effort in processing their application for membership.

The President then explained that a second reading and vote would be held at the General Membership meeting to be held at the conclusion of judging at New Brunswick Kennel Club in Edison, NJ on Sat. March 26, 2016. This concluded the business for this special meeting.

**Adjournment:** A motion for adjournment was made by Suz Sullivan and seconded by Lynne Godshall; approved unanimously about 6:08 pm.

**Corrected and Approved. March 26, 2016**
Winter Garden 2016

Treasurer’s report
Lynn Kwiatkowski

The Office of Treasurer was turned over by Peter Kubacz to Lynn Kwiatkowski at the first BOD meeting in January. An audit of the books was done and came back with no issues. There will be a more detailed financial report in the next Blarney, once we receive the financial information from our Indoor show.
Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by president Fiona Geiser at 12pm at the New Jersey Exposition Center in Edison NJ. Fiona read EISA’s objectives: *The object of the Association shall be “to promote and improve the breed of Irish Setters; to instruct its members in all matters pertaining to Irish Setters; and to promote and support activities relating to the breed of Irish Setters.”*

Attendance was circulated and signed

Approval of minutes from the meeting of Dec 26, 2015 as published in Touch O’Blarney, Winter edition. Motion made by Rick Krasley seconded by Debra Krasley, Unanimously approved.
The minutes of the special general meeting on Saturday February 13th in Rye NY were read. There was one correction: Pat Lyons also attended this meeting. Motion to accept the minutes as read was made by Pat Lyons, seconded by Debra Hamilton, Unanimously approved.

Report of the Officers – Fiona explained to the attendees that at the board meeting on 1/2/16 the board approved that Fran and Charlie Sloughfy and Fred Vanacore were nominated for honorary membership to EISA. As per the EISA Constitution: A candidate for honorary membership may be proposed in writing by at least five members in good standing for consideration by the Board of Directors. Upon affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the Board of Directors, the candidate for honorary membership shall be submitted to the members at the next general membership meeting of the Association for their approval.

A motion to approved Charlie Sloughfy as an honorary member of EISA was made by John Frisby and seconded by Rick Krasley, Unanimously approved.

A motion to approve Fred Vanacore as an honorary member of EISA was made by Rick Krasley, seconded by Lydia Miller, Unanimously approved.
Report of Committees

Membership reported by Debra Krasley who is the new membership chair.

1. Harvey and Carolyn Greenland were proposed for membership, this is their second reading. Motion made by Debbie Krasley, seconded by Charlie Sloughfy to accept them as members. Unanimously approved.

2. Due to Fran Sloughfy's illness, reminded to members whose dues are unpaid were not sent. Debra Krasley will send those emails.

Blarney Deadline – Suz Sullivan – April 1st is the deadline, but Suz would appreciate info ASAP!

C. 2016 Judge Selection - the second round of voting ballots were mailed to all EISA members. Members may mail or scan their ballots to Charlie Sloughfy - due April 1st, 2016. Lynn Kwiatkowski will join Charlie as a co-chair.

D. Judge's update: Fiona gave every attendee a copy of the new EISA calendar with our judges listed.

E. Agility Match: EISA must hold an A match in order to become licensed to hold our own agility trial. Lynn Godshall will be the chair, and will judge the event. It will be held Thursday evening July 14th at Allen's Kennels

F. Public Relations: Chair Debra Hamilton explained the concept of outreach to new sources in support of purebred dogs, educating the public. Our first outreach in 2016 was to sponsor a trophy for New Jersey 4 H.

G. Field Trial Susan Sullivan reported that the EISA field trial has a new date: October 15 & 16th.
V. New Business – Lydia Miller asked that the EISA awards criteria for a club plaque be discussed among the membership. EISA now offers a plaque for the initial title won by a dog, and members can choose the type of plaque. Once a dog is awarded a plaque, any titles earned in subsequent years will result in additional plate OR with a replacement plate, depending on which type of award members have gotten in the past.

The discussion targeted which venues should count as a venue that qualifies for award. Many members shared their thoughts and viewpoints about this.

A motion was made by Lydia Miller, seconded by Charlie Sloughfy to award a plaque to any dog with any title awarded, as long as proof of achieving the title is sent to the awards chair. Unanimously approved.

Applications for plaques are due with Lydia Miller on April 1st.

VI. Good and Welfare was shared by many members.

VII. Adjournment A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by John Frisby, seconded by Lynn Kwiatkowski. The meeting adjourned at 1:10pm.

Respectfully submitted
Anne Marie Kubacz for Mariette O’Malley

Attendance:
Fiona Geiser          Lola Gamble          Richard Krasley          Peter Kubacz
Debra Krasley         Debra Hamilton       Susan Sullivan          Randy Kubacz
Anne Marie Kubacz     Pat Lyons            Lynne Godshall          Charlie Sloughfy
John Frisby           Lydia Miller         Nancy Salmon            Lynn Kwiatkowski
Brad Porterfield      Eileen McDonald      
Eastern Irish Setter Association is elated that long-time member and former President of EISA, Karolynne McAteer, was elected to the 2020 Class of the Board of Directors of the American Kennel Club. Karolynne was voted to the board at the organization's March Quarterly Delegate Meeting held in New York City.

Karolynne is the current chairman of the ISCA 2017 National Dog Show in conjunction with EISA. In addition, she is both a breed and field trial judge. An AKC Breeder of Merit, she shows her dogs in the breed ring and competes in field trials. She is the ISCA delegate to the American Kennel Club.

As a member of the AKC Board of Directors Karolynne will:
“The Board of Directors shall have the general management of the business and affairs of the AKC and generally perform all duties appertaining to the office of director.”
Agility Pursuit of the Double Q: Agility and Timing

What is Timing as it applies to Agility? It is giving a cue at an appropriate time as not to interfere with the flow of the run.

Dogs are always looking for feedback from their environment. If we do not teach a deliberate behavior marker that tells the dog they made a correct decision they will take it from the environment.

Examples are: Reaching into Bait Bag  
  Stepping forward  
  Looking Away  
  Big Smile  

The list of bad cues goes on and on…

Dogs will find something that to them accurately predicts reinforcement. A clicker is a very specific and happy reinforcer!

I like to use a clicker on a green dog when we start to do distance work. I can break down behavior chains into very specific steps. On contacts I can reinforce a dog stepping into the zone and stopping 2 on 2 off. Weave poles become less stressful when using a clicker takes the emotion out of the exercise and generally keeps the dog in a learning state.

During jump sequences I can click take off, I can click landing, lead change, keeping a bar up or driving to the next obstacle. The trick to good timing is to learn how to break down behavior chains into their simplest steps. Learn to observe. Listen and break down what you see and keep emotions in check.

Happy trialing  
Lynne, Lady and Christie
WHY OBEDIENCE?
By Susan Kwiatkowski

Generally speaking there are two main aspects when working with a canine partner toward an Obedience Title.

The first aspect, of course, is TRAINING which really continues throughout the dog’s life. Sort of like us, learning new things up to the end. We all develop techniques to get the dog to sit, down, stand, heel, and recall. We use these techniques to teach the specific exercises contained in an obedience class. When the dog demonstrates that it can complete the trained exercises with precision and accuracy repeatedly, the team is ready to enter a Sanctioned Obedience Trial.

We enter the trial and arrive at the given time and place. Outside the ring we prep the dog for readiness and then when called, enter the ring. This is where the second aspect of titling our dog begins. It is called HANDLING.

Handling is crucial to achieving a successful qualifying score. Good handling can improve the score and improper handling can cost us points. By learning to read our dog’s response to our commands during training sessions, we must develop a mental library of handling techniques which can be retrieved during a competition. Subtle changes in a handler’s body can change a dog’s response. An example of this can be observed, often at the novice level, where a dog starts walking behind the handler called lagging. The inexperienced handler looks back over the left shoulder which confirms to the dog that they should be back there. The experienced handler keeps shoulders square and continues to walk at a pace used during training. The experienced handler may give that extra command to heel and take the point deduction rather than allow the dog to continue to lag.

In the advanced classes of Open and Utility, handling becomes even more crucial because the dog is off leash and working away from the handler. Handling requires the ability to read a dog from moment to moment and adjust a command or body language as necessary. It requires clear, calm thinking under the pressure of competition. It requires being present in the moment throughout the time the performance is being judged. It is not a long time on the clock and is not as easy as it sounds. As the saying goes experience is the best teacher and experienced handlers definitely have an advantage.

It is a good practice to have someone videotape the team’s performance. Go back and analyze it later to see if there was something that can be improved and add that to your mental library. If something negative happens in the ring, don’t get upset and angry, learn from it. Channel your energy into achieving an improved performance the next time.

Happy Training!
SETTER TAILS

On Feb 4th of this year I was blessed with the adoption of my big Brando, a 7 year old Irish, from Penny of Scarlly Setters in Georgia (with the help of some very special friends along with way). Brando, Marienn and I will be attending Bucks in May so that everyone might enjoy him! Bob Feizet

“Toto – we’re not in Georgia anymore...” - I found that out when Bob took Marienn and I to the beach down Cape May for my first February beach walk. It is definitely colder up here in NJ! There were even remnants of this cold white stuff called snow and this soft white stuff called sea foam. I will also have to get used to all these seagulls too and realize they are not dinner. The water up here is pretty cold – just dipped my paws in the bay and wow that water is cold!!

Bob took us to see the Cape May lighthouse which I sniffed out and tried to “mark” before Bob caught me just in time. I don’t know what I was thinking about “marking” such a really cool building! He then took us to this place called Congress Hall which has a really nice green lawn overlooking the ocean where were got in some nice runs on our long leads. We had lunch on this nice veranda which had rocking chairs for humans only. Marienn and I were content to lay on the grass. We got some nice dog treats from our waiter. I did not try to “mark” the veranda at Congress Hall!

It seems everywhere we go down here, Bob’s friends come up and call Marienn and I - “Toby and Will”... not sure who they were but they sure made a lot of friends down here! (Bob even calls me Toby sometimes and I have to correct him!) I guess we look a lot like them! In fact, this one person asked us if we were going to be Greeters at Cold Springs Village this summer and I had to defer to Bob who answered “DEFINITELY”! I also overheard Bob say that we were going to participate in this year’s Celtic Fest on July 16 and 17 and this year’s Civil War weekend on Sept 17 and 18 at Historic Cold Springs Village. Sounds pretty cool but not sure I will be hanging out with the Pennsylvania 69th - the Fighting Irish Brigade – since I am Georgia Irish right Penny and GeorgeAnn!

On our way to the Wesley Shore nursing home in Ocean City, Bob took us to the Lobster House where we walked the docks. It was a little smelly and Bob made sure I did not “mark” or “christen” any of the fishing fleet boats. I would like to come back in the spring and try one of those crab cakes!
I think I really impressed Bob at the nursing home in Ocean City. I turned on the “Irish” and was such a good boy with all those good folks in those wheelchairs. I would definitely like to come back again, perhaps when we are down there for some parade called their Do Dah Dog parade in April where we can do the Ocean City boardwalk with hundreds of other dogs. I believe the date is April 16th.

Signing off for now! See everyone at Bucks in May!

Brando (and Marienn) Feizet for EISA Blarney
Put July 24 on your Calendar!
Put July 24 on your dog’s Calendar!
You don’t want to miss EISA’s annual FUN DAY!!

When: July 24, 2016
Where: Allen Kennels
116 Bortons Landing Rd
Mooresstown, NJ 08057
(Air-conditioned building with a fenced agility area outside where you and your dogs get to try out the equipment and play. If the weather is too warm activities will be scheduled in the air-conditioning.)

Schedule:
9:30 AM EISA Board of Directors Meeting
12:00 Festivities Begin with a POT LUCK LUNCH and EISA General Membership Meeting (brief)

AFTER LUNCH:

* Play AGILITY with your dog! There is a fenced in agility area full of equipment for us to use. Regardless of your experience level it is great to spend time with your red-headed partner running a course or learning the equipment.

* Try a RALLY course with your dog. A rally course will be set up to practice your obedience skills.

* CGC and CGCA TESTS: Certify your dog as a Canine Good Citizen. (http://classic.akc.org/events/cgc/training_testing.cfm)

* There Nose Work activities.

* PLAY TIME: Dogs will be given the chance to play together in an enclosed area.

Knowledgeable club members will be available to help with all the activities.
Chairperson: Lynne Godshall (lyngdsh@aol.com)
Sue Kwiatkowski

Pop the corks for GCH Rumraisin Misguided Angel UD RE OAP NJP XFP for the required three legs for a Utility Title.

Calypso placed 3rd at K-9 Obedience Club in January;
1st at Staten Island Obedience Club in February;
3rd at First Dog Obedience Club in March.

Pat Lyons announces:

Seanpat Morna JH was BOW, BOS yesterday at Great Barrington KC for 2 points under Paul Averill DVM. She actually behaved herself.

**NJ DOG FEDERATION REPORT** submitted by Susan Kwiatkowski

Article on the Canine influenza vaccine indicates that since the virus is new, no dogs have immunity. The vaccine itself does not prevent the disease but an infection is less severe in vaccinated dogs and the period of illness is shortened. Two companies are licensed Zoetis and Merck. Virus H3N2.

The NJ Assembly had 9 Bills up in March on Canine issues – 2 on guide dogs; 1 allowing dogs in outdoor seating at restaurants; 1 on homeowner’s insurance coverage with respect to dogs harbored on insured property; 1 on prohibition of sight unseen cats & dogs (this one also repeals the Pet Purchase Protection Act); 1 on tethering and confinement of proper shelter for Dogs; 1 on the boarding of guard dogs in definition of a kennel and also increases licensing fees for kennels and pet shops; 1 encourages municipalities to require pet shops to only sell cats and dogs obtained from shelters/animal rescue; 1 congratulates the Baez family on accomplishments at Westminster.

NJ Senate had 4 bills up for March on canine issues – 1 concerns the repeal of the Pet Purchase Protection Act; 1 establishes animal cruelty offenses pertaining to the chaining or restraint of animals; 1 revises animal fighting laws and establishes a minimum penalty for animal cruelty offenses; 1 endorses the Canine Good Citizen Program

Guess dogs are a pretty important topic for politicians in New Jersey!
The Blarney continues as an electronic newsletter. Although the Touch O’ Blarney is now electronic, please remember that you can always print out a hard copy.

Please continue to send in your Spring and Summer wins, news, pictures and setter tails for publication in the Blarney. The deadline for submission to the 2016 Summer Blarney is July 10th. We will include Bucks, agility match and our Fun Day. Everything is due by the 10th except for the Fun Day and agility match pictures and articles that will be added immediately upon completion of the event.

Anyone who would like to work on the Blarney should contact Suz at 443-286-7713. susansullivan@mac.com