

## **The West Highland White Terrier Club of America's Registry of Merit**

A discussion concerning the Stud Dog/Brood Bitch Award program was held during the March 2005 meeting of the WHWTCA Board of Directors. It was the Board's feeling that the club's members would be better served by replacing the current Stud Dog/Brood Bitch Award program with a Registry of Merit.

The purpose of the Registry of Merit (ROM) program is to honor the producing achievements of sires and dams that have produced a specific number of champion offspring. By awarding a ROM title to deserving producers, it gives the club a permanent record of Westie history and will serve as a learning tool in pedigree study and research. The ROM or ROMX title will be conferred upon Westies that have produced a designated number of Champion progeny.

### **Rules and Procedures:**

- The eligible number of champion offspring for a ROM is 10 for sires and 5 for dams.
- The eligible number of champion offspring for a ROMX is 20 for sires and 8 for dams.
- Tabulation is based solely upon the number of American Champions produced by a dog or bitch. Offspring sired after the death of a stud dog or through the use of frozen semen will be counted towards the calculation of the ROM awards.
- All statistics are taken from the published findings of the American Kennel Club, as obtained in a printed Progeny Report.
- The owner of the dog or bitch must be a member in good standing of the West Highland White Terrier Club of America. In the case of a co-owned dog or bitches, all co-owners must also be members.
- Dogs achieving ROM or ROMX status will be recognized in pedigrees by using the acronym, ROM or ROMX.
- At this time, AKC does not recognize the title or program.
- If there are any errors, corrections or omissions please notify the ROM Chairperson immediately.
- The burden of proof shall fall on the owner of the dog or bitch and requires obtaining a Progeny Report from the American Kennel Club.
- In order to qualify for a ROM or ROMX, the owners of the sire or dam must fill out a special ROM or ROMX application indicating all owners and other pertinent information. The application may be obtained from the Registry of Merit Chair, the Corresponding Secretary, or downloaded from the club's website.
- The ROM certificates and plaques and the ROMX certificates will be awarded yearly at the club's Annual Dinner, held in October.
- The deadline for awards is September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.
- A yearly update will be printed in the Westie *Imprint* and every five years in the Yearbook. In addition, all ROM and ROMX recipients will be listed on the club's website.
- Although the ROM was instituted in 2005, it is retroactive for all Westies that have qualified in the past for a Stud Dog or Brood Bitch Award. Since ROMX is a new program, all eligible dogs and bitches must apply for entry into the ROMX registry.
- The ROM replaces the Stud Dog/Brood Bitch Award Program.

### **For more information, please contact:**

Ann Marie Holowathy, Chair  
WHWTCA Registry of Merit  
145 Bunker Street  
Doylestown, PA 18901  
aholowathy@msn.com