

Important voting to come

IRISH WOLFHOUND
CLUB OF CANADA



CLUB CANADIEN DU
LÉVRIER IRLANDAIS

IWCC Newsletter- December 2025

Dear members,

On behalf of the board, I would like to offer you our best wishes for a joyful holiday season and a wonderful 2026.

Voting for National Specialties judges for 2028 to 2030

You will soon be invited to vote, by OPA to select the judges for 2028, 2029 and 2030 National Specialties Show.

A small committee consisting in Susan Prokopenko, Lynda Schofield, Donna Tomson and Guylaine Gagnon reviewed the judges histories and past judgement assignments for all names recommended by the members. Eleven names emerged from this exercise and all those people were contacted by the secretary to explore their interest and availability. Some were not yet judges and some didn't answer. My mails got lost. Seven judges were on the list. All of them provided their bios so you can learn about some that have not judges often in North America.

These bios are part of this newsletter.

Were just about to launch the vote for the 2028 to 2030, when the 2026 judge had to withdraw for health reasons that prevented him from taking long flights.

We first asked our 7 selected judges if they would have availability for 2026 and we also asked one judge that I could not reach before. No new addition.

As 2026 is tomorrow morning, the committee decided to go with one of the judges we already pre-selected for election and that said yes to 2026.

Of that restricted list only 3 judges were available for 2026 and considering the chair is already chosen as well as the site, we thought it would have

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more chance to attract entries if the judge kennel we chose had no relation to the show chair or anybody in the Board or already judged and selected the chair dogs or dogs living in Ontario.

The judge chosen by the Board is Marrku Mähönen from Finland, Powder Horn kennel, from Finland.

An International judge not related to nobody this side of the Atlantique and who had never judged in Canada or the East States of USA.

We made sure there is no chance of favoritism.

Last chapter to the story, one of our selected judges solve her computer problem and found her invitation. We now have 7 judges on the ballot.

You will be contacted by OPA vote for the 7 judges and participate in rank your order of preference. Compilation should present the judges that received the higher score and they will be offered the year they prefer, from 2028 to 2030.

Pay attention as Opa Vote can end in your "Spam or Promotion" mail sections.

Bylaws Updates

The **bylaws** have been updated by a small committee consisting of Lynda Schofield and Jill Benoit. The new section are done and a document present the difference with the 2023 version and the rationales behind the modifications and additions.

An OPA Vote will be **launch in January** and the Regulars members of the club will be invited to vote.

A new member in our Communication and Outreach committee

We are happy to welcome one of our members, Sandi Konopka, who raised her hand to work with the website update, especially present, in a template similar to what we had with the e-bulletin, all the photos and show results for the National and the Regional Show Specialties. Our plan is to add, one by one, all the 2024 and 2025 results.

Infolettre du CCLI- Décembre 2025

Chers membres,

Permettez-moi de vous offrir, au nom du conseil, nos meilleurs vœux pour un temps des fêtes joyeux et une excellente année 2026.

Vote pour le choix des juges des Spécialités Nationales 2028 à 2030.
Vous serez très bientôt invités à voter, par l'intermédiaire de l'OPA, pour sélectionner les juges des expositions nationales spécialisées de 2028, 2029 et 2030.

Un petit comité composé de Susan Prokopenko, Lynda Schofield, Donna Tomson et Guylaine Gagnon a examiné les antécédents et les jugements rendus par les juges proposés par les membres. Onze noms ont été retenus à l'issue de cette première sélection et toutes ces personnes ont été contactées par le secrétaire pour connaître leur intérêt et leur disponibilité. Certaines d'entre elles n'étaient pas encore juges ou n'ont pas répondu. Sept d'entre eux figurent désormais sur la liste. Tous ont fourni leur biographie, afin que vous puissiez en savoir plus eux et en particulier sur ceux qui n'ont pas souvent jugé en Amérique du Nord. Vous trouverez ces biographies dans ce bulletin d'information.

Alors que nous étions sur le point de lancer le vote pour les choix des juges 2028 à 2030, quand le juge déjà choisi pour la spécialité de 2026 a dû se retirer pour des raisons de santé interdisant les vols de longue durée.

Nous avons d'abord recontacté les 7 juges de notre liste pour connaître leur disponibilité en septembre 2026. Nous avons également finalement contacté un juge que je n'avais pas réussi à joindre auparavant.

Aucun nouveau nom ne s'est ajouté à la liste.

Comme 2026 est pratiquement demain matin, le comité a décidé de laisser l'exécutif du club choisir l'un des juges que nous avons déjà présélectionnés pour l'élection et qui avait accepté pour 2026.

Il ne restait plus que trois juges sur cette liste restreinte de disponibilité 2026 et, étant donné que le président du show et le site avaient déjà été choisis, nous avons pensé que nous aurions plus de chances d'attirer des

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inscriptions si le chenil du juge que nous choisissons n'avait aucun lien avec le président du concours ou avec un membre du conseil d'administration, et s'il n'avait pas déjà jugé et sélectionné les chiens du président ou des chiens vivant en Ontario..

Le juge choisi par le conseil d'administration est Marrku Mähönen, du chenil Powder Horn, en Finlande.

Il s'agit d'un juge international qui n'a aucun lien avec qui que ce soit de ce côté-ci de l'Atlantique et qui n'a jamais jugé au Canada ni dans les États de l'est des États-Unis.

De cette façon, nous nous sommes assuré qu'il n'y aurait aucun favoritisme. Dernier chapitre de l'histoire, une des juges pré-sélectionnés a retrouvé son invitation dans « promotion » et accepté de participer au vote.

Vous serez contacté par OPA Vote pour participer au classement des 6 juges par ordre de préférence. La compilation qui en découlera présentera les juges ayant obtenu les plus hauts scores. Le classement leur permettra de choisir l'année où ils veulent juger de 2028 à 2030.

Attention, car OPA Vote peut se retrouver dans vos dossiers « Pourriel » ou « Promotion ».

Mise à jour des règlements

Les règlements ont été mis à jour par un petit comité composé de Lynda Schofield et Jill Benoit. Les modifications et ajouts sont terminés et un document présente les différences avec la version 2023 ainsi que les raisons qui ont motivé les modifications et les changements proposés. Un vote de l'OPA sera lancé en **janvier** et les membres réguliers du club seront invités à voter.

Un nouveau membre du Comité de Communication et Sensibilisation

Nous sommes heureux d'accueillir Sandi Konopka qui s'est portée volontaire pour tenir à jour la section événement du site web, sur le modèle utilisé par le e-bulletin. Nous comptons déposer les photos et les résultats de 2024 et 2025 de toutes les spécialités.

Biographies des juges en nomination

Dr. Ludovica Salamon (Della Bassa Pavese)



Ludovica got her very first dog at the age of 6, a Whippet, and she has owned West Highland White Terriers, English Setters, and bred Irish Wolfhounds, Giant and Miniature Schnauzers, Gordon Setters and Italian Spinoni.

She has been breeding Irish Wolfhounds together with her mother under the DELLA BASSA PAVESE affix since when she was 10 years old. More than 50 Della Bassa Pavese Wolfhounds have earned the title of show champion.

Passed to judge Irish Wolfhounds since 1999, she is now a judge for all the FCI Group 10 (sighthounds), Group 7 (pointing dogs), Group 4 (dachshund) and to date she has judged Irish Wolfhounds many times at Championship Shows and Specialty Shows in Italy, UK, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Poland, Hungary, Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Canada and USA. She judged the breed at Crufts 2025. She is a veterinarian specialized in canine reproduction.

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Markku Mahönen

Retired from voting because

Selected for 2026 by the IWCC Board of directors

Powder Horn (with Päivi Kukkonen)

Our journey with the breed began in 1986 when our first Irish Wolfhound, Bitcopandora (later a Finnish Champion), walked into our lives. It was from another quality bitch, FIN and NL CH Declaration of Love v Duke's Paradijs, that we bred our first homebred FIN Champions in 1994. Since then, we have also successfully bred International, Swedish, and Belgian Champions. For our dedication and success in Irish Wolfhound breeding, we have been honored with the Vuolasvirta Trophy, the Finnish Kennel Club's top award for breeders. We also breed Whippets and Border Terriers.

I became a conformation judge in 1999. I have judged Irish Wolfhounds in a total of 18 different countries, including Western and Eastern Europe, Scandinavia, the Baltic countries, Ireland, England, and the USA. In 2015, I had the privilege of judging my own breed at the World Dog Show in Milan. Currently, I am an FCI all-breed international judge, but the Irish Wolfhound has always remained closest to my heart.

In addition to conformation, I am a coursing judge and officiate at competitions a few times a year, often on weekends featuring both a show and a coursing trial. I have also trained new judges for both Irish Wolfhounds and Whippets. I have been actively involved in club work, serving as the President of the Finnish Irish Wolfhound Club, a board member of the Finnish Sighthound Club, and the Finnish Kennel Club's representative on the FCI Sighthound Commission.

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Anette Edlander, Sweden Pre-Eminence IW

My name is Anette Edlander and I got my first Irish Wolfhound 1978. I had my first litter of mini wire daschound 1984 and my first litter of Irish Wolfhound 1988. My kennel name are Pre-Eminence's. The most famous dogs from me are Pre-Eminence's Gentle On My Mind and his son Wolfsbane Pre-Eminence Black Magic. This dogs you can find in a lot of pedigrees all over the world.

1995 a were aithorized FCI judge on Irish Wolfhound and all Daschhound. I were the first authorized Irish Wolfhound specialist judge in the Nordic Countries. This year are my 30 year jubilee as judge. Today I judge breeds for almost all group.



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Marion Marpe, ARD Ri

Germany

We got our first Irish wolfhound in the middle of the sixties. In 1976 we bought a puppy from Marjorie Sauders, Erindale Ô BrianLaird, and later, Erindale Lorimar (son of Triston), Kelly A, Jason' daughter and Sadie, younger sister to Lorimar. My husband Theo and I started breeding Wolfhound under the kennel name ARD Ri. We bred a great number of well known Champions like Multi Ch ARD Ri Aloha, Boogie, Gillie, Jody, Emerson and many more.

At the same time, for more than 10 years, I was in the German DWZRV Board of the District RRW secretary.

In 1990, I became special judge for Irish Wolfhounds, Deerhounds, Afghan Hounds and Salukis. After judging a number of CC, International Shows and Specialties in Northern Ireland, France, Italy, Spain, Norway, Finland, Sweden, Czech Rep, Estonia and many more, we moved to Spain in 1999 and came back to Germany in 2010. I completed the FCI Group 10 and the Mediterranean Group 5.

In all those years I have been judging a great number of International Shows and Specialities in Norway, Sweden, Finland, Estonia, Latvia, Hungary, France, Italy, Spain ,two times the IW Club show in Northern Ireland, World dog show Netherland, Canada and many more.

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Jodi Roller, US

After reading Albert Payson Terhune's collie novels in elementary school, it was inevitable that my first breed would be the rough collie. I purchased my first show collie in 1980, a bitch out of the 1978 CCA BOS, Ch. Tamisett's Golden Dream. Another series of novels, the Tolkien ring trilogy, inspired the kennel prefix Rivendell. Due to a very demanding career, I had extremely limited time available for breeding and showing. However, over the next 20 years, I bred several collie litters, finished two champions, and pointed many others, 99.9% owner-handled.

I fell in love with Irish wolfhounds at the 1976 Westminster show; and in 1989, I acquired my first IW, a companion, from Ygdrasil's Carrie McLean, when her kennel was still located in Ohio. Although I continued to be involved with collies and had not yet retired, I decided I wanted a show IW next. I contacted Sam Ewing; about a half-hour before I was leaving to pick up my puppy (pre-cell phone days and a 16-hour round trip drive), the phone rang and it was Sam. After giving the puppy a bath, he was carrying it to the barn in the rain and it slipped out of his arms and into a hole and broke its leg. The puppy recovered but had a limp and couldn't be shown. I was told that Pam Paloma had Eagle lines. She arranged to meet me at Locust Grove. I must have passed muster because she had a puppy dog available for me about five months later, and I brought him home in 2004. In his second show at 14 months, I took him to a G1. He finished with three majors, becoming Ch. Erinwood Rivendell Gandolf, and later received a G3. Pam let me have her favorite bitch a few years later as she was going out of dogs, and I bred Erinwood Rajean to my boy after finishing her and showing her to a G4. Over the next 14 years, I bred three IW litters for a total of 26 puppies; five of them finished, and two went on to their GCH. As I began working on my judging application, I was invited to judge the Great Lakes Irish Wolfhound Association match in 2017. AKC approved my application to judge the IW in October of 2019. Since then, in addition to many AB shows and numerous hound breed specialties, Rocky Mountain Irish Wolfhound Association specialty as well as the Irish Wolfhound Club of Puget Sound specialty. I am currently permit for the hound group and applying for additional herding breeds.

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Mandy Addington (Wolvebrigg)

Thank you for considering me for such a prestigious appointment.

I live in Southeast Essex, **England** and have had wolfhounds for 30 years. My husband had one prior to us meeting and he introduced them into my life, I am grateful that he did. I started showing 14 years ago and currently have 2 hounds. I have imported bloodlines into the UK and had my first litter in 2021. I have an interest in attending seminars, judging requirements and learning about the health and wellbeing of our breed. For the past 12 years I have enjoyed fund raising for the UK Health Group, IW Rescue and Paws through the online community group I created and manage, The Original Irish Wolfhound Group which has a global following of over 20,000 members. The fund raising has been very successful, this includes Raffles, Auctions and selling Merchandise. For the past 3 years I've been fund raising for fellow wolfhound owners in Ukraine which has been greatly supported by global Breed Clubs and social media members of IW Groups.

I had my first judging appointment in 2015 and have continued to receive judging appointments including at Championship Shows where CCs weren't on offer for our Breed. I was honoured to be invited to judge Belgium's Junior and Veteran Speciality in 2023. I have received confirmation from the Royal Kennel Club that I am officially now Level 4 Judge which means I am able to judge the breed at Championship Level.

PERNILLE MONBERG WOLFHOUSE

I am born in Denmark, where I hold a degree in Anthropology with a minor in Developmental Psychology from the University of Copenhagen. I grown up with horses and actively breed Irish Wolfhounds and Connemara ponies.

In 1976 my parents bought two Irish wolfhound puppies. They were primarily meant to be my mother's dogs; however, with her unexpected passing just 3 months after bringing the puppies home, I was given the responsibility of caring for the dogs. A mutual attachment developed, so when I moved to a house of my own the following year, so did the Wolfhounds. 2026 will be my 50 th anniversary of owning and breeding Irish Wolfhounds. I am still active in the breed, this has resulted in more than 200 Wolfhounds from 36 litters born under the Wolfhouse prefix .



My household usually counts a pack of 12 – 20 dogs, which are all house raised. The show ring accomplishments count more than 100 championship titles; national - as well as international, a junior World Winner, Multi CH Wolfhouse Pergolesi, a World Winner, CH Wolfhouse Knock Out, and a veteran World Winner CH Wolfhouse Pavane. Today Wolfhouse Irish Wolfhounds and their descendants are found all over Europe, Russia, Africa, Australia, Canada and the US.

Schooled in the behavioural sciences has kindled my fascination for the social lives of dogs; how they interact and function as a pack., I have published numerous articles on breeding, health and the social life of dogs in books and magazines Worldwide. Other than breeding biomechanically sound wolfhounds, which are true to type, my main focus has been working on health/longevity in the dogs I breed. Such an undertaking, consequently entails mapping and understanding the status quo of the breed in general. In the Irish Wolfhound Data Base (IWDB). We currently have data on lifespan and cause of death in about 14.000 Irish wolfhounds.

Majors assignments:

In Europe: France, Ireland, United Kingdom, Hungary, Czech Republic, Russia, Finland.

In USA; the National IWCA, NORCAL, IWAGS, Locus Grove and Willamette Valley.

In Canada, our National in 2016, in Ontario.

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Stephen LeVan - Lismore Irish Wolfhounds

Karen & I added our first Irish Wolfhound to the family in 1974. Tess loved and excelled at coursing. Tess was fourth in the breed stakes at the American Sighthound Field Association Grand National lure field trial in 1975. She wasn't a show dog, but we sure loved her.

I was fortunate to sit next to Mrs. Florence Nagle and Miss Mary Jane Ellis at the 1977 Irish Wolfhound Club of America (IWCA) National Specialty in Colorado where Mrs. Nagle's Sulhamstead Minstrel helped himself to my box lunch. The incident helped pave the way to mentorships that grounded our understanding of Irish Wolfhound type at a depth we learn to appreciate more each day. When we moved to the east coast and settled in New Jersey, we visited several IW kennels in our search for a quality hound. We brought Lissa of Killybracken home when our son Matt was just a few months old. Lissa was our first show hound and the dam of the first Lismore litter.

In our 51 years in IWs with 44 years as breeders, we have bred 22 litters keeping nearly half of what we produced. Our stud dogs have been used 12 times and we took 6 stud puppies. You will see LISMORE in the pedigrees of many of the top winners in the ring today. We exhibit primarily at national and regional specialties. I am an Irish Wolfhound exhibitor, breeder, IW journal author, coursing judge, judge mentor, and international conformation judge.

I was a US Air Force pilot until 1991. I retired from a second career as an arts education administrator in 2015. My wife Karen retired from working in veterinary administration and then human medical insurance. With both of us retired we have more opportunities to enjoy our hounds. We moved to Pennsylvania three year ago after 30+ years in South Carolina.

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I have been an active member of the IWCA since 1978, a founding member of the Irish Wolfhound Association of the Carolinas, a member of the Irish Wolfhound Association of the Delaware Valley, the Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club, and the Delaware Valley Hound Association.

My most recent judging assignment was the Irish Wolfhound Association of the Carolinas in 2023. In 2022, I was honored as the second US judge selected for the Federation of Irish Wolfhound Associations Congress show. I was privileged to award BOB and BOS in Prague CZ that summer. I have also judged the following specialties: Rocky Mountain Irish Wolfhound Association, Potomac Valley Irish Wolfhound Club, New South Wales (in Sydney AU), Northstar Irish Wolfhound Club and the Irish Wolfhound Club of Puget Sound as well as assignments at all-breed dog shows throughout the US.

We have been blessed with some beautiful, award-winning hounds. We had not planned on Grand Champion Stoneybrook Lismore Gypsy Rose becoming a foundation bitch for Lismore, but breeding Irish Wolfhounds does not always adhere to your plan. Gypsy was Reserve Winners Bitch at the 2010 IWCA National and Select Bitch at the 2014 IWCA National and New England specialties. We found the right stud for Gypsy Rose, Riverlawn Exit of Aerie, a magnificent black hound and their litter of eleven all possessed an abundance of quality. Leading that litter is our four time Best in Show Specialty/Best of Breed Grand Champion Lismore Stoneybrook Roxie Hart selected by judges Eileen Flanagan, Knut Wille, Jacqueline Carswell, and Mary McBryde. Roxie also garnered a Specialty Best of Opposite Sex, two Specialty Select Bitch awards, and two Specialty Awards of Merit. A Gypsy Rose granddaughter is our first dual CKC and AKC champion, Lismore Lovey Wentworth Howell. Lovey loved the Canadian regional specialties: in Quebec - WB/BOW/BOS in 2017, WB/BOW/BOB in 2018 and BOS in 2019; and in Ontario – WB/AOM in 2016.

Talk about a thrill! I feel very fortunate to have two IWCC National Specialty Best of Breed wins in a row – Lismore Gracie Allen in 2018 and Lismore Cosmo Topper in 2019.

I took some time away from judging to show our Lismore Nightwing's Z28 Camaro. At the Potomac Valley specialty two-day show, Lismore Nightwing's Z28 Camaro in the 15–18 month class was WD/BOW on day 1 and WD on day 2; then in PVIWC 2025 he was BOS under breeder judge John Lewington. Dr. Lynn Simon awarded Z28 BOS at IWALE 2025. Under breeder judge Roger Tebbutt, Z28 was BOB at the IWANE 2025 specialty.

I must apologize for my bio being so long, but I and the Lismore hounds have been around for a long time. I hope I have provided sufficient insight into the depth I have studied and the passion I have for our breed. I am honored to be considered to judge the IWCC national specialty.

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June 16, 2018

Dear Oona,

My folks have pizza on weekends and I only get the bones. I LOVE the stuff! Why can't I have it all the time?

Scooter

Dear Scooter,

Because your parents will start calling you "Pooper" if you do. I love the stuff, too. But it really messes up my stomach. And keep in mind, you and I both can eat roadkill without any dire consequences.

Work with me here. This pizza stuff is irresistible! I can smell it in a box in the driveway when they first get out of the car. My humans eat it at least once a week, too. Well, they do when the other dogs won't work with me and distract them so I can snatch the whole box. So usually, we just get the bones, too.

The stuff's like crack cocaine! Cheese! Meat! Onions! Tomato sauce! And all we get is the tough, chewy edges. If they're feeling really generous, there's a little cheese and sauce on it, maybe a shred of pepperoni or sausage. And just that little bit gives us the runs. I dunno. It could be that the stuff's bad for us...?

I know, I know, it's not real good for them, either. Do your humans lumber around big, slow beach balls after eating the stuff, too? It smells sooooo good but it makes them fat and we let loose with those green gas clouds that they complain about so much and then run from the room. It's almost like some human food wizard waved a wand over it so we can't help gobbling it down but...it'd does bad things to us. A lot of human food is like that, huh. Humans, who can understand their weird ways...

But I do know this: This pizza stuff has fat that makes our hearts go bad, it has onions that hurt our red blood cells and there's that cheese, which makes some dogs reaaaaal gassy. Maybe it's better if we just stick with healthy food that's made for dogs? Yeah, I know, I can't do it, either. Maybe if they made pizza smell like cats we could leave the stuff alone, but noooo.....

Love, Oona

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16 juin 2018

Chère Oona,

Mes maîtres mangent de la pizza le week-end et je n'ai droit qu'aux croustes. J'ADORE ça ! Pourquoi je ne peux pas en manger tout le temps ?

Scooter

Cher Scooter,

Parce que tes parents commenceraient à t'appeler « Pooper » (caca) si tu en mangeais tout le temps. Moi aussi, j'adore ça. Mais ça me fait vraiment mal au ventre. Et n'oublie pas que toi et moi pouvons manger des animaux morts le long de la route sans conséquences désastreuses.

Écoute-moi bien. Cette pizza est irrésistible ! Je peux la sentir dans la boîte, dans l'allée, dès qu'ils sortent de la voiture. Mes humains en mangent aussi au moins une fois par semaine. Enfin, ils le font quand les autres chiens ne coopèrent pas avec moi pour les distraire le temps que je puisse chiper toute la boîte. Donc, en général, nous n'avons aussi droit qu'aux croustes.

Ce truc, c'est comme du crack ! Du fromage ! De la viande ! Des oignons ! De la sauce tomate ! Et tout ce qu'on a, c'est les bords durs et caoutchouteux. S'ils se sentent vraiment généreux, il y a un peu de fromage et de sauce dessus, peut-être un morceau de pepperoni ou de saucisse. Et juste ce petit peu nous donne la diarrhée. Je ne sais pas. C'est peut-être parce que ce truc est mauvais pour nous... ?

Je sais, je sais, ce n'est pas très bon pour eux non plus. Est-ce que vos humains traînent aussi comme de gros ballons de plage après avoir mangé ce truc ? Ça sent tellement bon, mais ça les fait lâcher ces nuages de gaz dont ils se plaignent tant et qui les font fuir la pièce. C'est presque comme si un sorcier avait agité sa baguette magique pour que l'on ne puisse pas s'empêcher de le manger, même si cela nous fait du mal. Beaucoup de nourriture humaine est comme ça, n'est-ce pas ? Qui peut comprendre les étranges habitudes des humains ?

Mais je sais une chose : cette pizza contient des graisses qui abîment le cœur, des oignons qui nuisent aux globules rouges et du fromage qui provoque de très mauvaises flatulences chez certains chiens. Ne serait-il pas préférable de s'en tenir à une alimentation saine, spécialement conçue pour les chiens ? Oui, je sais, moi non plus, je n'y arrive pas. Peut-être qu'on pourrait la laisser tranquille si elle sentait le chat, mais non...

Avec toute mon affection, Oona.

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Bonne Année

