

# Papillon Club of America Health & Genetics



## LEONA DOMINO



Papillons became the focal point for this writer about 1986. Previously I had Miniature Schnauzers for 35 years and finished championships on 6 Soft Coated Wheaten Terriers.

I found my happiness in this small package of everything-rolled- into- one-dog. Personality, agility, intelligence, longevity, small size, ease of care, and relatively good health with few major genetic problems are assets for the Papillon.

Noting that the basically "unknown" Papillon breed has now become more popular, it is conceivable that we may begin to notice increased genetic problems. Popularity and indiscriminate breeding often follow as a breed becomes popular.

My focus is to help educate, try to recognize developing problems, and keep owners and breeders aware of 'new situations that affect the breed.

I have 5 goals :

- 1- Continue education regarding the Papillon
- 2- Encourage and increase financial support for the health of the breed
- 3- Maintain continued support for research projects being funded by PCA,
- 4- Begin work on getting a comprehensive survey for the breed to ascertain what problems may be occurring, ( it is hopeful this survey can be world-wide )
- 5- Finally to get a Genetic Trust established that will be the model for Papillons. Making this trust transparent and trustworthy, will encourage future donations benefiting the Papillon breed. A trust will make donations tax exempt and encourage generous donations for the continuation of the breed.

The Papillon Club of America is one of the original members of the CHF ( Canine Health Foundation ) and also of the new health registry, CHIC.( Canine Health Information Center ) It is our goal to remain one step ahead in the health of the breed.