



# Focus



## The Irish Wolfhound Foundation, Inc.

The Irish Wolfhound Foundation is bringing a number of events to this year's IWCA Specialty.

- ◆ **The Lifetime Cardiac Study** EKG and blood pressure monitoring will be available all four days at the show site, from 10:00 to 2:00, in the Health Tent just outside the show ring. This year, we will build on our knowledge of blood pressure and its relationship to kidney function by conducting urinalyses of IWs at the show site. This, too, is a free service for all IWs enrolled and actively participating in this groundbreaking study.
- ◆ On **Wednesday, May 7**, Drs. Petra Jakobs and Janice M. Bright, two researchers whose projects focus on Irish Wolfhound cardiac disease, will give an informal **Lunchtime Lecture** at the show site. Dr. Jakobs is Research Assistant Professor of Medicine/Cardiology at OHSU, where her research on mapping the gene for dilated cardiomyopathy in Irish Wolfhounds is funded by the National Institute of Health. Dr. Bright is well-known to Rocky Mountain IWs and their owners, for she has performed EKGs at many RMIWA events. Dr. Bright is a Professor of Veterinary Medicine at Colorado State University, and published an article detailing normal blood pressure values in Irish Wolfhounds in the November 2002 issue of the Journal of the American Animal Hospital Association. She also worked with Dr. Neil Harpster at the 2000 IWCA Specialty. Currently Dr. Bright is focusing her attention on the efficacy of digoxin as sole means of rate control in IWs with Lone Atrial Fibrillation. Both these researchers will be available to answer your questions, and we'll have heart-healthy fruit and oatmeal cookies to snack on.
- ◆ **Wednesday evening, April 7**, at the Springfield Holiday Inn (Show Headquarters), Rhonda Hovan, an award-winning canine author and Golden Retriever breeder-judge will present "Managing Complex Genetic Traits By Utilizing Vertical Pedigrees." Her presentation details strategies which work when assessing breeding stock while Dr. Bright will discuss inherited heart disease in dogs, and Dr. Jakobs will go over the basics of genetics, gene mapping, and linkage analysis. Don't worry about missing dinner—we'll have pizza for everybody, and a cash bar will be available as well.
- ◆ **Friday, May 9**, from 3:00 until 8:00 PM. at the Holiday Inn, Dr. Anne Gemensky, board certified veterinary ophthalmologist from OSU, will be conducting our first IW **C.E.R.F. Clinic**; all hounds who pass this exam are eligible for inclusion in the C.E.R.F. database. We know there are several eye disorders which exist in IWs, including juvenile cataracts, hereditary Horner's Syndrome, and PRA, but as caretakers of our breed we need to know what the incidence and severity of these problems are before we can successfully overcome them. The ophthalmologists's fee for this exam is \$20.
- ◆ At the showgrounds on **Friday**, Dr. Henry Greene, Purdue University, will be perform echocardiograms on IWs whose EKGs indicate rhythm abnormalities. There will be no charge for the echo.

At the IWCA Annual General Meeting, held Thursday at the conclusion of judging, Mr. Michael D. Fullwood, President of The Irish Wolfhound Foundation, will address the assembled IWCA members. He'll be happy to answer your questions and is looking forward to getting to know Club members and their hounds.

### In this issue.....

Specialty Events	1
Health & Research	
<i>Bridget's Holter Diary</i>	2
<i>Hounds Who Have Helped</i>	3
<i>Pneumonia &amp; PCD</i>	3
<i>The IW Osteo Study</i>	3
The Gift Shop/Auction	3
Financial Report	3
The Irish & Their Hounds	
<i>The Dog of Aughrim</i>	4
Foundation Donors	5
The Harrison Sisters	
<i>Dreamers of Dreams</i>	6
IWF Calendar	8

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### The Irish Wolfhound Foundation

#### Focus

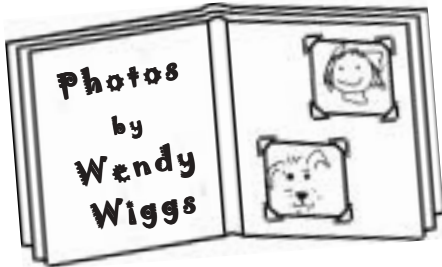
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Meet Foundation President  
Mike Fullwood at the Specialty!

# Bridget's Holter Diary



Bridget is a three-year-old wolfhound who lives in Omaha, NE. She gave up some of her valuable playtime—not to mention some of her fur—to help science and our understanding of how a wolfhound's heart functions throughout a 24-hour period. Since Bridget's cardiac function is normal, she was a normal 'control' dog for Dr. Bright's cardiac research project.

The holter monitor records every beat of the IVW's heart during the course of a day's normal activities (sleep, exercise, mealtimes, etc.) on a cassette tape recorder. The recorder is attached to electrodes placed on the dog's chest; the recorder, electrodes, and wires are all strapped onto the dog using tape and vet wrap. The IVW's owner keeps a diary of all the dog's activities so that any changes in heart rate or rhythm may be correlated to the activity with which it coincides.

Is all this inconvenient for the owner and for the wolfhound? Absolutely—but the benefits to our breed are immeasurable! These IVWs, who endured a day with a box, wires, and electrodes strapped to their midsections, are those shaven patches on their sides. They are the Badges of Honor. Bridget, however, likes to point out that those special trips to the Whopper made the whole thing worthwhile as far as she was concerned. She had it her way! Thanks to Bridget and all the other IVWs (and their humans) for their willingness to contribute to the body of knowledge we compile about our breed. These special dogs wear their Badges of Honor proudly! We salute them and their owners!



Hour 2 Bridget's pulse races as the van pulls into the drive-thru at Burger King. Says Bridget, "Flame broiling makes it all better!"



Hour 8 ~ Bridget finds a comfy spot and settles down for the night. The holter keeps recording ..... even when Bridget is lying on top of it!



Hour One ~ Dr. Barb Teter attaches the electrodes to Bridget's chest. The cassette recorder, wires, and electrodes are left in place for the 24-hour recording process.



Hour 24 ~ Bridget takes a seat while Dr. Teter carefully removes the tape which held the holter monitor in place. Bridget's off to Burger King—she has another date with the Whopper!



Hour 26 ~ Bridget's Badge of Honor. Now that Bridget's holter monitor has been removed, she shows off her new "Badge of Honor."



*The Irish Wolfhound Foundation Honors and Thanks the Special Hounds Who Have Participated in the Osteosarcoma Treatment Study.*

Cassanova Clare Cooper  
 Darby Houlihan Ira Kells  
 Malarky Molly Riley  
 Sarah Shamus Shannon  
 Shiloh Sula Teal



## *IW Pneumonia & Primary Ciliary Dyskenesia*

Cilia are tiny hair-like protrusions whose wave-like motion propels dust and foreign particles away from the lungs and nasal cavities. Cilia carry out important functions in the lungs by clearing away secretions, inhaled particles, and infectious agents. The term 'primary ciliary dysknesia' refers to cilia which move ineffectively. Individuals affected by this disease present with chronic recurring respiratory infections. A definitive diagnosis requires that a biopsy of nasal or tracheal mucosa be examined under an electron microscope; a genetic basis for this disease is being examined at this time.

Ciliary dysknesia itself cannot be treated. The majority of affected animals harbor bacterial infections, which can be treated with appropriate antibiotics. Long-term prognosis in canines is guarded, although some animals have been maintained for over five years with intermittent therapy

or prophylactic therapy (antibiotics).

Though infertility is a problem in many affected animals, the disease can be produced by breeding phenotypically normal animals. Breeders should give careful consideration to using dogs for breeding when an immediate relative has been diagnosed with ciliary dysknesia.

In the US, Dr. Margaret Casal at the University of Pennsylvania Veterinary School, Section of Medical Genetics, in conjunction with colleagues in Zurich, Switzerland, is conducting a study exploring the actual mechanism of PCD through electron microscopy. Her goals are to define the condition, create a more definitive diagnosis procedure, and to look for a possible diagnostic blood test and/or DNA markers. Blood samples from IWs affected (or suspected of being affected) with PCD, their parents and littermates (whether or not they are themselves af-

ected), are needed. Also needed are blood samples from IWs who have been diagnosed with so-called "IW rhinitis," or are suspected of having IWR. Samples from IWs with recurring pneumonia will also be of interest.

If your IW falls into one of these categories, please contact

Dr. Margret Casal  
 Section of Medical Genetics  
 School of Veterinary Medicine  
 University of Pennsylvania  
 3900 Delancey St.  
 Philadelphia, PA 19104-6010

or in Europe

Dr. Iris Reichler  
 Dept. of Small Animal Reproduction  
 Winterhurerstrasse 260  
 CH-8057 Zurich  
 Switzerland

### **Foundation Financial Report**

*1/1/03 Through 3/31/03*

#### **INCOME**

TOTAL General Fund	50,870.00
TOTAL Rescue Fund	175.00
TOTAL Research Fund	53,705.14
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>104,550.14</b>

#### **EXPENSES**

TOTAL General Expenses	-3326.87
TOTAL Research Expense	-5,067.07
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>-8,393.94</b>

<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>96,150.20</b>
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### *The Foundation Gift Shop Is Open for Business!*

Shopping at the Specialty will be better and easier than ever this year! The Gift Shop will be open daily at the showgrounds from 10 a.m. 'til 2 p.m., and there will be shopping in conjunction with evening events scheduled at the Holiday Inn. The Gift Shop at the Inn will open at 5:30 p.m. so plan to come early for the dinners. While you're there, be sure to preview all the exciting items coming up for bid in Friday's Auction. If weather at the showsite is too inclement, the Gift Shop will move it's daily operations to the Holiday Inn until the weather improves.

This year's auction once again features Randy Valenti as our auctioneer. Everyone is invited to come and share in the fun on Friday evening at the Holiday Inn. Even if you're not attending the dinner, stop by to join in the fun! If you're donating items for the auction or would like to pick up items which you've pre-ordered, please do so at the Holiday Inn.

If you're unable to attend the specialty, please visit the Gift Shop's website at [irishwolfhoundfoundationgiftshop.org](http://irishwolfhoundfoundationgiftshop.org). In addition, the Foundation has a toll-free telephone number for catalog ordering. Whatever you purchase, please remember—the hounds thank you!

# Fierce ❖ When ❖ Provoked

by Micheale A. mac Gorman

Ancient artifacts and records show that the modern Irish wolfhound descends from the Celtic battle hound, a dog both admired for its courage and feared by Celtic enemies for its ferocity. The Gundestrop Cauldron (a Celtic cup found in a Danish swamp where it was thrown as a votary offering one or two centuries before the birth of Christ) clearly depicts a large hound standing watch with his warrior master as he waits to do battle with ancient gods. Many other Celtic artifacts, particularly silversmithed shields, swords, and battle irons, feature a wolfhound-like dog posed to strike. There is significant anecdotal evidence that, while the wolfhound was certainly prized for its hunting abilities, its primary original purpose was that of a comrade in battle for Celtic warriors. It is an ancient breed, originally used in battle as guardian of the foot warrior.

The ancient Irish word for hound is "Cu." The fact that Irish warriors and kings often placed "Cu" in front of their names as a way to indicate their bravery, ferocity, and battle worthiness, indicates the importance of the hound as a battle-dog. CuChulainn (koo-koo-lin), the hound of Chulainn, is perhaps the most famous of the old Irish legends from the Tain Bo Cuslinge, the Cattle

Raid of Cooley. A remarkable warrior, CuChulainn became possessed when confronting an enemy, altering his appearance dramatically, in a phenomenon called a 'war-spasm.' This rage before battle turned CuChulainn into an otherworldly creature, descriptions of which are strongly reminiscent of a rabid dog.

Unfortunately, the Celts and early Irish did not record their history in written form, and much of the Bardic tradition of passing history from generation to generation was lost when the British outlawed the use of the Irish language. The full history of the function of the wolfhound was lost with the majority of early Irish history. More recent records indicate the use of hounds in battle in Ireland right up to the Battle of Aughrim, the last great decisive battle fought on Irish soil, which took place in 1691. After the battle, between Irish forces supporting King James II and the armies of William of Orange who had supplanted James on the British throne, most of the bodies of the slaughtered Irish were stripped and left unburied on the battlefield. The slain were left there to be devoured by dogs and wolves, both of which were still plentiful in the area.

Among the carnage lay the body of an

Irish officer, believed to be a Fitzgerald. This officer had taken his wolfhound with him to Aughrim. The following contemporary account is by a Reverend Story, a Williamite Chaplain and witness to the battle.

"There is," observed the English Chaplain, "a true and remarkable story of a greyhound (wolfhound) belonging to an Irish Officer, the gentleman was killed and stripped in the battle, whose body the hound remained by night and day and 'tho he fed on other corpses with the rest of the dogs yet he would not allow them or anything else to touch his master. When all the corpses were consumed the other dogs departed, but, this dog used to go in the night to adjacent villages for food, and presently return again to the place where his master's bones were only then left, till January following, when one of the Col. Foulkes soldiers being quartered nigh hand, and going that way by chance, the dog fearing he come to disturb his master's bones flew upon the soldier who being surprised at the suddenness of the thing unslung his piece then upon his back and killed the poor dog." This account is the story behind the ballad *The Dog of Aughrim*.

## The Dog of Aughrim

*The day is ours my gallant men  
Cried brave but vain St. Ruth  
We've won a deathless victory  
For liberty and truth  
We'll wrest the land from  
William's grasp  
Tho' we're but one to three  
We'll make his crew remember long  
The Pass of Urrachree.  
That though with myriad cannon  
They poured their fierce attack  
Still with valour and the naked sword  
Thrice have we flung them back  
They're beaten boys, They're beaten  
Still unsheathe your swords again  
And on them like an avalanche  
And sweep them from the plain  
Like thunderbolt upon the foes  
The Irish column sped  
Athlone's deep stain to wash away  
St. Ruth is at their head  
And onwards rolls that  
Wave of death  
But God, what means that cry?  
St. Ruth the brave sits on his charger  
Headless 'neath the sky  
Oh where's the gallant Sarsfield now*



*Is victory defeat  
Oh God in mercy strike us dead!  
'twere better than retreat  
Oh where is Limerick's hero bold  
The chiefless soldiers cry  
And scorning flight they wait the dawn  
to give them light to die  
When Saxon's sons the scene of death  
And robbery had fled  
An Irish wolfhound sought his lord  
Mid heaps of pilfered dead  
And strove with more than human love  
To rob death of its prize*

*Then moaned a dirge above his head  
And kissed his lips and eyes  
When Autumn pencilled Summers blooms  
In tints of Gold and Red  
And Winter over hill and dale  
A ghostly mantle spread  
The weird wind wailed across the moor  
And moaned adown the dell  
Yet guarded well that noble dog  
His master where he fell  
Spring timidly was glancing down  
Upon the corpse – strewn plain  
Where seven months long sentinel  
The faithful dog had lain  
When carelessly across the moor  
An English soldier trod  
And paused beneath the only bones  
Remaining on the sod  
Up sprang the faithful wolf dog  
He knew a foe was near  
And feared that foe would desecrate  
The bones he loved so dear  
Fierce and defiant there he stood  
The soldier seized with dread  
Took aim and fired, the noble dog  
Fell on his master dead*

# Gentle When Stroked



*The Irish Wolfhound Foundation gratefully acknowledges the generosity and support of the following individuals and organizations.*

Frances Abrams  
Charles & Gloria Barrick  
Terri Blackwell  
Ben Carter Esq.  
Patricia W. Cobb  
*Phillippa Crowe*  
Tresa Davie-Weir  
Jerry & Carolyn Dean  
Patricia F. First  
Clara Feuer  
Carol Gabriel  
Steve & Claire Hopkins

*In memory of Trevor*

*In memory of Cinny & Bran*

*In memory of Ch. Nelligan Saratoga, CD*

*In honor of Hawk, Darcy & Mack*

Roni Kaluza & Randy Valenti  
Sue An Lesser, DVM, CAC  
Laurence T. May  
Joseph & Judith Mazurkiewicz  
Jean A. Minnier  
Bernadette Mitrakul  
Martha Seeman McKee  
Linda Savage  
St. Louis Area Sighthounds  
Connie & Jim Smalley  
Christa Stiles  
Mary & George Toundas

*In memory of Phillippa Crowe*  
*In memory of Phillippa Crowe*  
*In memory of David P. Gaigal*

*In memory of Mary Morrison*

**YES!** I want to support the Irish Wolfhound Foundation's work through my **tax-deductible** donation! Please use my donation for the following:

Health       Education  
 Rescue       Wherever it's needed most.

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*The Irish Wolfhound Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization. Your donation is tax-deductible to the full extent allowed by law.*

**The Irish Wolfhound Foundation, Inc**  
112 Pleasant Grove Road  
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*The Irish Wolfhound Foundation, Inc.*  
*Preserving the Past      Providing for the Present      Preparing for the Future*



# The Cello, The Nightingales, & The Wolfhounds



Photos courtesy of the  
Killykeen Collection



Margaret Harrison with her Stradivarius at the time of her debut at Wigmore Hall (1918)

by Kathy Wilson

Over a million people worldwide stopped what they were doing to listen to the cello's duet with the nightingale. Beatrice's worry that the nightingale might develop stage fright in the face of so many on-lookers proved to be unfounded, and the first nightingale and cello duets were broadcast live over BBC radio on May 19, 1924. These concerts were so phenomenally successful that they were recorded for His Master's Voice. King George V told Beatrice "You have done something I have not been able to do. You have drawn the Empire closer together through the song of the nightingale and your cello."

Busloads of tourists soon began to stop outside the Harrisons' garden at all

hours of the day and night. The Harrisons were always gracious, offering tea and tours whenever they could. Even Henry Ford came from America to see the famous "Garden of the Nightingale," and was so enchanted he tried (unsuccessfully) to buy the property.

The Harrisons' country home, at Foyle Riding in Surrey, was a charming Elizabethan cottage which they enlarged to accommodate their music and their menagerie—they owned sixteen dogs when they moved from London to the country. Besides their wolfhounds, the family bred Scotties for quite some time, and they owned Pekingese, Pomeranians, Dachshunds, and King Charles Spaniels as well.

Margaret designed and decorated the huge music room, which was converted from an old barn on the property.

She showed considerable architectural skill and great sensitivity to period architecture. This room was the setting for innumerable concerts and gatherings of 'everybody who was anybody' in the artistic life of the British Empire and the continent. Richly-carved oak furnishings and leaded-glass windows combined with the huge open-hearth inglenook fireplace to give this room its feeling of a baronial hall. At one end stood a raised gallery for the musicians. An audience of twenty could easily be accommodated, and the acoustics were marvelous. It was the perfect setting for showcasing the sisters' extraordinary talents.

While the Harrisons played for presidents, popes, princes and kings, they cared very deeply that their music be available to everyone. Beatrice and Margaret initiated a popular series of 'sixpenny concerts' designed to reach people from all economic classes and all backgrounds. Through the nightingale broadcasts, Beatrice and her cello became folk-heroes, and wherever she went, people would ask if she'd brought the nightingales with her!

After the second world war, the Harrisons retired from performing except for an occasional appearance to benefit a favorite charity. None of the sisters ever married, although they certainly were much sought-after by numerous suitors. They were all beautiful,—especially Beatrice—and regularly mobbed by adoring young men on their concert tours.

Without the constant pressures of public performance and travel, Margaret was able to devote more time



The music lovers decide which phonograph record to play next.

to her other love, her dogs. The cornerstone of the Sanctuary line were the Ouborough and Felixstowe hounds of the Ranks and Mr. Everett. With the addition of the desperately-needed American blood from Rory of Kihone and Cragwood Barney of O'Shea, the Sanctuary hounds became known for their lovely heads and soft expressions, and above all, for their wonderful temperaments. Margaret bred her last Sanctuar litter in 1987, when she was 88.

Margaret's friendship with so many legendary musicians enabled her to recount charming and amusing anecdotes. She cherished her memories of the shy and serious Zoltan Kodaly, dancing barefoot in the grass of the Harrison's Surrey garden while Beatrice played her cello. One of her favorite reminiscences was of Sir Edward Elgar, who loved to be chauffeured around the countryside in her powerful Vauxhall motor car, at breakneck speed. Together he and Margaret roared up and down country lanes, as he cried "Faster! Faster!" All the while, Elgar's three dogs sat lined up in a row on the back seat, each wearing a pair of sunglasses. "Oh, he loved speed!" laughed Margaret.

Several of Beatrice Harrison's recordings are still available, including one which also features performances by Margaret and May Harrison. Beatrice's autobiography, edited by Patricia Cleveland-Peck, is entitled "The Cello & The Nightingales.." Unfortunately, it is no longer in print.

The Harrison sisters were able to fulfill the final wish of their great friend Frederic Delius, who died in France but wished to be buried in a quiet English village churchyard. They had his body interred near their own parents' grave at the cemetery of the lovely twelfth-century church in Limpsfield. The next day, Sir Thomas Beecham brought an orchestra to perform in the composer's honor, and throngs made the



*Beatrice in the "Garden of the Nightingales."*

pilgrimage to Surrey to honor Delius. When Beecham himself died in 1964, he



too chose this spot as his final resting place. This part of the little cemetery is now known as "The Musicians' Corner." Other noted musicians chose this lovely spot as their final resting place. Here too, are the Harrison sisters' graves.

Even in her nineties, Margaret managed to teach some master classes and perform occasionally, and to share a life's worth of knowledge of her favorite breed—the Irish Wolfhound—with those who wished to learn.

Margaret Harrison died on December 24, 1995, at the age of 96. Even in extreme old age, Margaret was an impressive figure—regal in manner, impish in humor, and well aware of her charms," read one of her obituaries. "Even in the fragile vulnerability of old age and infirmity, she retained a 'presence'" recalled David Mill at her memorial service. "All who encountered her invariably left with the sense of having been in the presence of a truly remarkable lady."

The inscription on the Harrison sisters' grave is hauntingly beautiful. It reads,

*We Are the Music Makers  
We Are the Dreamers of Dreams*



*Beatrice and canines in the Music Room at Foyle Riding, designed by Margaret Harrison.*



..... *Save These Dates!* .....

May 7-10 **IWCA Specialty** **Springfield, OH**

**The IWFoundation Gift Shop & Auction**

*Attention, Shopaholics!!! The Gift Shop opens its doors Tuesday evening at the IWCA Board's Welcome Reception, and continues from 10 'til 2 PM. daily at the show site! Keep your wallet handy at the Holiday Inn, too, where we'll have a display of auction items for your viewing pleasure, and evening hours beginning at 5:30 p.m..*

**Lifetime Cardiac Study Testing**

*EKGs performed by Janice M. Bright, DVM, Diplomate, ACVIM (Internal Medicine, Cardiology), Mariellen Dentino, MD, and Alice Timmerman, DVM.*

May 7 **Noon** **IWCA Specialty** **Springfield, OH**

**Lunchtime Lecture at the Show**

*Join us for an informal lunchtime lecture with cardiology researcher Dr. Janice Bright (Colorado State University) and geneticist Dr. Petra Jakobs (Oregon Health Sciences University).*

**7:00 PM**

**Genetics Seminar** **Holiday Inn** **Springfield, OH**

*Gain insight into the fascinating world of genetics with award-winning canine writer Rhonda Hovan, who presents Managing Complex Genetic Traits Using Vertical Pedigrees, followed by a discussion of genetics, heart disease, gene mapping, and linkage analysis with researchers Drs. Petra Jakobs and Janice Bright. Pizza (free) and cash bar.*

May 9 **3:00 ~ 8:00 PM**

**C.E.R.F. Clinic** **Holiday Inn** **Springfield, OH**

*Sign up to have your IW's eyes examined by board-certified veterinary ophthalmologist Dr. Anne Gemensky from The Ohio State University. The fee of \$20 covers the ophthalmologist's fees for this standard eye exam.*

June 16 **RMIWA Fun Day** **Longmont, CO**

**Lifetime Cardiac Study Testing**

July 24 & 25 **IWAWC Specialty** **Lompoc, CA**

**Lifetime Cardiac Study Testing**

*Drs. Kristin A. Macdonald (UC Davis) and Sarah Zimmerman (Colorado State) will be performing EKGs for the Lifetime Cardiac Study. Enter your wolfhounds and do your part for the health of our breed!*

*The Irish Wolfhound Foundation, Inc.*

**Focus**

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