

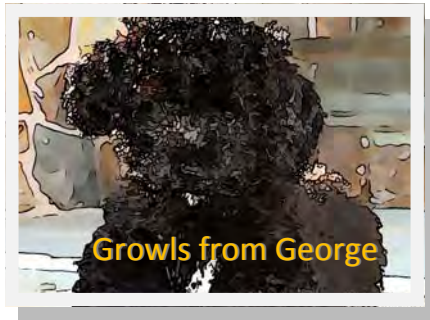


PWDCNC Member Cheryl Blancett's PWD

“Bobby” Awarded Select Dog at WESTMINSTER!



“BOBBY” GCH Spyglass N Aviator Sail With the Wind, Select Dog at Westminster 2014, Second only to Matisse, Bred by Scott and Barbara Henley, Owned by Cheryl Blancett (R above), & Scott and Barbara Henley. Shown by Amy Rutherford.



We have successfully finished another year and it seemed to fly by. We relocated the Regional Specialty, held our first agility trial, ran the water trial at the National Specialty as well as our own very large one and conducted our usual day to day business. Our website is well off the ground www.pwdcnc.org, though still adding features and functions. You should soon be able to renew membership, enter events and someday buy club merchandise.

We start this upcoming year with lots of optimism and prayers for rain. Hope the year ahead finds you and your wonderful dogs wet and happy.

- George

P.S. For you techie-types, I'm pleased to note that you can now...



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/pwdcnc/>

Mark your calendar!

- 3/01** Membership Renewals due — forgot? No worries, just contact bavila@me.com or visit 2014 [membership renewals](#) online
- 3/09** Nose Work Coaching, Tell a Tail Dog, Livermore
- 5/17** PWDCNC Picnic Day—Fun in the sun for the whole family—PWDs included! Get your feet wet with hands/paws -on Water Work, Agility & Rally. More info will be available online, or from Ann Gaskell Anntiga@aol.com
- 5/27** PWD Water practice starts! More info: georgeziemba@gmail.com
- 6/07** Optigen 20/20 Clinic @ Woofstock Dog Show in Vallejo. For more info, contact cathydugan@comcast.net. Also, PWDCNC get-together with appetizers after PWDs show. Need more info? Contact Ann anntiga@aol.com
- 6/27** Water Match/Mock Trial—All levels
More info soon!
- 7/11** PWDCNC Regional Specialty, Carmel
More info: Melanie Groth, Chair
vindouropwds@comcast.net
- 8/01** PWDCNC Water Trials—More info:
georgeziemba@gmail.com

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New Membership Applications — Welcome!

New Associate Members

Beau Freshour & Jon Schaefer — San Francisco
 Ron & Leah Beller — San Francisco
 Laura & Dan Dabb — San Jose
 Michele Murphy — Gilbert, AZ

New Applicants for Regular Membership

Leslie Hill — Chubbuck, ID
 Terry & Larry Snyder — South Lake Tahoe
 SierraLynne White & Bill Wentz — Concord
 Elinor & Dermott Cullen — Livermore
 Marla & David Skibbins — The Sea Ranch
 Joseph Gilroy — Antioch

Our Annual Meeting 2013

By George Ziemba

The club held its Annual Meeting on February 23rd, 2014. The meeting was preceded by a luncheon for those who wanted to dine and watch a number of pictures of our dogs in action. The pictures were submitted by various members and will go up on the website with the rest of the presentations made at the meeting.



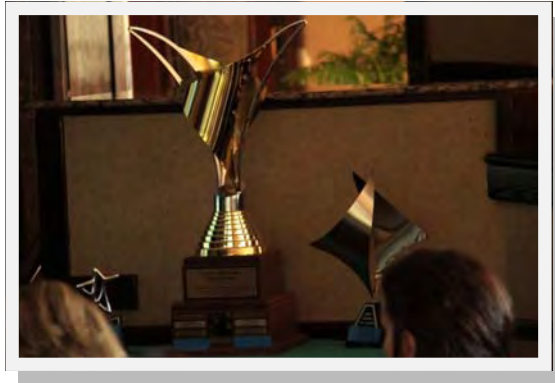
We also took a moment to review all the great dogs we've lost over the last year. This is a warm tradition at the meeting and brings a moment of quiet reflection. Our pups are only with us for so long and every day should be a joy.

The meeting conducts just a bit of regular business and then officers report to the membership. The president talks about the year's highlights, vice-president on special projects, treasurer on the state of our finances and the rest of the board and committee chairs who want to take a moment to inform us all of their work. We had the normal reports as well as Sue Nelson giving us an update on our rescue program as well as her work now at the national club level.

By the time you get this newsletter we should have the presentations from the meeting up on the [website](#) so give it a visit.



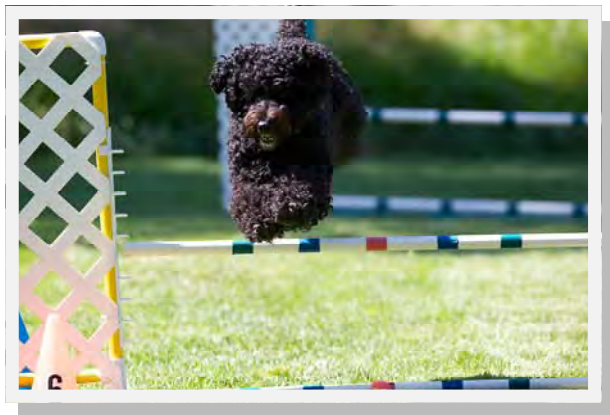
The culmination of the meeting is the presentation of the Star Awards highlighting our members who've done a fabulous job with their PWDs in many different venues in the last year as well as over a lifetime. Lloyd D'Augusta created this award as one of his last wishes. He and his dog, Star, enjoyed wonderful times in water, obedience, rally, and agility. Lloyd wanted to recognize others who enjoy this same level of partnership.



Left: Valerie Newman explains the history and basis for the Star Award



Right: Karen D' Augusta presents Dina Rosenblatt and her dog, Kadi , the Annual Star award for 2013 for their work in conformation, agility, rally and obedience.



2014 Annual Lloyd D'Augusta Star Award

**“Kadi”
CH Dacher's Quel Cadeau
BN RN CD OA OAJ NF CGC**



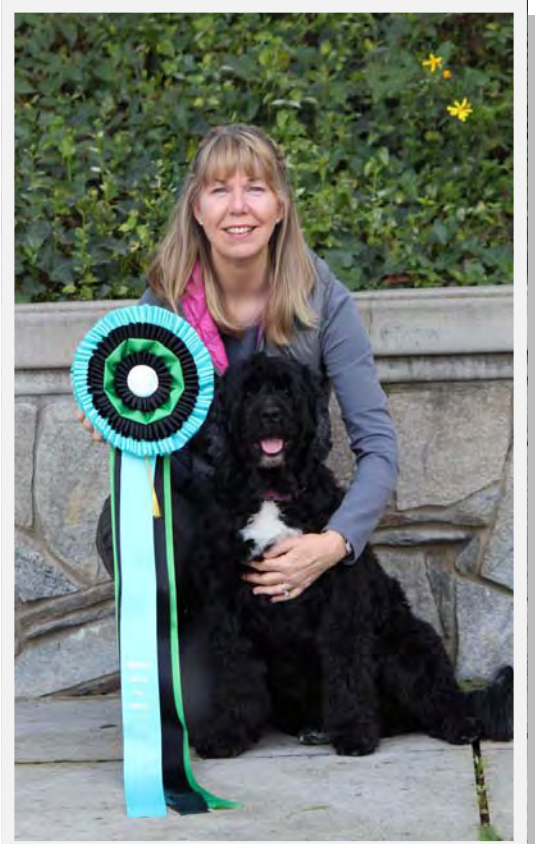
Karen D'Augusta presents John and Susan Cucura won the Lifetime award for 2013 for all their wonderful work with Indy.

Even if you can't decode all the AKC titles attached to Indy's name, the masterful achievement at the highest levels is there in agility, water, obedience, rally and conformation.

2014 Lifetime Lloyd D'Augusta Star Award

"Indy"

**MACH Finisterra's Wild Irish Rose CDX RE MXS
MJS OAP AJP XF CWDX SROM**



The objective of the Star Award is to recognize the versatility, achievement and drive of Portuguese Water Dogs in partnership with their humans. If you work in multiple disciplines with your PWD, (such as conformation, obedience, agility, rally, therapy), aim for next year's Star Award!

Visit [Star Award](#) Info Online

Health and Education

The Northern California Working Group Association, in collaboration with the Portuguese Water Dog Club of Northern California, will be hosting an:

All Breed OPTIGEN 20/20 CLINIC

Also offering: GM-1, JDCM, AKC DNA

[Woofstock Dog Show, Saturday, June 7, 2014](#)

Vallejo, CA 10:00 am—2:00 PM, Apply online for tests for optimal discounts up to 25%

We have requested the clinic code and will send it out as soon as we get it.

Bring copies of your completed applications downloaded from the website.

OPTIGEN: www.Optigen.com/opt9_request.html (now includes normal tests).

GM-1 discount price \$98 (reg. \$120) http://pwdca.org/health/tests/information/GM-1_TestInstructions.html

JDCM discount \$195 (reg. \$240) <http://pwdca.org/health/tests/forms/JDCMSubmissionForm.pdf>

The clinic will be taking DNA mouth swabs samples only. Be sure your dog has not eaten for at least two hours prior to testing. No blood samples will be taken.

This year, we will be offering training for volunteers prior to the clinic, beginning at 9:00 am, the day of the show.

There are close to 100 DNA tests for 70 breeds from all seven groups available from Optigen. Go to www.optigen.com for price information for available testing.

- Dogs must be micro-chipped or tattooed for permanent ID.
- Be sure to bring two copies of your AKC registration to send with each test app.
- Bring a letter size envelope with your ID information written on it.

Please advise the Clinic Coordinator, Cathy Dugan, CathyDugan@comcast.net, of your intent to participate so that we have enough volunteers to accommodate all dogs to be tested

Please contact: Melanie Groth, Chair, 916-335-0530, vindouropwds@comcast.net

Julie Rust, Co-chair, 209-483-4210, h2oratt@gamil.com,

Dina Rosenblatt, Co-chair, 650-483-3909, dinaelisheva@yahoo.com

Ann Gaskell, Co-chair, 650-941-1482, anntiga@aol.com

Jack McCredie, Co-chair, 510-749-9957, mccredie@berkeley.edu



2014 PWDCNC
Regional Specialty

July 11th
Carmel, CA

Christmas Party 2013

By George Ziemba

The Christmas party was held on December 11 at Happiness Country Kennels in Sunol. In addition to the normal fun and games Tonya Perme was on site to take portrait photos.



Ann Gaskell did her usual masterful job assisted by Jennifer Walsh helping to make everything fun.

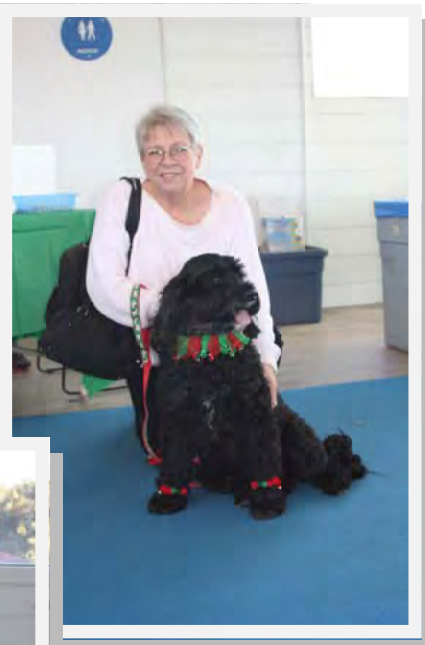
Our excellent Barista and her sons kept spirits bright!



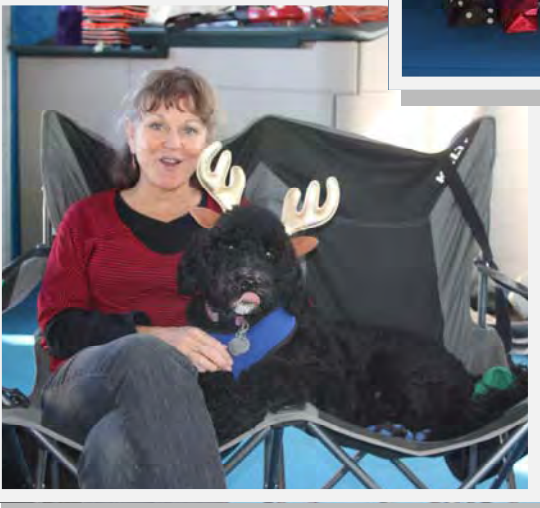
Tonya gets ready to take pictures of Sue Nelson's dogs, Jonah and Fanny.



You haven't played musical chairs till you've done it with a PWD.



Even the dogs got presents from Santa!



Conformation Updates: By Cathy Dugan

PWD dogs gained national attention with seven dogs bred or owned by members of the PWDCNC in the TOP 20 PWD'S for 2013.

#2 Breed and #2 All-Breed goes to "QUATTRO," GCH CH Roseknoll Sunny Benjamin owned by Christa Diamant, Chuck & Susan Teasley & Ellen Leyda; bred by Christa & Larry Diamant and Chuck & Susan Teasley.

#4 Breed and #5 All-Breed is youngster "BOBBY," GCH CH Spyglass N Aviator Sail With The Wind, owned by Cheryl Blancett and bred by Scott & Barbara Henley.

#6 Breed and #7 All-Breed, with a coveted Best In Show in 2013 is the handsome "BACCHUS," GCH CH Cortereal Iron Man CD BN RA AX MXJ MXF T2B, owned by Judy Berger & Nadine Hunter, bred by Nadine Hunter and Judy Knorr.

#10 Breed, "NICK," GCH CH Prata Lua Tsar Nickolas of Farallon, owned by Sandra Holden and bred by Sandy Holden and Gail Browne-McDonald.

#13 Breed and #8 All Breed is "SINTA," GCH CH Vinduroos By All Means, owned by K. Weinberg & Melanie Groth, Bred by Melanie Groth.

#15 All Breed, GCH CH Surf's Up Big Kahuna, owned by Kathy Kissel and Greg Gilliom.

#17 Breed, "ACE," GCH CH Aviators Blackjack Legacy RN CGC AWW, owned by John & Sarah Black, bred by Mike & Cathy Dugan.

Congratulations at all these lovely dogs, their owners and breeders for continuing be guardians of the breed, intent on its' continued improvement and well-being.

For 2014, as of January 31, 2014 (From Dog News—breed points)

#4 "BOBBY," GCH CH Spyglass N Aviator Sail With The Wind, Cheryl Blancett

#5 "ACE," GCH CH Aviators Blackjack Legacy, RN CGC, John & Sarah Brock

#6 "BACCHUS," GCH CH Cortereal Iron Man CD BN RA AX MXJ MXF T2B Judy Berger & Nadine Hunter

#7 "COMET," GCH CH Topnotch Celestial Phenomenon of Alto, Lisa Gallow, Mike Gallow, Karen D'Augusta, Chole Lete

#9 "BEE," GCH CH Aviators Blackjack Drama Queen At Overlook, Marilu Novy, CJ Farve

Eukanuba 2013 Makes PWD History!

By Cathy Dugan

A variety of competitive events including conformation, agility, obedience and junior showmanship, along with special attractions made the event a true celebration of dogs. During what is now referred to as the “Final 5” week of dog shows attracted over 16,300 entries. For the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship there were 4,086 entries making this week the largest canine event in the nation.

BEST IN SHOW GOES TO MATISSE! FROM THE WORKING GROUP...

GCH CH Claircreek Impression De Matisse, a Portuguese Water dog, was on a roll coming into Eukanuba with 94 Best In Shows since just after the September, 2012 Portuguese Water Dog Club of America National Specialty. His lineup of judges had each judged him before...in fact; Col. Joe Purkhiser (breed), Mr. Houston Clark (group) and Mrs. Barbara Dempsey Alderman (BIS) had all given



Matisse a Best In Show. Owner-breeder Donna Gottdenker was there to cheer him on along with co-owners Milan Lint and Peggy Helming. During Matisse’s final down and back Mrs. Alderman was overheard to have said “perfect”.

Milan Lint said, “Peggy Helming and I were thrilled with the victory for Matisse. It was unanticipated for the \$50,000 in prize money –‘found money’- so we decided to donate it to the two charities that we feel best support the dog fancy: \$25,000 to Take The Lead where Peggy is a board member and \$25,000 to the AKC Canine Health Foundation”.

Best Breed By Exhibitor Best In Show went to the Old English Sheep Dog “Swagger”, GCH CH Bugaboos Picture Perfect, bred by Breeders of Merit Colton and Heather Johnson and owned by Ron Scott, Debbie Burke and Colton and Heather Johnson. Swagger was expertly handled by Colton.

MEET THE BREEDS

This year's Meet The Breeds event was very impressive with more than 150 AKC National Breed Club representatives, who shared their knowledge of their breeds and made dogs available for the "meet and greet". Many clubs also had decorative displays reflecting their breed origins. There were costumes and music creating a festive atmosphere. "This event allows attendees to become familiar with different breeds and for us to share our passion about our dogs" said Meg DeFore, PWDCA Coordinator of the event.

AKC BREEDER TO BREEDER SEMINAR...

Yet another feature of this year's show was the AKC Breeder 2 Breeder seminar hosted by the AKC. Respected experts included Anne Bowes, Doug Johnson, Bill Shelton, Patti Strand and Pat Trotter. Several topics important to breeders were covered, including, Bitch Selection, Stud Dog Selection, the Art versus Science of Breeding, Breeding and Whelping Practices and Raising and Training Puppies. The event was well attended and was free to breeders, exhibitors and judges and was offered twice before the AKC/Eukanuba National Championship show.

WORKING DOG GROUP SEMINARS A BIG SUCCESS!

The Dog Judges Association of America in collaboration with AKC Judges Operations offered a Working Group Seminar for all 29 breeds in the group as well as Non-Sporting Group seminar. The seminars and the hands-on workshops were conducted over four full days with 175 attendees. The courses were presented by National Clubs Judge's Education Committees and moderated by AKC staff and eight DJAA

"It was a great effort by DJAA volunteers and AKC staff to create an opportunity for aspiring working dog judges to learn from the National Breed Club's presenters. All seminars were well attended and each seminar had great examples of individual breeds for hands-on evaluation. Attendees were very satisfied with this educational opportunity", said Col. Joe Purkhiser, DJAA President.

Plans are already underway for seminars next year for the Herding and Hound groups at the AKC/Eukanuba show.

Summary: This year's AKC National Championship at Eukanuba proved that this event is becoming the premiere dog show in the U.S. along with Westminster. Together, these shows attract the kind of public interest and viewership the sport so desperately needs. The show was first class and beautifully presented.

2013 Eukanuba winners!



“MATISSE” GCH CH Claircreek Impression De Matisse, Best in Show



“ACE” GCH CH Aviators Black Jack Legacy, 2013 Eukanuba Select Dog



“BOBBY” GCH CH Spyglass N Aviator Sail With The Wind, 2013 Eukanuba Award of Merit

Health and your PWD

By Kathy Souza

All dogs, purebred or mixed breed, can have hereditary health problems. Portuguese Water Dogs are no exception. The Portuguese Water Dog Club of America encourages its members to be aware of health issues and recommend responsible breeding practices to reduce or eliminate hereditary health problems.

The PWDCA, Inc. strongly recommends that any dog used for breeding at least be evaluated with the PWDCA recommended health screening tests prior to any breeding. The tests include an annual eye exam performed by a veterinary ophthalmologist certifying the absence of inheritable eye disease, an x-ray evaluation and registry determination to be free of hip dysplasia, and individual genetic testing for prcd-PRA. Also recommended is testing for prcd-Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA), Juvenile Dilated (JCDM) and GM-1 Storage Disease (gangliosidosis).

But my dog is “just a pet.” So why is this an important subject to me? First, it's important to know about the existence of these diseases so that you can ask potential breeders of your next dog if they have completed the recommended testing on the sire and dam prior to breeding. That knowledge goes a long way to ensuring your dog will be healthy.

[Please see page 7 for information on our next OPTIGEN 20-20 CLINC!](#)

Second, if you plan to participate in performance events you should know your dog's health status and monitor it over his lifetime. Dogs participating in strenuous sports like agility should ideally have good hips. But if your dog's hips are less than ideal an active career is still possible with knowledgeable management of his training and performing. Eye health is also important to an active dog. An annual eye exam by a veterinary ophthalmologist can alert you to conditions that could affect your dog's comfort and safety. Eye injuries, cataracts and even cancer can be detected and steps taken to bring the dog back to health.

Should you do health testing even if you never plan to breed your dog? For the betterment of the breed, YES! We have come a long way in controlling hereditary diseases since PWDs were first introduced in this country. Genetic testing of each and every dog will help build the knowledge data base for future breeders and researchers to continue producing healthy dogs. While you may not be particularly concerned that your dog may carry, but never show, PRA for example, your breeder should know the genetic status of each puppy produced.

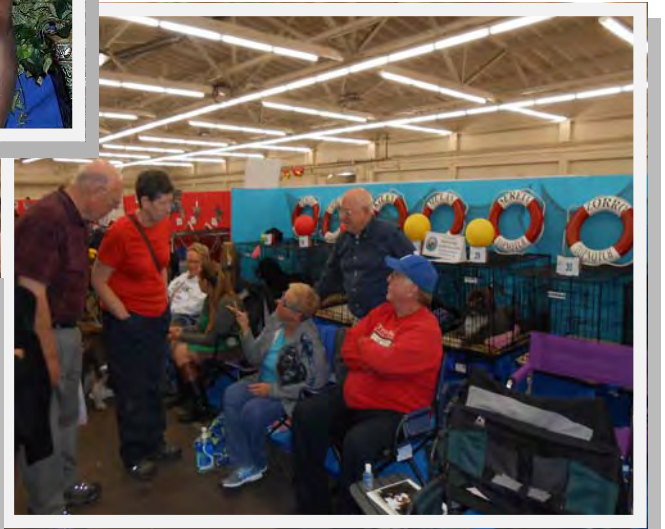
How do breeders share and access this information? Well the good news is that not only breeders have access to the information! The PWDCA, Inc. maintains the Health & Litter DataBase on-line for anyone to view and actively encourages all PWD owners to annually update the information on each dog they own. The database is located on the PWDCA, Inc. website at <http://www.pwdhld.com/signon.asp> Request log-in access and search for your dog. Don't see it? You are encouraged to enter your dog. Just the bare minimum entered by the breeder after birth? You can enter information to update your dog's accomplish-15 ments and health information.

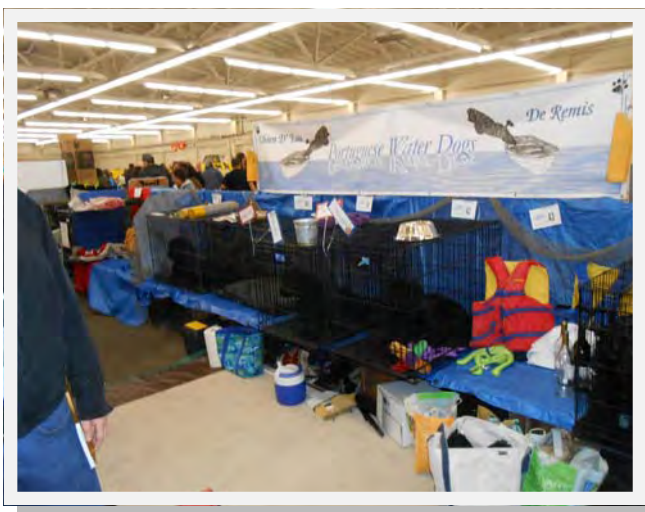
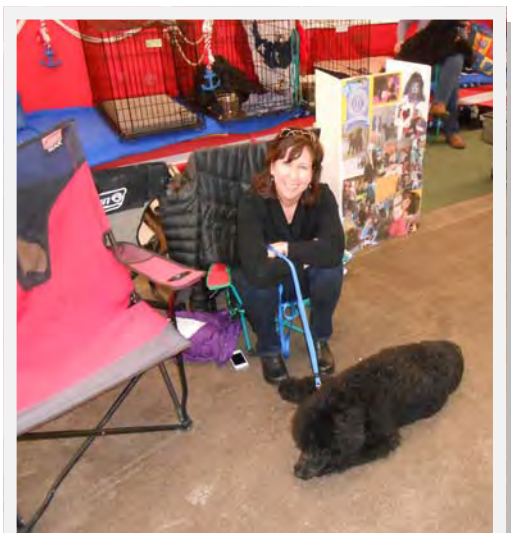
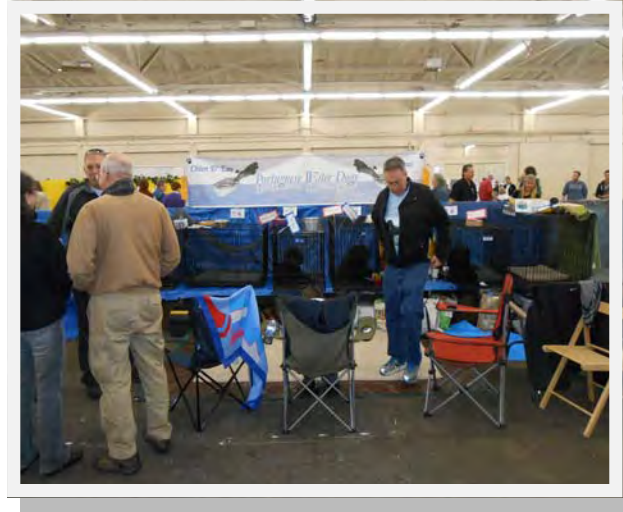
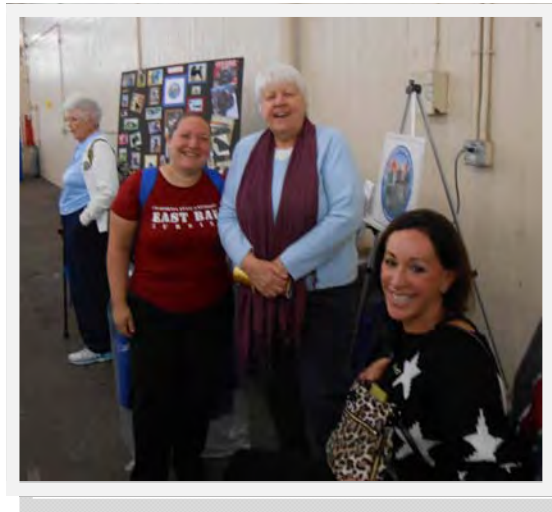
Golden Gate Dog Show

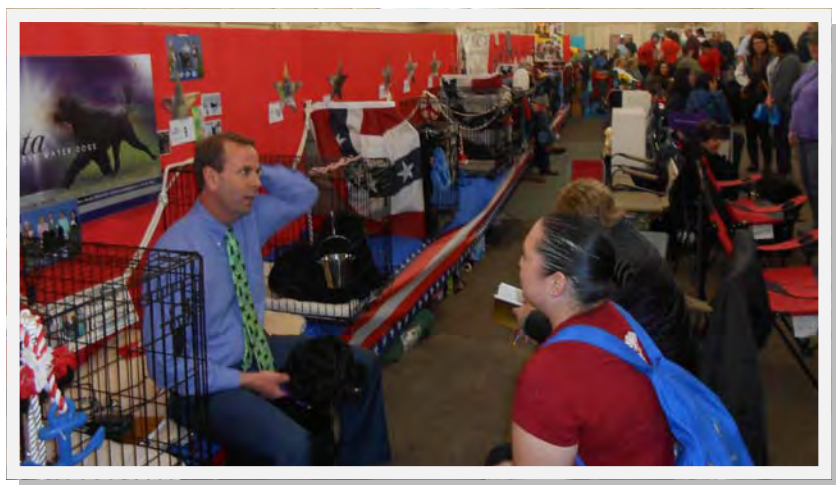
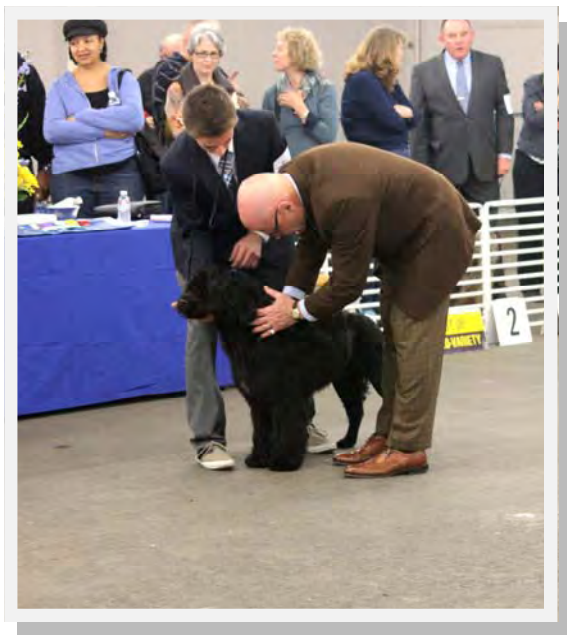
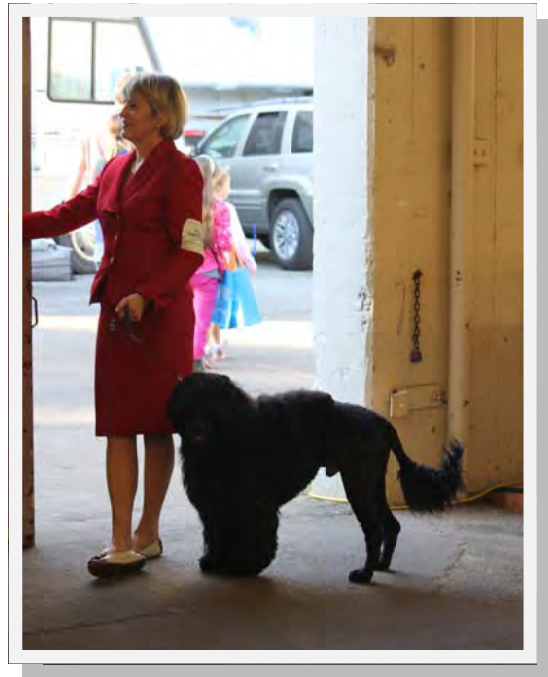


Comet (almost) stole the show, earning Group First. He is shown in the ring by his junior handler, Chloe Lete.

**GCH CH Topnotch Celestial Phenomenon
of Alto Mare
BN RN NA CGC FD
Owned by Lisa/Mike Gallow & Karen
D'Augusta & Chloe Lete**







Grooming Seminar in San Carlos, Saturday February 22, 2014

By Denise Gilbert

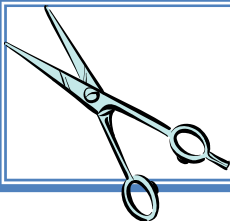
We had a small but great group at the Saturday, February 22nd Grooming Seminar in San Carlos. About half of the attendees were already grooming their dogs and the other half hoped to start. Lots of great questions and great dogs! Karen Myer's brown wavy boy, Atticus, was the wavy 'demo' dog. Ann Gaskell's, Norman, posed for the demo of how to cut a curly head. We talked about what a Portuguese Water Dog should look like, avoiding and removing mats, and equipment.



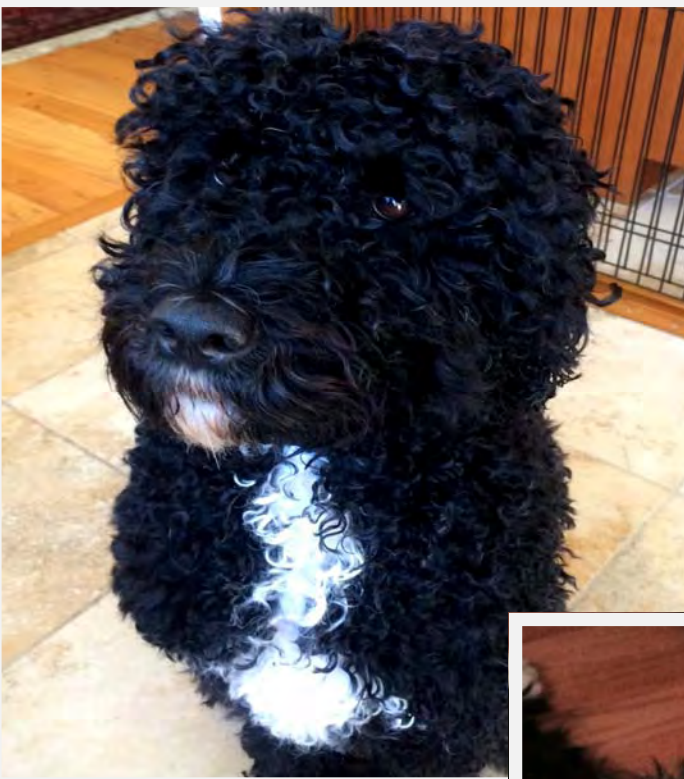
Marge Miller's Auggie

We had time for some 'remedial' work on the heads of three of the dogs – Kate Rundle's Ellie, Marge Miller's Auggie and Pin-Pin Wong's Louis.

The group got to see the transformation as the heads, muzzles and ears were clipped. This was the first time we held the seminar on the peninsula at the facilities of the San Mateo Dog Training Club. It was a nice space – we could take advantage of the mirrors so people could see both sides of the demo dogs as they were groomed. We set up a space where people could practice some obedience or play with their dogs to work off some of the PWD energy during the 6 hour seminar. The weather cooperated – it was so nice outside that during the lunch break everyone went outside to soak up some sun with their dogs.



You can find [grooming diagrams](#) online for Wavy & Curly Retriever & Lion Clips. Just in case you want to give it a try...or provide your groomer with some guidance!



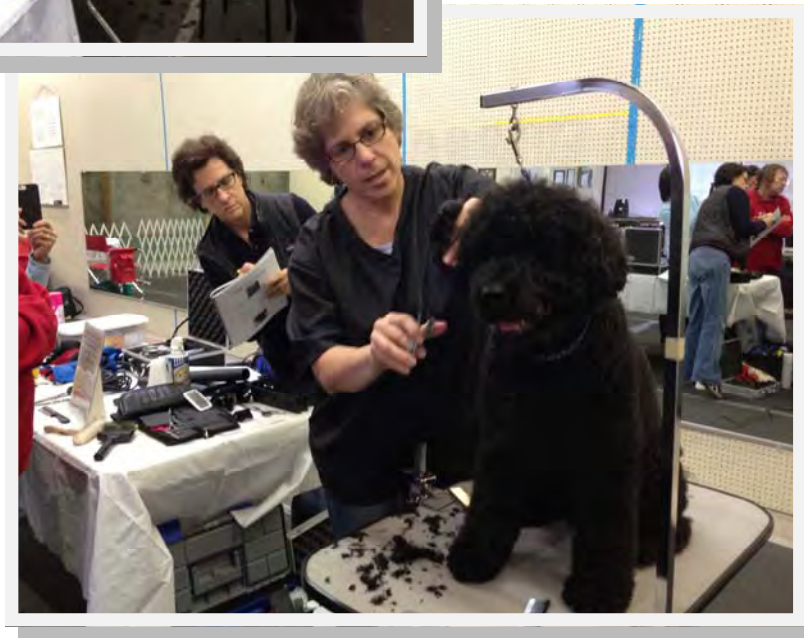
Kate Rundle's Ellie

Pin-Pin Wong's Louis



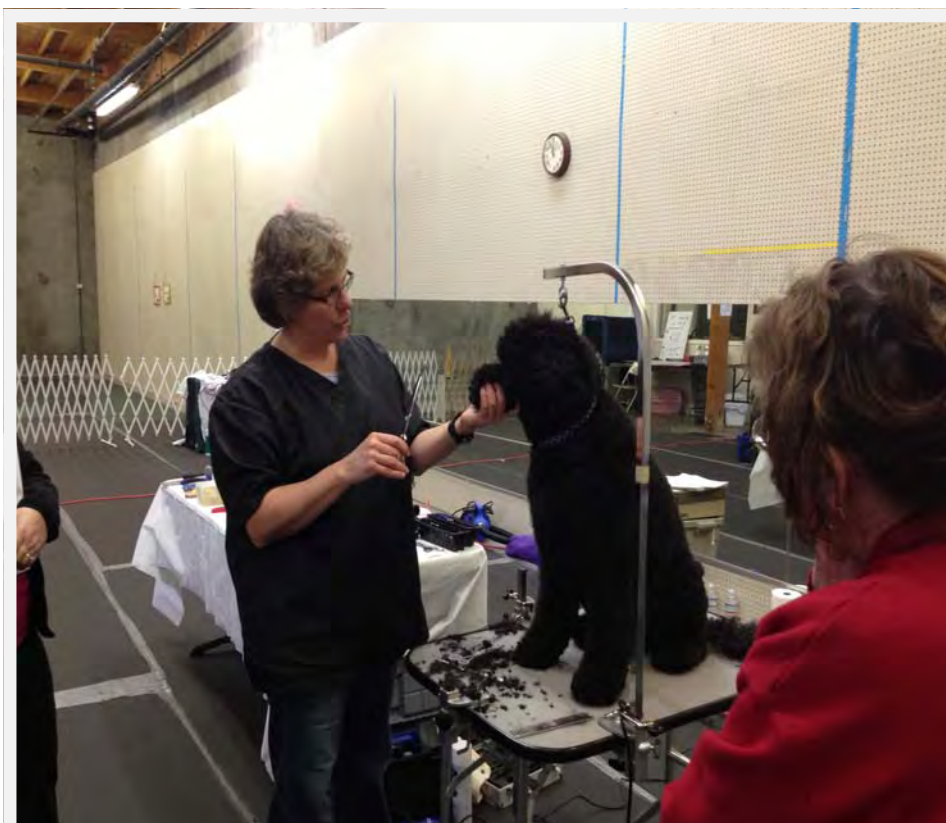


Left (L-R): Linda Klein, Pin-Pin Wong, Kate Rundle, Denise Gilbert with Karen Myer's Atticus, our wavy demo dog, Karen Myers, and Sherry Hanen



Above: Denise demonstrates grooming curly-coated Norman, Ann Gaskell's PWD





WESTMINSTER 2014

By Mike and Cathy Dugan

Going into the Westminster show, the PWD fancy had all come together in support of Matisse in hopes he would make history by winning Westminster! GCH CH Claircreek Impression De Matisse, bred by Donna Gottdenker of Canada, and owned by Donna and Milan Lint and Peggy Helming was the favorite. The dog was shown by Michael Scott and had already won Best In Show at Eukanuba less than two months before Westminster. Matisse had also already won the Dogs In Review title for Show Dog of the Year.

Following close behind was “Sky,” GCH CH After all Painting the Sky, a Wire Fox Terrier who had won the Show dog Of The Year for the Terrier Group with 149 Group Firsts. “Sky” was owned and backed by Victor Malzoni of Brazil who had also been a primary backer of “Ladybug” when she won the group at Westminster in 2011.

The two champions had been ranked as #1 and #2 for all dogs during 2013. By the end of 2013, Sky had 107,159 All-Breed points with 85 Best In Shows and 149 Group First, while Matisse had 94,498 All-Breed Points, 94 Best In Shows and 136 Group Firsts. The two dogs dominated competition nationwide throughout 2013.

In addition to the Westminster Show, Dogs in Review and ProPlan sponsor the Show Dogs of the Year Awards, the “Winkies” that gives a wide variety of awards to dogs, breeders, handlers, clubs and the like. This year several west coast nominees were in the running for awards, including Best Professional Handler of the Year with Amy Rutherford and Valerie Nunes Atkinson, both of California. Valerie won the award! The Del Valle Dog Club of Livermore was nominated for Best Show of the Year, but the award went to the Houston Kennel Club.

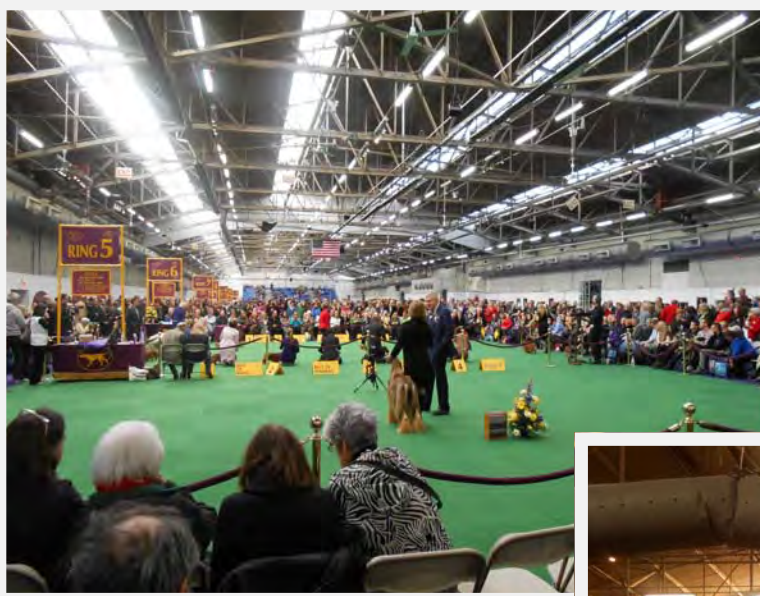
The new arrangement at Westminster now hosts the class competitions at Pier 92-93 on the Hudson River. The piers are large convention centers and actually have more space for competition and grooming areas than Madison Square Garden. Still, there is nothing like the Group and Best In Show competition in the Garden itself! With a full house, the Garden is electrifying as spotlights follow the dogs as they run into the ring. Matisse got a thunderous reception from the crowd and performed beautifully; including his new signature move of bowing before the judge before he stands for exam. Losing to Sky was disappointing but losing to another great dog is nothing to be ashamed of. Good luck to Matisse this year as he goes after the all-time Best In Show record!



Matisse featured on the marquee at Madison Square Garden during the Westminster show!

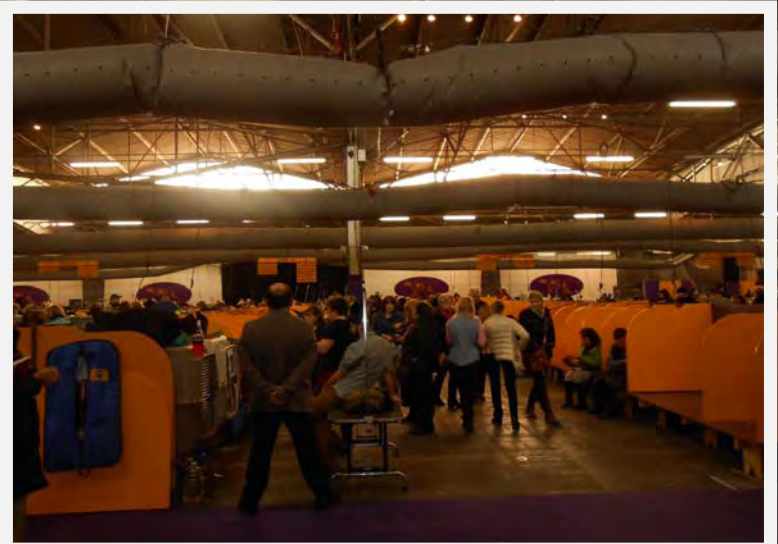


Matisse strutting his stuff in the Working Group competition

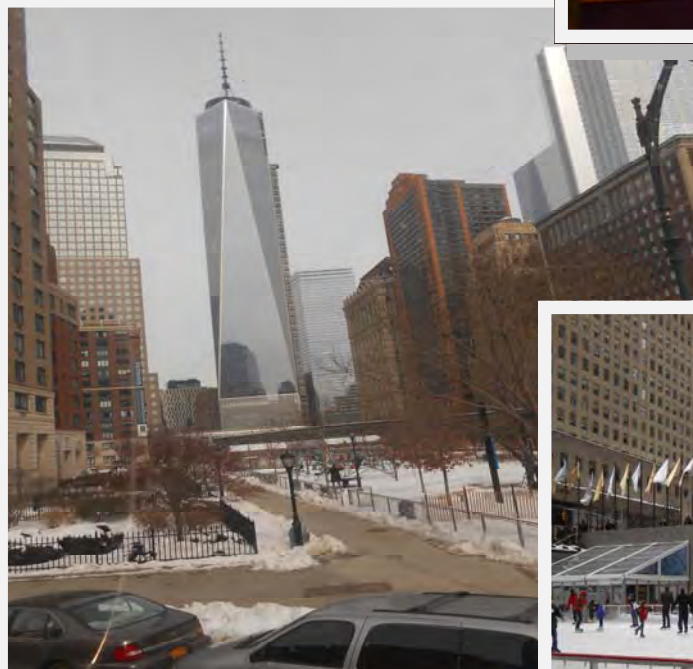


Left: Class competition at the Piers

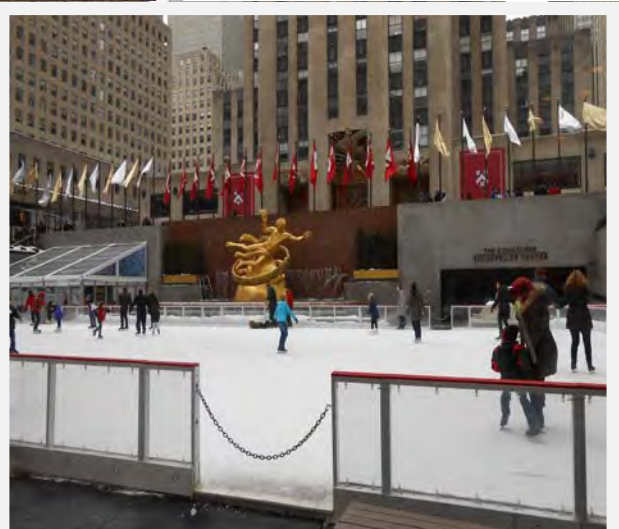
Below: Grooming area at the Piers



Below: New skyscraper at the site of Ground Zero



Below: Rockefeller Center Ice Rink





Left: At the Show Dogs Awards Dinner (L-R) Amy Rutherford, Cathy Dugan, Swenja Nasse, Olivia Hodgkinson, Cheryl Blancett and Mike Dugan



Above: Celebrating Matisse's Group 1 and Bobby's Select Dog at Westminster, 2014 at the New Yorker Hotel (L to R) Donna Gottdenker (Matisse's Breeder and co-owner, Cathy Cates (TX), Lana Spangler, Donna's husband Bernard (standing), Remy-Smith Lewis, Mike Dugan, Cheryl Blancett, (Bobby's owner), Cathy Dugan and Charles White (TX)

Winners Bitch at the 2014 PWDCA National

George Ziemba & Mike McCallum

Keep in mind that Mike both bred and showed this winner. To win anything at a National Specialty is quite a feat. To show a winner at a National as an amateur is quite a feat. To do both is very, very rare. So hats off to Mike for an amazing achievement!

Now lets read his own words describing the thrill.

When we began showing dogs, we began the journey as a family activity and decided that our family would show our own dogs to the best of our ability, including our sons who have put points on several of our dogs. Lynn and I are a team in everything we do, including taking care of our dogs and all of the associated responsibilities and activities. Abbie is out of our first litter that we bred with our very good friends and mentors, Julie and Ty Rust of Rustyco Portuguese Water dogs.

Abbie began the day of the National very happy and full of herself. When we put her show lead on her, she was immediately ready to get into the ring and was barking to be let off the table so she could parade around. On days like this, I know that the only danger is that I fail to show her off properly as she will do all she can to present herself in the best way. Waiting to go into the ring is the hardest part - luckily, Abbie has a lot of drive and can stay sharp for quite a while.



When we entered the big ring, Abbie was very engaged, businesslike, confident, easy to show due to her excellent movement. I can keep her on a loose lead because she always knows where to go and the correct speed to move - she is the brains of our operation!

As I always do when there is such a large entry, I made sure to give Abbie lots of breaks and played with her when there was downtime while the judge was going over other dogs. We can usually be seen playing with her favorite toy, the orange ball. Lynn and my top priority always has always been to make sure our dogs have fun showing and if we win that is just a bonus. While playing is important, I made sure Abbie looked her best when the judge looked over. One thing I learned from other handlers (both professional and experienced owner-handlers) is to pay attention to the judge, and know when s/he is looking your direction, or is otherwise occupied. Take the right opportunity to relax and play with your dog.

In the open class, the bitches spanned two sides of the ring during the initial line up, and we benefitted by being smack in the corner. I arranged her perpendicular to the far corner, so Abbie was in full view of the judge at all times. It also gave me a chance to keep an eye on the judge so I knew when I had to be set up with Abbie. When we were finally in front of the judge, I took my time and made sure I was straight and smooth during the down and back. This is where Abbie excels so I did not want to take any attention away from her movement. She pulled up in a nice free stack, and she was focused and bright for the judge. During the final go-round, I knew that we had performed the absolutely best we could have. I really just felt like I was along for the ride and Abbie took the lead. I couldn't have been happier with her performance. When the judge pointed to Abbie for first place, my heart leapt and my smile was huge! I immediately looked for Lynn to see her reaction and it was priceless.

Winners Bitch was more of a blur as it was over much more quickly. Going in, I knew that Abbie was "on" and would show well again as long as I didn't prevent her from doing so! When the judge pointed to us this time, I was able to fully relax and the celebrations really began! It was special that so many fellow owner-handlers and friends from Northern California and our PWDCNC club were there to share the win with us.

The Rainbow Bridge

Between this world and the next, Is a place where our beloved creatures find rest. On this golden land, they wait and they play, Till the Rainbow Bridge they cross over one day.

They have only slipped away for a while, waiting for the beloved call by an old familiar name, saying play, smile, think of me at the foot of a hill, where time stands still.

They romp through the grass, without even a care, until one day they start, and sniff at the air. All ears prick forward, eyes dart front and back, The all of a sudden, one breaks from the pack.

For just an instant, their eyes have met; together again, both person and pet. So they run to each other, these friends from long past, the time of their parting is over at last.

The sadness they felt while they were apart, has turned into joy once more in each heart. They embrace with a love that will last forever, and then side-by-side, they cross over.

Together...

Please send photos and a story about your wonderful companion who has passed over the bridge to mtdugan@comcast.net for the May issue of Wavies & Curlies...

VOLUNTEERS WANTED!

Graphic Artist

Membership Chair

The club needs help in two specific area. First, we need a graphic artist to create the artwork we use during the year for ads in the Courier Magazine, water trial T-shirts, enhancing logo work, etc. Barb Avila and Ali Vorhies have fulfilled our graphic needs for a number of years, but it's time to pass on the torch. Take a look at the website to get an idea.

We are also in need of a membership chair to maintain the membership database, publish the annual directory, accept membership applications, and provide a welcome packet. The position requires some level of computer expertise but the data base already exists and only data entry work would be currently necessary. However, enhancements to the database could also be done by a more technical person as an option. Barb Avila is currently filling the position and can answer questions at bavila@me.com.

Please give back to the club in either or both positions. We can use the help, the new blood in the organization, and fresh ideas and approaches,

Thanks,

George Ziemba, President, georgeziemba@gmail.com.



From the Editor.....

The last six months have been packed with activities and marked by great successes and more exposure for Portuguese Water Dogs. Beginning with our National Specialty in Oregon, the Regional Specialty in Carmel, the International Congress of PWDs in Portugal, Eukanuba at Orlando in December, the Golden Gate Show in San Francisco in late January and finally, Westminster in February we've had little time to catch our breath. Just as important we've also had very successful Agility, Obedience and Water Trials

PWD's with west coast connections bred, owned and shown by our members have been #1 PWDs nationally from 2008-2012 in conformation and have been ranked nationally in every other type of competition for PWDs. Matisse became the all-time winning PWD in 2013, beating every record set just a year before by Ladybug. Winning Eukanuba in 2013, Matisse set a new bar for conformation success, and was a favorite to win Westminster, even though that was not to be. In this year already PWDs from our club members continue to do well, with ... of the top ten PWDs as of January 31, 2014.

All of this success comes from the tireless efforts of experienced, ethical breeders who are determined to enhance and advance our wonderful breed. Whether our dogs are champions or not, they all are ultimately the smart clever dogs who enrich the lives of all humans they touch.

Matisse remains in competition for this year with a goal of breaking the all-time record of 147 Best In Shows. I think he'll do it. Even though the rest of us will compete to see is #2 to Matisse, his success will do honor to us all.