



WAVIES & CURLIES

Newsletter of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of Northern California

JUNE 2017

A Message from the President

When I got my first PWD, Scamp, in 1993, my breeder had me join the PWDCA, which I did immediately. Back then, I was not connected to the internet. My contact with the PWDCA was limited to the small amount of documentation I received through the US Post Office. While I was very excited to receive anything related to Portuguese Water Dogs, the PWDCA felt quite remote to me.

Portuguese Water Dogs were pretty rare back then. I was always thrilled whenever I encountered another one. In 2003, I walked out of my vet's office and was amazed by what I saw: an entire van filled with Portuguese Water Dogs. Little did I know that this was the beginning of my ongoing adventures with the Portuguese Water Dog Club of Northern California.

As I was gaping at the open van, a woman walked out, saw my energetic PWD and my astonishment at seeing so many others all in one spot. She introduced herself as Peggy Perkins (a founding member of the club) and asked if I was a member of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of Northern California. When I said no, I had never heard of it, Peggy made sure I joined immediately.

I knew nothing about the world of dog activities other than that a friend of mine did something with a wooden dumbbell and jumps. I thought someday when I had time, maybe I could get involved in something like that.

From 2003 through 2006, my only involvement with the club was going to the annual Holiday Party. I loved seeing all the dogs as did my PWD, Scamp. I didn't have the time to get more involved.



*Ann (on the right), with Norman,
Rally High Combined Winner,
Lost Coast Kennel Club, July 1-2, 2017*

In 2006, I got my wonderful Norman. With the encouragement of Norman's breeder, I began my foray into the world of canine performance events. Norman is a little bit handler-challenged, but we both have fun together and that is what counts.

In 2007, I started to volunteer with the club, was immediately made Programs Chair, and have been involved ever since.

We are the largest regional club in the United States. Our membership is spread out geographically and is diverse in interests, but all share in common our love for this crazy breed with their nutty antics. The members all seem to have a sense of humor, a necessity if you are owned by a Portuguese Water Dog.

It is important to me to ensure that our club have something to offer each member. To do that, we try to offer a variety of activities and events. For everyone, there are club-sponsored social events like the Dogtoberfest -- Octoberfest the PWDNC Way -- in the fall, and the Annual Picnic in the spring.

We also strive to offer a variety of educational events of interest to our members such as canine CPR, health and breed education, and workshops and seminars focusing on specific performance sports.

The most important issue for me is that all members should feel that they are a valued part of the club as a whole, that their membership in our club is important and appreciated (both by them and by the club), and that they are offered opportunities to become involved in one or more aspects of the club and its activities.

If you are interested in anything, want an activity, workshop or seminar on something specific, and you don't see it listed in the calendar, please contact me. I will work with you to make sure that we can enact whatever you want (or as close to it as possible).

Vague ideas, incomplete thoughts, crazy sounding suggestions... I will work with you. There are very few things that are too farfetched for this club to at least consider. Remember, it takes a unique individual to live with, love and join in the antics of a Portuguese Water Dog, a clown in a dog suit. We are naturally open to just about anything.

My email is Ann.Gaskell@gmail.com. Please contact me with thoughts, questions, and/or comments.

Thank you,
Ann Gaskell

*Go to [next page](#) for Upcoming Events
and Table of Contents*

Page numbers in the Table of Contents are hyperlinked to the articles, and hyperlinks are provided on each page to return to the Table of Contents or the Front Page.

In This Issue

| | | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| President's Message..... | 1 | Introduction to PWDCA Rescue..... | 9 |
| Upcoming Events..... | 2 | Exceptional Performances Update..... | 10 |
| 2017 Annual Club Picnic | 3 | AGCH Award to Barb Avila and Cali..... | 10 |
| 2017 PWDCNC Water Trials | 4 | Freestyle Dance | 11 |
| Introduction to the PWDCNC Water Practice Program | 5 | Braggs..... | 12 |
| Woofstock 2017 | 7 | New Members..... | 13 |
| Officers, Board, Chairs, Editors..... | 8 | In Loving Memory: Over the Rainbow Bridge | 15 |
| Final Report on the Georgie Project..... | 8 | | |

Mark Your Calendar for These Exciting Upcoming Events!

Saturday-Sunday, July 15-16
Carmel Middle School, Carmel
Del Monte KC Dog Shows
PWDCNC Supported Entry July 15
 Supported Entry for
 Conformation, Obedience & Rally
 Hospitality throughout the day

Friday-Sunday, August 4-6
Shadow Cliffs Regional Park, Pleasanton
PWDCNC Water Trials

Friday-Sunday, August 11-13
Manzanita Park, Prunedale
PWDCNC-Hosted Agility Trials
 All-breed AKC Agility Trials – come to participate or to
 watch the fun! Club Fundraiser.
 For info and entry: www.AbbaDogs.com

September 8-15
Warwick, RI
2017 National Specialty
 Water Trial in Lincoln Woods State Park, Sat/Sun
 Conformation & Performance events at Crowne Plaza
 Host hotel Crowne Plaza, Warwick
 Further information: www.pwdcaspecialty.org

Saturday, October 28
Ed Levin Park Milpitas, Sandy Wool Site
Annual PWDCNC Dogtoberfest
 Lots of fun, food, and games!
 Acclaimed photographer Tonya Perme will
 again be at the Fest

Friday, November 10
Napa Valley Expo, Napa
PWDCNC 2017 Regional Specialty – Judge Nancy Liebes
 Conformation, Sweeps, Obedience/Rally trials,
 Hospitality, Raffle and Auction, Specialty Dinner
 Hospitality throughout the day

Saturday-Monday, November 11-13
Napa Valley Expo, Napa
Wine Country KC Dog Shows (Nov. 11-12)
Kennel Club of Salinas (Nov. 13)
PWDCNC Supported Entries Each Day
 Supported Entries for Conformation

Friday-Sunday, November 24-26
Rancho Murieta
PWDCNC-Hosted Agility Trials
 All-breed AKC Agility Trials – come to participate and support
 the Club Fundraiser!
 For info and entry: www.AbbaDogs.com

2017 Annual Club Picnic

The 2017 PWD CNC Annual Club Picnic was held on Saturday, May 20, at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park in Pleasanton. About 50 club members gathered for the fun-filled picnic. The weather was hot and the water was great! What a spectacular way to continue the celebration of the club's 25th Anniversary – fantastic weather, awesome people, and of course plenty of wonderful PWDs.

An event like this cannot be put on without lots of help, and our wonderful club members came through loud and clear. Everyone's help and support were both greatly valued and very much needed to help make the event so successful. Many people volunteered or were volunteered for one job and ended up doing several.



Special thanks to our gourmet chefs, Mike Paterson and assistant Dave Kupec, and all the members who brought a wealth of wonderful salads and desserts.

When it came to PWD Water Work, the focus for this year's picnic was "new participants." The intent was to expose new members to the fun of dogs and water, and hopefully attract them to greater participation. All water activities were geared so that members could either just play with their dog in the water, or use the opportunity to learn basic skills as a foundation for beginning water work.



Karen D'Augusta is an AKC Obedience, Rally, and Agility judge, and a long-time trainer in these activities. She is also a titled competitor in multiple performance sports plus Conformation, and a PWD breeder. Karen gave an overview of what a handler needs to know to start water work, what equipment is required for both the dog and handler, as well as



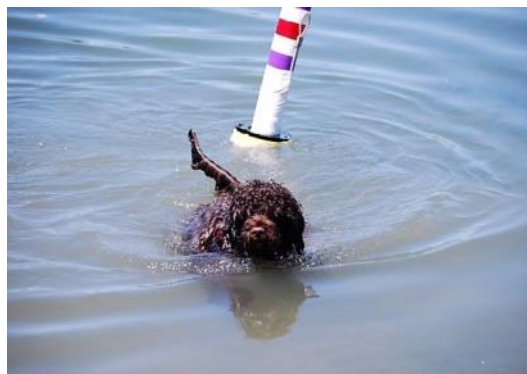
suggested other optional equipment and ways to help train. Karen's main point was to make it fun for both dog and handler.

In the water, there was lots of help from several club members, all experienced in water work. A HUGE thank you to Carl Craig, our club Equipment Chair, who was the first to arrive at the park, well before 8:30 a.m., to get all equipment out, ready, and set up, including boats and water markers. Special thanks to Dave Kupec and Chris Rasmussen, who helped Carl in the water.



For those that chose to try an additional activity, there was a Novice Rally course set up. All dogs received a special stuffed toy for coming to the picnic.

As usual, all members and dogs had a great time. It was wonderful to see old friends with their dogs, as well as meet new people and new dogs. The day was a great start to our water practice time. This year, with all the rain, we are blessed with high lake levels. We hope to see many seasoned and new handlers having lots of fun in the water.



2017 PWDCNC Water Trials

Have you ever wondered what our PWDs did on the fishing boats in Portugal? Well, come out and see the tests designed to approximate those tasks!

Please Join Us for the 2017 PWDCNC Water Trials!

The goals of a water trial as defined by the PWDCA are to promote an environment that encourages:

- the development of the working attributes of the Portuguese Water Dog;
- a strong bond between dog and owner consistent with the Portuguese Water Dog's heritage as a working companion; and
- the creation of a modern water work activity specifically related to the breed's unique abilities and historical function.

Date and Location

The PWDCNC Water Trials will be held Friday, August 4 - Sunday, August 6, 2017 at Shadow Cliffs Regional Recreation Area in Pleasanton, CA. Please note that we've scaled back to a single ring this year, which will make it easier to watch all the teams perform. Our judge this year is Sarah Kahn of Seattle, WA.

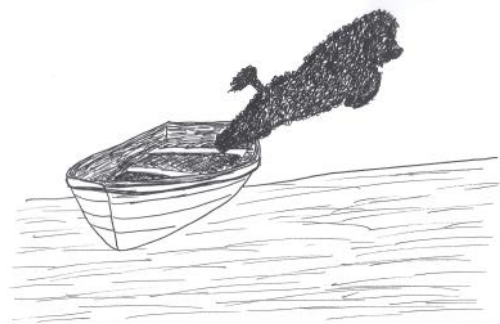
Schedule of Events

(Registered participants will receive an email containing the detailed judging order)

| FRIDAY | SATURDAY | SUNDAY |
|---------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 10:00-2:45: Practice Ring | Trial begins 7:30 a.m. | Trial begins 7:30 a.m.** |
| Trial begins 4:00 | Apprentice | Master |
| Junior | Working | Courier |
| | Courier | Working |
| | Master | Apprentice |
| | Ducky Derby | Junior |
| | Dinner | |

**Sunday start times may change depending on move-ups and withdrawals. Changes will be announced at Saturday night dinner. If you are only entered on Sunday, email Barb Avila Saturday night.

There is a briefing just before the judging of each of the five classes, Junior through Master. The Ducky Derby will follow the judging of the Master class on Saturday. Check out the Water Trial Premium [here](#) to learn about this and other important features of the event. If you wish to participate, Duckies will be available for purchase at the event. There may be a few dinner tickets still available; if interested, please contact Elaine Rasmussen.



For additional water work information go to
<http://pwdcnc.org/activities/water/water-practice/>
 and
<http://www.pwdca.org/water-work>.

Questions? Contact our Water Trial Secretary, Barb Avila.

Introduction to the PWDCNC Water Practice Program

By Kathy Souza with thanks to Karen Pratt

Welcome to the wacky, wonderful world of training your Portuguese Water Dog for our very own, breed-specific Water Trials! This brief introduction is an overview of what to expect from our Regional Water Practices, as well as basic training and equipment needs for the beginner. The practice sessions are held from Memorial Day through September; scheduling and sign-ups are available on the club web site [here](#). Also, please take time to read the [Ten Commandments for Water Practice](#).

Please bear in mind that we are extremely fortunate to have a very special working relationship with the staff at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park. These practice opportunities go back over 15 years, so we work very hard to abide by park and PWDCNC practices, keep dogs under control, and keep the park cleaner than when we arrive.

While these practices offer a wonderful opportunity for Club members to get together to practice, they are not necessarily going to work with everyone's schedules. **Please reach out to other members and arrange practices at times and locations that work for you.**

1. **Equipment.** The beginning water practice team actually needs very little equipment to start. As in any dog sport, additional items can be purchased to make your life easier at practice and to increase both your enjoyment and the effectiveness of your training time with your dog. **You** will be in the water (not just your dog) – this is a team sport! So in addition to “water-wear,” such as a swimsuit or wet suit, here are the requirements of what you will need for the two beginning levels, plus some recommendations to make your training day more fun and enjoyable:
 - a. **Required for Handler**
 - i. Life vest (PFD – Coast Guard approved)
 - ii. Closed toed shoes
 - b. **Junior Water Dog**
 - i. Dog water harness
 - ii. Retrieving dummy
 - c. **Apprentice Water Dog:** the items for Junior Water Dog, plus
 - i. Underwater retrieve article
 - ii. Float line
 - d. **Additional recommendations:**
 - i. Floating long line at least 15 ft. (a long leash to be used on your dog, especially if you are not sure how it will behave in public off-leash)
 - ii. Basket or gear bag to hold equipment
 - iii. Life vest for your dog (believe it or not, some PWDs actually need assistance to learn how to swim!)
 - iv. Large-brimmed hat to keep the sun off your face
 - v. Sunscreen and lip balm
 - vi. Exercise pen or crate for your dog (dogs MAY NOT be tied to trees)
 - vii. Fabulous training treats or toys that you only use at water practice
 - viii. Towels (for trainer and dog)
 - ix. Dog Shampoo (bathing facilities are available for your dog)
 - x. Snacks, water (for you and your dog)

More on next page ...

Introduction to the PWDCA Water Practice Program, continued

2. **Training.** Basic obedience training is REALLY helpful when starting in Water Practice, but not essential, especially if you have a young puppy. At the Junior level, you are allowed to hold onto your dog's harness for many of the exercises. Even at the Apprentice level, you are allowed to gently guide your dog by the harness between exercises. Most judges will remind you of this, and even urge you to do so! If you don't have a solid "sit-stay," get working on it now – you will be glad you did, since many of the exercises at the Apprentice level require a sit-stay. Note that a dog must be at least 6 months of age on the day of the trial.

Our scheduled water practices are just that – PRACTICE. Thus no formal instruction will be provided during the practice time, although experienced handlers are happy to share with you what has helped them in the past. Of course every team is different, so "your mileage may vary." I would highly recommend that you print out, read, re-read, and then read again the PWDCA Water Manual, which is available on the PWDCA website to download. <http://www.pwdca.org/assets/docs/waterwork/2017-water-trial-manual.pdf>.

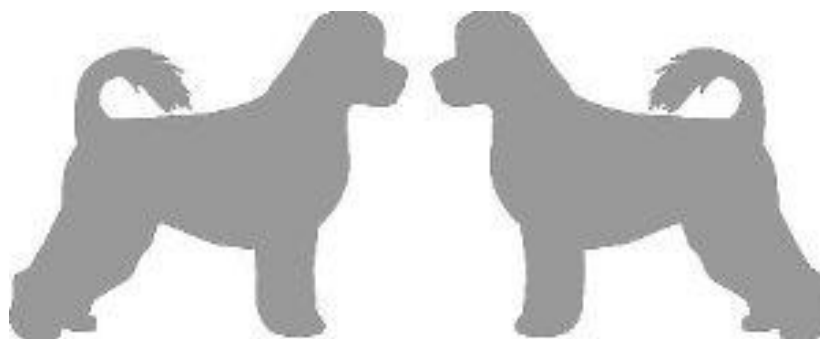
Water Committee members will be glad to answer your questions, just ask! There are some water camps available around the country where you can get intense training in the water, and if you have the time and resources to attend one, go for it!

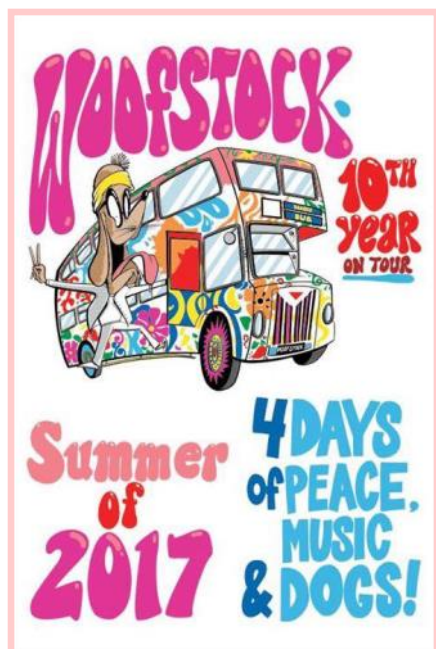
Our practice sessions are held at Shadow Cliffs Regional Park in Pleasanton. Practice sessions are arranged into morning and afternoon groups Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday morning, each approximately 5 hours in length. There is a Monday afternoon group that is limited to those teams working at least at the Courier Water Dog level. All other groups are open to teams at all levels. This blending of team levels helps beginners see what they have to look forward to, as well as help even out the stewarding jobs throughout the day. You may be asked to row or hold boats, throw bumpers, drop float lines, or any of a number of other tasks to help your training partners, and they will do the same for you if you need the help.

If you look at the sign-up calendar, see an empty time slot, but don't know anyone to practice with, don't despair. Here are some things to try. Put out word on the Club's Facebook page and/or Yahoo group that you'd like to form a practice group and list which days/times you can do. Contact your dog's breeder; they may have other owners they can suggest you contact. Contact Water Committee members for suggestions about other folks interested in practicing.

Come to practice with a plan in mind as to what you want to accomplish with your dog when it is your turn. Some people spend 5–10 minutes "playing" with their dog in the water with the equipment to familiarize their dog with the water and the equipment in a fun manner. Others will focus on retrieving at a short distance, then longer distances, until the dog is retrieving at full distance. Further on in the season (as the trial approaches), you may want to do a "dry run" of a trial, going straight through all of the exercises (in order) with your practice partners acting as a judge, land steward, and boat stewards.

Water Practice here in Northern California is a time-consuming activity, so if you are not ready to commit a half-day each week to traveling to Pleasanton, practicing with your dog, and stewarding for others, try picking up just a few slots during the first few weeks before you commit to the same slot all summer.





WOOFSTOCK 2017

June 8 - 11

Results for the
PWDCNC Supported Entry
Saturday, June 10

Saturday is the big costume day.
How many of the people and dogs do you recognize?



This year's Saturday Winners: Judge: Charles L. Olvis

| | |
|-------|----------------------------------------------|
| BOB | GCH Aviators Lady's Man De Remis |
| BOS | GCH Covey Run's Déjà Vu |
| WD/BW | Toraq's Valente Buccaneer of Pirate's Cove |
| WB | Aviators Déjà Vu All Over Again |
| SEL | CH Rough Seas' Viriatos de Toraq RN BN (dog) |
| SEL | CH Surfari's Frankly My Dear (bitch) |
| AOM | CH Surfari's Jagged Edge (dog) |
| AOM | CH Chien D'Eau Beija De Remis (bitch) |

Don't miss the fun!
Be there next year!

2017 Officers and Board of Directors

March 1, 2017 — February 28, 2018

PRESIDENT: Ann Gaskell [email](#)

VICE PRESIDENT: John Parks

TREASURER: Bill Waters [email](#)

RECORDING SECRETARY: Kathy Souza [email](#)

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Carole Corbett [email](#)

DIRECTORS:

Mark Gilroy, Sandy Holden, Mike Paterson,
Pin Pin Wong, Elaine Rasmussen (past president)

Club Committee Chairs

BREEDER REFERRAL: Linda Kelly

EQUIPMENT MANAGER: Carl Craig

HISTORIAN: Cheryl Smith

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP: Tanya McDonald

MEMBERSHIP: Pin Pin Wong [email](#)

PROGRAMS: Ann Gaskell [email](#)
Assistant Co-chairs: Anne Paterson, Elinor Cullen

REGIONAL CLUB CONTACT: Carole Corbett

REGIONAL SPECIALTY: Matthew Davis [email](#)

RESCUE AND RELOCATION: Sue Nelson [email](#)

WEBMASTER: Barb Avila [email](#)

Activity/Performance Chairs

AGILITY: Leslie Holt [email](#)

CONFORMATION: Becky Morin [email](#)

OBEDIENCE & RALLY: Jack McCredie [email](#)

SCENT WORK: Kathy Souza [email](#)

WATER WORK: Kathy Souza [email](#)

Wavies and Curlies

EDITORS: Frank and Margaret Dietrich

*We would appreciate your comments and
suggestions. Please email us at
wceditor@pwdcnc.org.*

*To reach any of the above personnel if an email link is
not shown, send email to prez@pwdcnc.org
for forwarding,
or consult the PWDCA Membership Directory.*

*For further information about the Club's activities,
check out our website at <http://pwdcnc.org>.*



Final Report on the Georgie Project

The Georgie Project was begun in 1996 by Dr. Gordon Lark of the University of Utah to collect and study DNA and tissue samples relevant to genetic and other diseases in Portuguese water dogs obtained from autopsy samples. This project involved participation by the PWDCA and the owners and breeders of more than 600 PWDs over a 20-year period. The funding for the project, supported by the National Institute of Health, terminated at the end of August, 2016. Dr. Lark has stated that a final report on his work will be sent to NIH and the PWDCA, and will be published in the Courier. A short report has now been published in the Courier (January/February, 2017; Volume 45, Issue 1). Further information on the project and any future developments may be found in the Resources section of the [PWDCA web site](#).

Introduction to PWDCA Rescue



PWDCA Rescue, Inc.

By Sue Nelson

The primary responsibility of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America Rescue and Relocation Program is to help PWDs that are in need of a new home. Rescue PWDs come to us from shelters, are surrendered to Rescue by their owners or relatives, are found on rescue websites, or have been advertised in newspapers or social media.

Our first goal is to make sure that the dog is safe. For this we rely on our Regional Rescue Representatives and Foster Volunteers for temporary homes for these dogs. Rescue makes every effort to reunite the dog with its breeder, but many times the breeder is unknown. When

the PWDCA breeder is known, we make them aware of the rescue and ask them to take responsibility. In cases where this isn't possible or practical we work with the breeder and assist them in re-homing the dog.

When the breeder isn't known, PWDCA Rescue will take full responsibility. Rescue makes sure that the dog is well taken care of in its foster home while waiting for a new home by performing the following:

- Veterinarian checkup
- Spay/Neuter
- Microchip
- Necessary vaccines
- Grooming
- Temperament evaluation

A forever home for a rescued dog is selected from Rescue Adoption applicants. Rescue will counsel and mentor new owners and will follow up to make sure the placement is working for both dog and owner.

PWDCA Adoption Applications, Foster Volunteer forms, Shelter Flyers and Donation forms are all available at the PWDCA website under **Resources**; click [here](#)..

The PWDCA is fortunate to have three members of our Club working with Rescue. Diana Bailey is the Western U.S. Coordinator, Marsha Litke is the Western U.S. Volunteer Committee Chair, and Sue Nelson is the Northern California Area Rescue Representative. Feel free to contact any of them with questions.

**MOST IMPORTANT: If you hear of a PWD in need of a new home,
Contact RESCUE!**

1.877.328-PWDS

Rescue@PWDCA.org

Please don't call the individual yourself – it muddies the waters and confuses the person surrendering the dog. Rescue has worked scores of cases, has vast experience in dealing with these difficult situations, and has the answers to the surrenderer's questions about how to proceed.

Rescues don't happen very often, but when they do, we need you!

Exceptional Performances

From time to time Wavies & Curlies showcases truly outstanding performances with national scope by our members and their dogs. In the March, 2016 issue, we featured Barb and Ron Avila's Cali. Cali excels in agility and has outstanding national rankings in multiple categories. This update recognizes Cali's recent Agility Grand Champion Award. Please send your suggestions for additional dogs and their accomplishments to highlight in future issues to the editors at wceditor@pwcnc.org.

Cali Earns Agility Grand Champion Lifetime Achievement Award

By Barb Avila

On August 26, 2016, Cali became the first Portuguese Water Dog, and third dog in the country of ANY breed to achieve the Agility Grand Champion (AGCH) title. This is a new lifetime achievement award from AKC. To earn the AGCH title, a dog must earn:

- 100 Master Standard qualifying scores
- 100 Master Jumper qualifying scores
- 75 Master FAST qualifying scores
- 75 Time 2 Beat qualifying scores
- 50 Premier Standard qualifying scores
- 50 Premier Jumpers qualifying scores

When the new title was announced, Cali had all the qualifying scores for everything but the new Premier classes. These are difficult courses requiring international handling. You really have to be on your toes to qualify! Plus you must have a certain number of Super Q's, meaning that you must be fast enough to score in the top 25% of all competitors in your class. Cali competes in the 20" class, which requires the fastest times of all jump heights. We enjoy the Premier classes so much that we are continuing on to see if we can achieve an AGCH2 award! I am so proud of my little girl!



Barb (on the right) with Cali,
AGCH MACH14 Cutwater Heart of the West
MXS4 PDS MJG4 PJS FTC2 MFS3 TQX T2B16 CWDX

Freestyle Dance

Do NOT under any circumstances leave this page without watching Paula's video!

– The editors

By Paula Li

I would like to preface this article by saying that although Magic, my beloved PWD, has earned many titles in obedience, including AKC Rally and trick dog titles, we are fairly new to the show world. I apologize for any errors or inaccuracies. I am just writing from my experience and not as an expert in freestyle dance.

We all know our PWDs. Don't they just LOVE to play? If you have ever tried to teach your dog to shake, or spin around, or roll over, or back up, you have begun the journey of Freestyle Dance! Yes, it's that simple!

If you go to www.rallyfree.com, you will find a lot of information about this not-so-advertised sport. There are also Rally-FrEe competitions. These are very much like Rally at AKC shows, where they have signs that you and your dog have to follow and perform, but incorporate Freestyle Dance. But I prefer Musical Freestyle, sometimes also called Freestyle Dance. You pick a piece of music and you perform as a team with your dog to that music.

Although you are encouraged to be creative and the sky's the limit, there is a score sheet with scores ranging from 1 to 100. There are two main categories of judging: training comprises 60% of the score and choreography comprises 40%. The detailed breakdowns are "content and execution, creativity and difficulty, quality of teamwork and engagement, musicality and interpretation, transitions, flow, and use of performance area." As is the case in most dog show events, judging is partially subjective, so I would recommend that you just have the time of your life and dance away, without worrying about how you will be evaluated. I did!

Magic and I actually have not taken a freestyle dance class *per se*. She loves to work and I love to play, so throughout the years, we have worked out many moves which I discovered I could incorporate into a dance. The "formal" training classes for obedience and rally have really helped. I received a notice about a professional videotaping session for freestyle dance, so we rehearsed for about a month and away we went!

Here is the link to the video of the routine we worked out to the theme of Pink Panther:

<https://paulali.smugmug.com/Prof-taping-of-freestyle-dance/>.

I am self-taught only because there are no classes of this type in my area. Occasionally you might come across a workshop here and there. I'm not able to make a recommendation, since there is no regular training that I am aware of.

DMWYD (Do More With Your Dog; web address is <http://www.domorewithyourdog.com>) offers certifications for trick dog titles. AKC is beginning to recognize these titles, as well as adding a performance title called TKP (AKC Trick Dog Performer). Many of the "tricks" that the dog must perform to earn the trick dog titles can be used to build foundations for Freestyle Dance. Here are some examples: circle right, circle left, head down, leg weave, bow, back up, go to your place, crawl, high five.

Basically, if you and your dog love to play around, and you have taught him/her some tricks, I am certain you will be able to work out a routine to a piece of music that you like and enter a Musical Freestyle competition.

Freestyle Dance is a blast! Try it! You'll like it!



Some of Paula's and Magic's Freestyle Moves

Brags!

Welcome to the maiden voyage of our new Brags section! It is our intent to make this a page for all members to share their noteworthy and entertaining experiences with their dogs. These can be individual successes, mischievous antics, or competitive recognition. The Board will be sending out an email with information on how to submit your “brags” prior to the next issue. We strongly encourage creativity (on the dog’s part or the owners)! A few examples of what we have in mind are shown here.



Kathy Souza’s Rivah (Boardwalk River to Sealsle), owner handled, won Winners Bitch for her first point then Best Puppy under Ed Biven at the Chief Solano show April 10. Rivah went on to achieve a Puppy Working Group 4. All this at her very first show! So much more fun than in September when, while showing Jack under Judge Biven, Kathy pulled a hamstring.

Kathy and Jack (Sealsle Captain Jack Sparrow) teamed up to compete in Nose Work 3 in Rancho Cucamonga. The first element was Vehicles and they got a “no” right away. Determined to make the rest of the day fun and rewarding, they regrouped. It worked! Jack found all the rest of the hides and came in second place in Interiors. Kathy is so proud of her brown boy!

Also in Nose Work, Kathy Souza’s Dory (Sealsle El Pescador) earned his L2 Interior title in Burien, WA on May 22.

Just got my Bronze Grand Championship and finished off my Conformation career with a Group placement. I am really going to miss working with Conor McFadden who helped me to perform my very best in the ring. Now I am investigating teeters for Agility. Did you know that they tip down with quite a bang? You really have to be careful with them! But hey, anything that will get my humans, Frank and Margaret Dietrich, to offer a treat is worth exploring. Here I am being mischievous with a spool of ribbon and my friend Rainha. Toby (Chien D’Eau Tobias de Remis)



Julie Rust reports that 7-week-old “blue boy” has conquered the wobbly board, and as long as the treats hold out his sister “pink girl” is happy to walk the full length of the dog (puppy) walk and return. Puppies are eager to learn at this age!



Meet Our New Members

New Associate Members

Gilbert Mak (Olympia, WA) Gilbert and Ruby Jade, a 3 year old D'Aqua PWD, are moving from Olympia to the Monterey Bay area for Gilbert to attend graduate school. Ruby Jade goes by many pet names: Ru-ster, RuRu, Ru Ru Train, and wet nose alarm clock to name a few. She is very friendly and must greet every person, cat, dog, alpaca, lion etc. One of her favorite activities is running around and being chased by kids. Her other favorite activity is cuddling. She has the biggest smile when she and Gilbert start the day with her getting belly rubs and scratches. To date Ru has not participated in trials, but she performs her most important duties of being Gilbert's best friend and making sure he gets up promptly in the morning superbly. When they get to Monterey Ru looks forward to rolling in the sand on the Carmel beach, exploring unbeaten paths and learning about various activities such as water work, obedience, dock diving, nose work, play days, and pet activities.



Jon and Suzanne Widdowson (Los Gatos) Jon and Suzanne's Roseknoll dog is 5 years old and they are interested in agility, water work, nose work, and barn hunt.

New Regular Members

Kathy and Russ Weinberg (Pleasanton) Kathy and Russ and their three PWDs have been active in a variety of conformation and performance activities. Shown here with Kathy are Molly (Alto Mare n'Topnotch Wish Upon a Star), Ringo (GCH CH Chien d'Eau Ringo Returns de Remis THDN CGC) and Baxter (CH Chien d'Eau Baxter de Remis BN RN NAP THDN CGC). Kathy and Baxter are doing agility and are planning to participate in water work and pursue additional titles this summer. Baxter and Russ have made over 25 visits to a local elementary school in Pleasanton as a registered TDI team. Ringo is working with Kathy to earn his RN and BN and they have joined Russ and Baxter recently at the elementary school for reading with students on Friday mornings.



*Kathy with Molly, Ringo
and Baxter*



Russ with Molly

[More on next page...](#)

New Members, continued

More New Regular Members

Patrick Villarreal and Emily Fox-Villarreal (Menlo Park) Siena (Aviators Deja Vu All Over Again). Siena is a true working dog! Together she and the Villarreals enjoy conformation, agility, and water work. She is the ultimate companion and family friend.



Janet and George Rathmell (Sea Ranch) The picture shows 3 PWDs representing 3 generations. In the center is “Belle” Rathmell (CH Aviators Isabelle de Falaise), 13½ years old. At the left of the picture is Belle’s daughter, “Sofie” Goheen (Aviators Petite Sirah), 12½ years old. On the right is Belle’s granddaughter “Tosca” Rathmell (CH Aviators Bel Canto de Falaise), 10½ years old. The Rathmells and their dogs are now retired and living at The Sea Ranch where they enjoy walks in the forest and on the beach, as well as swimming at the “hot spot” on the Gualala River. Sofie spends six months each year in France with her family, the Goheens. These dogs are their owners’ treasured companions.

Returning Members

Galina Colbert (Palo Alto) Galina is a returning associate member. She has a one year old Chien D’Eau pup and is interested in water work and pet activities.

In Loving Memory, Across the Rainbow Bridge

LADYBUG

GCHS CH Aviators Luck Be A Lady

March 17, 2006 – December, 2016

Owned and loved by Mike and Cathy Dugan

By Michael Dugan, cathydugan@comcast.net

Born on St. Patrick's Day (a good omen) in 2006, Grand Champion Ladybug demanded attention almost immediately. Although Cathy and Mike Dugan had operated Aviator Kennel for years, it was rare that a four-week old puppy attracted Cathy's eye so quickly. Ladybug was not to be denied.

Ladybug was shown by Cathy in the Bred by Exhibitor class and won her first Major at the Southern California PWD Specialty when she was seven months old. She finished her championship with BOS over specials at the Northern California Specialty at 18 months. She was already demonstrating her unusual power and effortless drive in the ring.

In 2008, Ladybug campaigned on the East Coast and won her first group placement, a Group One, under Judge Houston Clark when she was less than two years old. She won her first Best in Show under Judge Ken McDermott, May 10, 2008. Ladybug placed as the #2 PWD in 2008 to CH Pouch Cove's Monkey See Monkey Do on the last show of the last day of 2008, trailing by only 24 breed points.

In 2009-2011, Ladybug campaigned on the West Coast and her career took off immediately. Against the toughest Working Dog Group in the country, Ladybug was able to become a dominant competitor for Portuguese Water Dogs and the Working Group. In her career she won over 300 Best of Breeds and won that title 80% of the time in competition. She won 20 Best in Shows, 88 Group 1s, and 170 Group placements. She set all-time records for every category of conformation competition for female PWDs.

In 2010, she finished as the #3 Working Dog, #15 Dog All-Breeds and was the #1 Portuguese Water Dog, All Systems in 2009-2010. At the end of January, 2011, she was the #1 Working Dog and #7 Dog All-Breeds. In the month before Westminster, Ladybug won Group 1 at Eukanuba as well as two Best in Shows; this was a great way to come into the Garden.

Among her outstanding wins were:

- Westminster: Group 1, 2011; Group 3, 2010; and Best of Breed 2009, 2010 and 2011.
- AKC/Eukanuba National Championship: Group 1, 2010.
- Best of Breed, PWDCA National Specialty, 2010.
- Best of Breed, Breeder's Showcase, 2009; Best of Opposite, Breeder's Showcase, 2010.

For any breeder, the goal is to produce consistent, outstanding dogs that exemplify breed standards with excellent temperaments along with competitive drive. We are committed to health testing and have conducted Health Clinics at dog shows for many years. Since its beginning in 1987, Aviator Kennel has been honored to have produced over 110 PWD champions and multiple top ten dogs. Among these, Ladybug is truly the dog of a lifetime. Many judges have described her as the epitome of what a Portuguese Water Dog should be; powerful yet feminine, with a reach and drive full of power and grace, and an enthusiastic love for the ring.

After the 2011 Westminster show, Ladybug came back home to Aviator Kennel in the Sierra Foothills for her next great adventure. In the years that followed she produced multiple champions and #1 PWDs. She crossed the Rainbow Bridge in December, 2016 — we are still grieving the loss of this wonderful and generous friend. May she rest in peace.



In Loving Memory, Across the Rainbow Bridge

McCLOUD

Aviators McCloud Out Loud

2002 – 2016

Owned and loved by Mike and Cathy Dugan

By Mike and Cathy Dugan

Aviators McCloud Out Loud passed over the Rainbow Bridge in 2016 at age 14. He was born a true "silver" and kept that color his whole life, as well as the tail and neck rings from old PWD genes. McCloud was a big boy, 70 pounds, and never competed in competition. Instead he was one of the original cancer-detection dogs used for research in 2005-2006. After that he went to South Africa for two years doing land mine detection research with his handler. He came back to our kennel, safe and sound, and ran as Anchor's lieutenant. McCloud was one of the happiest and most comical PWDs we ever had, and we grieve for him every day.



FANNY

Miraval Fandango Dulce RA CGC NW1

August 18, 2002 – March 8, 2017

Owned and loved by Sue Nelson

By Sue Nelson

Fanny was aging, 14 and a half, and getting more and more confused about the world around her, so I knew for some time that I would have to let her go soon. She came to me at 13 weeks as a shy and fearful puppy, but we did a lot of work to overcome most of that and she relied on her big brother Noah for guidance and protection until he died. After Noah's death Fanny and I embarked on her oft-interrupted Nosework journey. It was amazing to me how she grew in confidence and self-assurance and how we bonded together so much more closely working together as a team (as we had never done in water!). I'm very proud that she earned her NW1 title at age 12.



JONAH

Tanaki's Miyake Jonah 'N Black RN CGCA NW3

March 5, 2006 – April 25, 2017

Owned and loved by Sue Nelson

By Sue Nelson

Jonah was the dog of my heart and losing him has been heartbreaking. He was my constant shadow and my best bud. He earned his CGCA and NW3 titles last year and he just loved Nosework. It was so much fun to watch him search and to see how proud of himself he was when he found a hide and let me know. I can't say enough about Nosework and how it strengthens the relationship between you and your dog. Jonah was diagnosed with prostate cancer in early 2017. I can't sing the praises of the vets and staff at UC Davis enough. I will miss him always.

The last few months have been very hard for me. Losing my two best friends within weeks of each other has been devastating.



In Loving Memory, Across the Rainbow Bridge

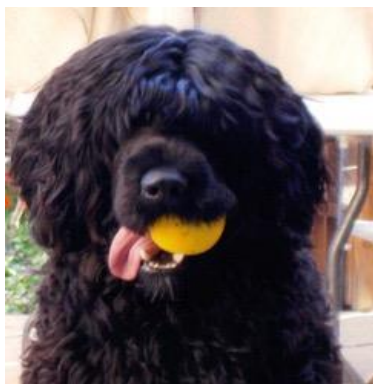
GUS

CH MACH2 Mariner NCO Gusto CDX RE MXS MJS MXF CWDX VER GROM

October 8, 2005 – March 4, 2017

Owned and loved by Carl and Susan Craig

By Carl and Susan Craig



Gus was our “one in a million” dog. From the start, he was everything we could ask for in a companion. Even-tempered and obedient, even as a puppy you never had to tell him ‘no’ twice when he got into something he shouldn’t. Combined with those traits was an intense desire to work. Whatever you wanted to teach him, he was an avid student. Eager and willing to learn everything, he was a joy to train. He didn’t get tired or lose interest; he approached all activities with the same enthusiasm. So, we did all we could—Water, Agility, Obedience, Rally. Amazingly, he also did well in the conformation ring. He was the Reserve Winners Dog (out of the Open Class!) at the Ventura National Specialty (2007) and followed that up the next month with a BOW at our Regional Specialty. But he didn’t really see a purpose to running in circles around a ring. He wanted a challenge.

His laser focus helped him excel at so many performance venues. We have great memories of his successes, from his two MACH titles and the wonderful experience of competing at the AKC National Agility Championship to his multiple Versatility titles in Water. Gus always gave us 110%. We were very honored that Gus and Carl were acknowledged by our club with the STAR Lifetime Achievement Award at this year’s Annual Meeting in January.

Unfortunately, shoulder problems forced him to retire from the performance ring two years ago, but he still enjoyed swimming at water practice and in our backyard.

Gus’s competitive nature shined through always; he was still outplaying and outhustling our other PWD in a game of fetch up to his final days.

We miss him terribly, but are grateful for the years we shared with him.



When club members submit information about the death of their pet to Carole Corbett, Corresponding Secretary, at carolecorbett@comcast.net, the club will make a donation in the dog’s memory to the Portuguese Water Dog Foundation and the dog will be remembered in the next newsletter. Please supply the following information: the dog’s AKC registration number, the dog’s call name, the dog’s registered name and any titles earned, the birthdate, date of death, and the cause of death. We will also print a picture of your pet and a brief remembrance if submitted.