



# WAVIES & CURLIES

Newsletter of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of Northern California

APRIL 2021

## *A Message from the President*

Hello, and welcome to the first issue of the Wavies and Curlies for 2021. Hard to believe the year is nearly a quarter of the way over. But the good news is we are inching closer to getting back to some degree of normalcy after a torturous 2020.

Before we get into the view ahead, I wish to thank all those who contributed to the club last year, including those who served on the Board or committees, navigating the challenges of a year of unknowns. We express much gratitude to Ann Gaskell for having served four years as Club President. And, of course, many thanks go to all the members who stuck with us despite not having a lot of our usual activities.

Despite the difficulties of last year, it was not without successes. The Wavies & Curlies published three very nice editions – thank you Margaret, Frank and the rest of the committee. The website continued to improve, including the addition of a new Members Only section – thank you Sherry. A very successful Agility trial came together late in the year and produced \$3095 in revenue for the club – thank you Kathy. We held our Annual Meeting for the first time on Zoom, which went mostly well, with only one misstep (mine). Fortunately, it was correctable. The club ended the year on solid financial footing, positioned well for what comes next.

Turning then, to this year, the Board devoted part of its March meeting to discussing goals and priorities for upcoming months. High on everyone's list is getting together for at least some of the activities we all enjoy. We're not quite sure yet what the Covid restrictions will allow, or when, but we will keep you posted. Watch the website, emails, and social media posts for more details.

We're also focusing efforts on building membership. A key part of that is finding ways to engage people on things they enjoy. You will notice some short surveys in several places that ask for your input on what those things are. The club depends on volunteers, too, so please let us know in what ways you'd be willing to help. Feel free to contact any Board member with ideas and suggestions.

Very importantly, we're hopeful we'll be able to hold our Regional Specialty as planned on November 12<sup>th</sup> in Napa, the weekend following Woofstock, which has been moved to November. We're in need of a few people to help chair that event. If you or someone you know might be interested, please contact any Board member.



*Bill with 2-month-old Axel,  
bringing him home from Manhattan*

Speaking of membership, it's that time of year when we ask you to renew yours. If you've already done so, thank you. If you haven't yet, please take a few minutes to pop onto the website at <https://pwcnc.org/club-info/membership-2/membership-renewal/>.

We experienced some obstacles earlier this year when some nasty malware found its way to our site. But that's been cleared up now, and we're back in business.

Lastly, I thank the incoming Board, committee members, and volunteers, who have graciously agreed to give up some of their valuable time and energy to help the club. We have a terrific group of people, all committed to working together toward the betterment of the Club.

Until next time,  
Bill Waters

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and Upcoming Events*

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### Have you forgotten to renew your membership?

It's not too late —yet! Your current membership ends on April 30.

Although we had some trouble with the website actually being able to complete the payment transaction, happily that is behind us. The website will now accept your payment for renewal, so head on over to <http://pwdcnc.org/club-info/membership-2/membership-renewal> and take care of this!

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Linda Birdwell, Membership Chair, at [macbird2@charter.net](mailto:macbird2@charter.net).

## Mark Your Calendar for These Exciting Upcoming Events!

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, all club events may be altered, rescheduled, or canceled. Members will be notified of changes via email and/or postings on the calendar on the Club website:

<https://pwdcnc.org/events-calendar>

**Thursday-Sunday, November 4-7, 2021**  
**Solano County Fairgrounds, Vallejo**

**Woofstock Dog Shows**

PWDCNC Supported Entry Saturday, November 6

**Friday, November 12**

**Napa Valley Expo, Napa**

**PWDCNC 2021 Regional Specialty**

Conformation, Sweeps, Obedience/Rally trials,  
Other events TBD

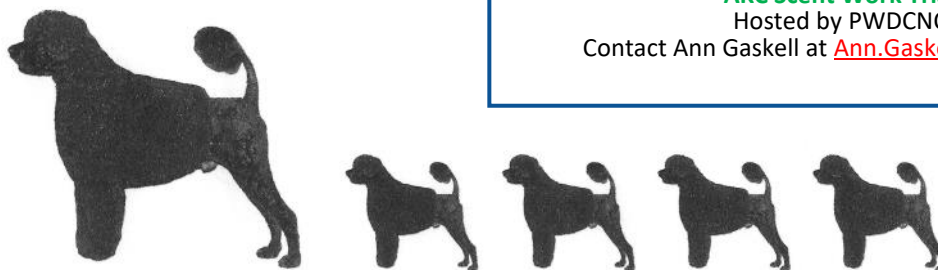
**Sunday, December 12**

**Dream Big Training Facility, Lodi**

**AKC Scent Work Trial**

Hosted by PWDCNC

Contact Ann Gaskell at [Ann.Gaskell@gmail.com](mailto:Ann.Gaskell@gmail.com)



## **CA Assembly Bill AB 702 Seriously Impacts Responsible Dog Breeders Your Prompt Attention is Needed**

On February 16, 2021, an onerous bill was introduced in the California Assembly to regulate all individuals who breed a dog in the state. What's involved?

- A permit would be required for any person who owns, possesses, or harbors an unaltered dog or cat for the purpose of breeding. It is assumed this would include stud dogs and dogs being kept temporarily for breeding.
- When applying for a breeder permit, an applicant must provide extensive information, including:
  - “A complete description of the nature and extent of the breeding to be conducted,” although it is unclear what this would entail.
  - A statement that the applicant owns the dogs and that there are no other owners. If the applicant is not the owner, they must have written statements from the owners providing authorization to breed the dogs. It is assumed this would also apply to co-ownership situations.
  - Evidence that the dam to be bred is between two and seven years of age. AKC opposes this arbitrary provision, as the appropriate age for breeding can vary widely between breeds and individual dogs.
  - Any other information required by the jurisdiction issuing the permit. This provides for more onerous and unnecessary regulations on breeders that could vary in each jurisdiction.
- In addition to the application, a breeder must provide “sufficient proof” (as defined by each jurisdiction) of such items as:
  - A local business license and federal and state tax number. This is inappropriate for hobbyists raising animals in their private home, particularly those who breed only an occasional litter.
  - Proof of an adequate shelter, including access to an enclosed yard or other open outdoor space. It is unclear how this would be enforced in urban areas.
  - Proof that no offspring have been sold until they are 8 weeks old and have been vaccinated against “common diseases.” It is unclear if this would include vaccines which are not given at 8 weeks of age.

For more information and to find out how you can help, please click the button on the PWDCNC home page [pwdcnc.org](http://pwdcnc.org). This will reach a page that provides [additional information about the Bill](#) as well as a [draft letter and talking points](#) to help you communicate with your Assembly Member.

### ***If you hear of PWDs that have recently crossed the Rainbow Bridge, please notify our new Corresponding Secretary, Don Niemann***

If you are aware of a Club member's PWD that recently has crossed the Rainbow Bridge, please inform Don Niemann, Corresponding Secretary, at [ddniemann77@gmail.com](mailto:ddniemann77@gmail.com), so that the Club can express condolences and memorialize the dog through a donation to the PWD Foundation. If the club member wishes, the dog will be remembered in a future issue of this newsletter. Remembrances can be as brief as the dog's call name, date of birth and date of death, or a longer format to include registered name, titles earned, date of birth, date of death, and any other information the owner would like to include. Photos of the pet are always appreciated.



## *An Appreciation of Ann Gaskell for her Service to the Club*

*By Casey Ingram for the PWDCNC*

The PWDCNC extends our heartfelt gratitude to Ann Gaskell for her role as the Club's president over the past four years. Her dedication to the PWDCNC and enthusiasm for the PWD breed made our Club warm and welcoming, especially for those new to the breed, or to dog sports in general. Certainly, Ann's work with her special boy Norman not only set the bar for all of us, but her genuine encouragement made many of us realize that anything is possible if you work hard and take joy in your work. We look forward to watching great things with her and Teddy.

Ann set a great tone for our Board and Boards of the future, simply leading by example. Putting the interests of the Club first and foremost via an amazing work ethic, tenacity, and dedication helped our Club remain intact and in remarkably good condition even given the events (or non-events) of 2020! Her ability to innovate and remain upbeat during this strange year was a critical component of keeping things on a positive track.

Ann's support, advice, and encouragement were appreciated in all of the Club's events and activities, including this newsletter.

Last but certainly not least, Ann's kindness and genuine regard for others cannot be understated. She consistently went out of her way to thank others for their contributions, no matter how seemingly minor. We can all identify with the wonderful feeling of being recognized!

As a special thank you gift from the Club, Bill Waters commissioned acclaimed French Canadian artist Patrick Larrivée to paint a portrait of Ann's wonderful late teammate, Norman (see below). Ann, we hope the portrait imparts at least some of the good feelings you gave us during your tenure as our leader.

We look forward to your continuing Board of Directors role as Immediate Past President, as well as all of your other roles in organizing and encouraging the Club's various activities.

Thank you again, Ann, for all you have contributed to the Club.



**NORMAN**

Cortereal Greased Lightning CDX GO RM2 RAE8 SWE SCAE SBAE SINE SENE SCM SHDN THD RATO CGCA TKP WWD

Acrylic painting by Patrick Larrivée, [patricklarrivee.com](http://patricklarrivee.com)



# 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting

*By Casey Ingram*

The 2021 PWDCNC Annual Meeting was held on Sunday, February 28, 2021. Due to Covid-19 restrictions the meeting was held virtually, via ZOOM. In spite of the newness of a fully virtual Annual Meeting, it was still attended by 30 members! Although it was nice to “see” everyone, I think we all agree the “in person” contact was missed.

The meeting opened with a wonderful slideshow, “The Dogs of Lockdown 2020,” put together by Bill Waters. This presentation certainly captured some of our canine partners in crime at their devious and comical best. Thanks to all who contributed photos, and to Bill for the fitting captions. You can view the presentation in the [Antics, Adventures, and Awards](#) section of this newsletter, beginning on page [15](#).

Ann Gaskell opened the meeting with a brief discussion of the challenges of the past Covid-19 year and how, in spite of them, the Club has continued in a positive direction. She mentioned that one Club-sponsored event, the November Agility trials at Rancho Murieta, was able to occur. She has hopes that Club-sponsored events will begin resuming as we go forward in 2021, albeit with some date and venue changes, which will depend on the home club hosting the event. She encouraged everyone to check the calendar on our Club website for updates. She noted that the website was updated this past year, thanks to the tenacious efforts of Sherry Hanen, with assistance from an outside service. As with every great venture, there were some “rough spots,” but most have been ironed out. It is however, a work in progress. Thank you everyone for your ongoing patience!

Other positives of 2020 were the release of three excellent Wavies and Curlies editions, a webinar featuring Dr. Jean Dobbs that was offered free to members (which is now available on the website), and a robust listing on the website of links for “Things You Can Do At Home With Your Dog” (see also the [last page](#) of this newsletter).

Ann went on to thank the 2020 Board Members and Chairs and welcome the new Board. As no nominations were received during the General Membership meeting in January, the new Board was elected via acclamation. The 2021-2022 Board of Directors is:

President	Bill Waters
Vice President	Becky Morin
Treasurer	Janis Welsh
Corresponding Secretary	Don Niemann
Recording Secretary	Cathy Lydon
Director (First of Two Year Term)	Gail Browne-McDonald
Director (First of Two Year Term)	Kathy Souza
Director (Second of Two Year Term)	Dominick Amadeo
Director (Second of Two Year Term)	Julie Conger
Immediate Past President	Ann Gaskell

Next on the agenda was a very touching Rainbow Bridge presentation, featuring 11 dogs that had passed since the previous year’s Annual Meeting. Janis Welsh did a beautiful job in putting it together.

Incoming President Bill Waters continued the meeting with a thank you to Ann and the outgoing Board, as well as the current Chairs. As Bill put it, “Many of you have no idea just how much goes on behind the scenes for the finished product. Many thanks to our volunteers.” Bill went on to thank Casey Ingram, Janis Welsh, and Carol Irving for their assistance with the 2021 meeting and additionally thanked Sherry Hanen for her tireless efforts on the website.

Bill shared that the Board of Directors Nominating Committee for 2022-2023 would be comprised of Mike McCallum, Sherry Hanen, and Casey Ingram. A voting poll was completed with 26/26 affirmative votes.

Next on the agenda was the list of the new titleholders for 2020. Unlike previous years, and due to the virtual format, the certificates will be mailed rather than awarded at the meeting. Congratulations to all of the new 2020 titleholders! All of these, plus some later entries, can be found in [Antics, Adventures, and Awards](#) on page [18](#).

The STAR Awards were presented by Cathy Lydon and Karen D’Augusta. Due to Covid-19 restrictions and a lack of events, the Annual STAR award was not presented for 2020. The 2020 Lifetime STAR award was presented to Elinor and Red Cullen and their dog Zorro. See the next page for photos of the winning team.

The meeting was adjourned shortly after.

**WE HOPE TO SEE EVERYONE IN PERSON FOR THE 2022 ANNUAL MEETING!**

Take care and stay well.

## Congratulations to the 2020 STAR Lifetime Award Winners! Elinor and Red Cullen and Zorro

### THE AWARD



*Lifetime Award*



*STAR Trophy*

### THE WINNERS



*Elinor and Red Cullen*

### THE PRESENTERS



*Karen D'Augusta and Cathy Lydon*



*Elinor Cullen and Zorro*

Recent photo of Elinor and Zorro provided by the Cullens; the others are from the 2019 and 2020 Annual Meetings.

# 2020 Agility Trial at Rancho Murieta

By Frank Dietrich

One of the most prominent Agility events in California is the three-day all-breed trial sponsored by the PWDCNC, held every November at the Murieta Equestrian Center. The most recent trial, held on November 21 – 23, 2020, was remarkable because it was the only event of any kind that the club was able to hold during 2020 after the Annual Meeting, due to the ongoing pandemic. Lorie Abbott's Abba Dogs did an outstanding job as trial secretary and organizer, providing a safe and welcoming environment for the trial.

Seven of our club members exhibited their dogs during the event. Other members that contributed their services toward having a successful event were Ron and Barb Avila (rings and timers) and Kathy Weinberg (PWD Awards). The Judges were Jeff Ipser and Carol Curtiss. There were 1031 registered entries in the four main trial categories:

362	STD (Agility Standard)
381	JWW (Jumpers with Weaves)
182	FAST (Fifteen and Send Time)
106	T2B (Time 2 Beat)

These categories are divided into classes at various levels of expertise. Also, there is an additional, parallel set of "Preferred"

categories to accommodate dogs with special needs; these are designated by the prefix "P". An excellent, though somewhat dated, primer on the essentials of agility is available on the AKC website [here](#), and a full description may be found in the AKC Agility manual [here](#).

The table on the next page lists the qualifying scores obtained by PWDs. The full set of results is currently available on the Abba Dogs website [here](#).

Several PWDs obtained titles at the trial. They included Jenna Bullis's Keeva (Excellent FAST), and Bobbi (Open FAST). Meg O'Hair earned a title with Surfer (Novice PJWW), and two with Sailor (Open PJWW and Novice PFAST).

In addition to the 3 titles, Meg's Sailor received High in Trial — an award offered by the PWDCNC. According to Agility Chair Kathy Weinberg, "High in Trial is specific to PWDs entered. It is a bit complicated, but basically boils down to points being given for scores in each run that qualifies. Included in the calculation is the level of difficulty, *e.g.*, Novice gets fewer points than Masters. We typically only offer high in trial at the November trial, and it is a cumulative score for the first two days of the trial." Congratulations to Meg and Sailor for winning this very special award!



Meg O'Hair with Sailor and her awards, including High in Trial



Meg's PWDs Surfer (L) and Sailor (R) with some of their ribbons and rosettes

[Table of qualifiers on next page ...](#)



## *Congratulations to the PWD Qualifiers at the 2020 Rancho Murieta Agility Trial!*

Day	Type	Class	Height	Place	Points	Time (sec)
<b>Jenna Bullis with Bobbi</b>						
Saturday	FAST	Open	20"	2	55	22.93
Monday	FAST	Open	20"	2	55	34.39
<b>Jenna Bullis with Keeva</b>						
Saturday	FAST	Excellent	20"	3	65	24.95
Sunday	STD	Excellent	20"	1	100	49.39
<b>Carl Craig with Beau</b>						
Monday	FAST	Open	20"	1	73	26.38
<b>Leslie Holt wiith Marcus</b>						
Sunday	JWW	Master	20"	Q	100	38.87
Sunday	T2B		20"	Q	5	38.29
<b>Margaret Majua with Rio</b>						
Sunday	STD	Master	20"	Q	100	52.07
<b>Margaret O'Hair with Sailor</b>						
Sunday	PFAST	Novice	16"	1	56	27.26
Saturday	PJWW	Open	16"	1	100	44.60
Sunday	PJWW	Open	16"	1	90	46.00
Monday	PJWW	Open	16"	1	90	51.57
Sunday	PSTD	Open	16"	1	100	61.31
Monday	PSTD	Open	16"	1	100	58.84
<b>Margaret O'Hair with Surfer</b>						
Sunday	PJWW	Novice	16"	1	85	50.59



## 2021 Officers and Board of Directors

March 1, 2021 — February 28, 2022

PRESIDENT: Bill Waters

VICE PRESIDENT: Rebecca Morin

TREASURER: Janis Welsh

RECORDING SECRETARY: Cathy Lydon

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY: Don Niemann

DIRECTORS:

Gail Browne-McDonald, Kathy Souza, Julie Conger,  
Dominick Amadeo, Ann Gaskell (Past President)

## Club Committee Chairs

BREEDER REFERRAL: Linda Kelly

COMMUNICATIONS: Cathy Lydon

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Mike McCallum,  
Sherry Hanen, Casey Ingram

WATER EQUIPMENT MANAGER: Carl Craig

HEALTH AND EDUCATION: Casey Ingram  
*Co-Chairs:* Becky Morin, Margaret Dietrich

TREASURE CHEST (PWDCNC Store): open

HISTORIAN: open

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP: Ally Lantis

MEMBERSHIP: Linda Birdwell

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: Carole Corbett

PROGRAMS: Ann Gaskell

REGIONAL CLUB CONTACT: Don Niemann

REGIONAL SPECIALTY: open

RESCUE AND RELOCATION: Julie Conger

WEBSITE COORDINATOR: Sherry Hanen

## Activity/Performance Chairs

AGILITY: Kathy Weinberg

CONFORMATION: Becky Morin

OBEDIENCE & RALLY: Ann Gaskell  
*Co-Chair:* Anne Paterson

SCENT WORK: Kathy Souza

WATER WORK: Kathy Souza

## STAR Award

CONTACT: Karen D'Augusta

Information on this award available on the website at  
<https://pwdcnc.org/club-info/star-award>.

## Wavies & Curlies

EDITORIAL BOARD: Casey Ingram, Carol Irving,  
Bill Waters, Frank and Margaret Dietrich

ADVISORY BOARD: Elinor Cullen,  
Ann Gaskell, Sherry Hanen, Paula Li,  
Elaine Rasmussen, Kathy Souza

*We would appreciate your comments and  
suggestions. Please email us at*  
[wceditor@pwdcnc.org](mailto:wceditor@pwdcnc.org).

*To reach any of the Club personnel, consult the  
PWDCNC Membership Directory, now available to  
members on the website, or send email to any board  
member for forwarding.*

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



## A Bit More Breed History

### PWD Pioneers: Sonja and Jim Santos

By Margaret Dietrich

Our brief history of PWDs coming to Northern California needs to include a reference to Sonja and Jim Santos, who bought their first PWD, Fado, in 1962 from the Houghtons in New York. Sonja told the New York Times reporter [1] in 1983 that she thought the total population when they got Fado was approximately 8 in the United States, 1 in the Lisbon zoo, and 14 others spread about. By 1983 she estimated their population had increased to about 800 in the U.S., approximately 40 to 50 in Portugal, 25 in Italy, and a few in Germany, England, and Norway. Fado convinced Sonja that the breed was so special it needed to be preserved. Jim and Sonja imported two bitches in 1975 and 1976 [2]. The first one was black, Zingara, and the second one was brown, Alvorada de Alvalade from Dr. Cabral and the Alvalade Kennel. The Santos kennel was called do Mar. They worked hard to preserve a deep brown color and white markings as well as to eradicate hip dysplasia. Kathryn Braund commented that the Santoses were cautious breeders who bred nicely balanced dogs. Several of our club members got to know Sonja and Jim. Becky Morin purchased her third PWD, Corrie, from them in 1990. Judy Seibert gives them credit for being her mentor and thereby becoming close friends. The Santoses paid a visit to Judy and her husband, Dick, in 1995, who took the Santoses to Glacier and Yellowstone National Parks. Judy recalls that "being died in the wool New Yorkers, they were totally overwhelmed by the parks." Linda Kelly has fond memories of attending a supported-entry show in Arizona where



she met Jim and Sonja, who had come to see Janis Watts, but since Janis's friend Mart was in the hospital with a serious heart attack, she and Judy Seibert had the great pleasure of showing them around the Phoenix area. Linda also commented on the Santoses attending a regional show in Oregon and how much knowledge she gained from talking with them. Sonja has not been involved breeding PWDs for 20 years, because of ill health.

Sonja was a founding member of PWDCA, served as a Director several years, and also as Vice President for several years. She audited the registry, was the assistant foreign registrar, and wrote the PWDCA policy book.

[1] Lawrence Van Gelder, *The New York Times*, "Long Islanders rescuing a Rare Breed," Aug. 21, 1983

[2] K. Braund and D. Miller, *The Complete Portuguese Water Dog*, pp 103-105.

### Cheryl Smith Remembers the Early Days of Agility

PWDs have developed a lot since the inception of the PWDNC in 1992. They are now a much healthier and more numerous breed. But many dog sports have also evolved over this nearly 30-year period. One of these is Agility. The first U.S. Dog Agility Association (USDAA) competition was in Houston, Texas, on November 8, 1986. The concept of an obstacle course for dogs was developed in 1977 at the Crufts dog show when sponsors wanted to entertain the audience between major events. The course was influenced by the equine jumpers' courses. Cheryl Smith recalls the PWD introduction to Agility: "As for Agility, here is what I remember. At the 1994 PWDCA National Specialty in San Rafael, we were the second AKC club to offer Agility. It was still very new to many of us. But we had a ton of fun trying to compete. Most of us had not done much training at that time, so the runs were rather humorous. I remember one dog running to the top of the A Frame and stopping to look at everyone; this brought a roar from the crowd. A few ran out

of the ring to the spouse of the competitor. We were still such a new club that we had fun with our mistakes. I do not think we started to offer our own agility trials until much later. I remember taking training lessons from Karen D'Augusta when she lived in Campbell. Some of the obstacles used then are not used now."



## Charter Member Interview with Judy Archambeau



*Judy and Paul with Breeze*

The show world of animals started for my husband Paul and me with our breeding and showing Arabian horses and showing a Great Dane. After trail riding as a youth, I learned to ride English style and loved showing our horse in English Pleasure classes. Paul showed him in Buggy classes. Paul showed Tasha, our blue Great Dane, who was the first Great Dane in the United States to earn a Utility title. When our second Great Dane Meghan died, I went to the Sonoma County Dog Show in Santa Rosa to see what our options would be to get our next Great Dane. Roaming the grounds was familiar because of the many times we had showed horses there. I noticed a man leading a beautiful Great Dane, as well as another dog. I struck up a conversation with him about his Great Dane and when I was about to leave asked him about his other dog, thinking it was possibly a rescue. He explained that it was a Portuguese Water Dog, and related information about this new breed. He sparked my interest in the breed, and I spent a year researching PWDs and convincing Paul we should get one. We decided to look for a black and white one. We located some nearby breeders including Lorraine Carver, her daughter Lisa Hubbard, and Becky Morin, but none of them had a parti-colored pup. Lisa gave me copies of the Courier, and through that we found Cindy McCullough and the Mariner Kennel in Houston, Texas [1]. In 1990 we bought a pet quality pup named Monte from Cindy. He turned out to be a very calm dog; so calm, that other PWD owners teased us about him at training events. "Was he *really* a PWD?"

We really enjoyed the dog shows. They offered the same camaraderie we had experienced at the horse shows. At the early agility matches a lot of us chipped in to set up the courses. Monte sold us on Portuguese Water Dogs. We liked his size, appearance, intelligence, mischievous attitude, and friendly temperament, as well as the fact that he did not shed. In 1995 Lisa Hubbard called to say "I have your puppy," so BISS INT'L & AM Ch Alto Mare Rainha Marcella 2x AOM ROM CD OA NA JWD TDI (Marcy) came to live with us [2]. We needed to get someone superb to groom and handle Marcy to advantage in conformation. That is how we came to know Sally George [3], who handled her. Marcy was Best of Breed at the first PWDCNC Regional Specialty in 2002. In addition to conformation, Marcy also completed a beginning therapy course. At that time, the IABCA (International Dog Shows) sponsored shows in Northern

California in Vallejo, and Marcy showed there. Marcy's son Zorro achieved 100 Best of Breed awards, but Marcy won over him at a Cow Palace show. Marcy also was the first to win Best of Breed out of a Veteran class at the first PWDCNC specialty



*Marcy*



*Marcy BISS!*

show in Pleasanton. We sold one of Marcy's pups to Jean and Bob Combs and received a return puppy, Breeze, Ch Baymist Capricious Breeze BN CD RE [2], a black and white bitch. Breeze was Sweepstakes Best Veteran and Best Veteran in Specialty at the 2011 PWDCNC Regional Specialty. We remember Breeze as loving, loyal, and intelligent, as well as obedient with a strong desire to please. It is amusing in retrospect to remember the one great temptation that she could not resist. That was to run off to the horse pasture to eat and roll in the manure. Green manure on a white ruff certainly presented a grooming challenge.



*Breeze winning a BOB (L) and 1st Brood Bitch (R)*

We named our kennel Bela Vista.

The club deserves a great deal of credit for the emphasis placed on breeding practices working to identify genetic traits. Gradually DNA tests have been developed to assist in avoiding some of the significant health issues.

- [1] The Mariner Kennel website is [marinerpwws.com](http://marinerpwws.com). Cindy's book *Diving into Water Training for the Portuguese Water Dog* is still available through 4MyPWDs.
- [2] Both Marcy and Breeze were awarded Canine Good Citizenship certificates but the AKC did not enter "CGC" titles on registrations until 2013.
- [3] Sally and her husband Mark were professional handlers who were also successful breeders of several different breeds. In 1987 Sally handled a Soft Coated Wheaten Terrier that won the Terrier Group at Westminster. Sally judges Portuguese Water Dogs and grooms for some club members who live in or near Sonoma.



## Charter Member Interview with Sherry Hanen



*Sherry with Gyro*

The charter member recollections in the previous two newsletters have been so informative, and it has been fun to read the perspectives each person has on the Club's beginnings. I see the whole thing quite differently and through my personal perspective you may find the Club's origins more intricate than you had imagined.

Our first PWD came to us in the summer of 1987 from Maryanne Murray (Brinmar Kennel). Here's how it happened. I had lost my little mixed-breed love dog – he was a cockapoodlespringer that looked like a parti Miniature Poodle on long legs! He was with me from Graduate School in Hawaii to five years in Washington, DC, and then back to California; over fifteen and a half years of love! When I lost my Eli, I knew I wanted a dog smart enough to compete in Obedience work, nimble enough to enjoy romping and playing (remember there was no Agility back in the “old days”), and simply a love! I researched various breed characteristics, subscribed to dog magazines, and went to dog shows to refine my search. I had competed in obedience in Hawaii with Eli, where he was a “poi dog” – mixed breed and they had a class for poi dogs – but I knew in order to really compete, I would need a purebred dog (There was no PAL program in the “old days”!) I met Marie West at a show, and she introduced me to her PWD, Star, who kayaked with her. I was impressed. I wanted a dog that did not shed (Eli had spoiled me), and one that I could pick up and carry if necessary (Eli had a back problem in his later years, and since we had a two-story house, we needed to carry him up the stairs sometimes). I narrowed my search and the final contenders of course included PWDs. I visited a litter in San Jose, and was not impressed. One of the magazines had dog ads and I saw an ad for a litter of PWDs in Pennsylvania.

I had a work trip planned to Princeton, NJ. Since it was summer my husband Ken Jones, who was a teacher, was free and decided to accompany me as a tourist. After I finished my work on Friday, we rented a car and drove to Pennsylvania where we had arranged to meet the breeder on Saturday. We came home with a babe! Ken had packed a small carrying case and old towels inside his suitcase, just in case! I was really impressed when I learned later that the breeder, Maryanne Murray, was the PWDCA President at the time and most of the dogs on the

pedigree were noted and pictured in the PWD book (*The Complete Portuguese Water Dog*, by Kathryn Braund and Deyanne Farrell Miller) – we were in it for real, we thought! And Maryanne shared my enthusiasm for Obedience and other competitions. She had a sort of rebate program in her contract. For every AKC title earned (at either end), she gave back a portion of your purchase price – I was even more impressed now! Our first PWD was well balanced. He had titles at each end of his name.

Little did we know that PWDs are such a special breed – they need extra love, care, understanding, a sense of humor, and a TON of patience and skill! We made sure we continued going to dog shows to meet other PWD people, and soon we had a list of folks to call upon when we had questions or concerns. We began to get together at the shows to chat, share lunch, and exchange stories of our dogs' exploits and the mistakes we were making along the way. We soon realized that what we needed was a support group – perhaps a 12-step program – some way to understand and make sense of our new passion, PWDs. And that, my friends, is how our Club was founded – because we needed a support group!

There was a point in our early years when we realized that we spent a lot of time eating together and sharing stories about our dogs – we even had a T-shirt that read “An Eating and Drinking Club with a dog problem....”

In the beginning we did not have the good fortune to have available DNA tests to identify the recessive genes causing the many scourges of our breed. My first boy turned out to be a hairloss dog. Going to Obedience competitions meant I had to carry a note from a vet declaring that his skin condition was not contagious, just so I could get into the ring. He actually finished his Championship before there was any hint of his follicle abnormality. (Note: he was never bred.) Our next PWD was a girl, Miss Muffie, Queen of the Sofa! Muff was born prior to the development of a DNA test to identify dogs who were PRA carriers and lo, she developed PRA and was blind for about half of her 15 ½ years. She never missed a step (or a meal). At a time when we had two boys and Miss Muff, she proved how regal she was and never let a boy on the sofa! That earned her the Queen appellation! She also hated any ring appearance (Obedience or Conformation). We showed her at the National Specialty our Club hosted in 1994. Ken took her into the Obedience ring without having worked with her very much at all! Well, the Obedience judge was our own Karen D'Augusta. Ken very proudly walked down the ring with Muff in heel position. Once off leash while Ken walked, Muffie slipped behind him, exited the ring, and squatted to pee! He never knew it. In the same heel pattern on the way back, she exited the ring, pooped, and rejoined as if nothing had happened. At that point, Karen stopped him and explained why she had to excuse him from competition. His response: “Well, she never fouled the ring.”

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



*Sherry Hanen, continued...*

On another of Ken's forays into the world of dog competition, he decided he could show Miss Muffie in Conformation! Of course, he did not attend any of those classes either. But he wanted to give it a go, so we entered a show, and on the appointed day we packed up for the short drive to the San Mateo Expo Center. There were many PWDs entered, and Ken took a nicely coiffed Miss Muffie out where the others were gaiting their dogs for warm-up. An exceedingly kind lady came over and suggested that she would be happy to give Ken a few pointers before entering the ring. Ken, the teacher, was also a particularly good student, and he watched and listened intently. Then he tried it himself, and a bit later they went into the ring. The kind lady was Becky Morin, and she too was in the ring showing her own PWD, as were a few of her "puppy people." Ken and Muffie did not shine but they tried hard. Later in the afternoon, Becky was rounding up people to take a group photo. Ken jumped up and said he was ready. When he returned, I asked why ever in the world did he go to a photo shoot of Becky's all-related dogs? He assured me it was fine – and it was fine with Becky, although I am sure she had to explain many times why there was an interloper who photobombed their family portrait!

Then there was the 1994 National Specialty – we were a VERY young club, barely two years old. There were not many members, but most were dedicated and very hard working. A group of us went to the first ever National Specialty in New Jersey. We put on an open house sort of affair to meet the East Coast people and enlighten them about Northern California. We brought our finest ingredients to make guacamole and chips, as well as other California delicacies like artichokes. We actually brought chips on the plane; what were we thinking? That they did not have chips in New Jersey? We brought name cards for our doors to show everyone who we were and inviting them to introduce themselves! But most importantly while we were there, we got the bug! The bug to put on a National Specialty right here in Northern California! And when we got home, we started to work on it!

Several PWDCA Board members were planning to come to California in 1993, so we invited them all to a cocktail party at the hotel hosting the dog show in Santa Rosa. We pulled out all the stops – we wanted to make an impression so solid that they would have to select our Club to host the 1994 Specialty!

We were successful in getting their attention and their votes. Soon we began to pull it all together. Our big fund-raising start was when we auctioned off two PWD Christmas ornaments at the Holiday Party and earned a whole \$35. That was our initial war chest for the 1994 National Specialty – oh how things have changed!!

Our 1994 Specialty had many firsts – first Specialty on the West Coast, first AKC Agility trial west of the Mississippi – second agility trial anywhere in the U.S. The highlight of the Agility trial

was when Jerry and Nedra Adams' Mex/AM Ch Roughrider Isabela Ensopada CDX OA PC went to the top of the A-frame and looked out at the crowd! The crowd cheered (no one had ever seen Agility before after all). The dog got an immediate reward for her effort – there was applause, there was laughter, there was near hysteria as Jerry pleaded, "Isabela, come down" and the mightily pleased dog remained forever on the top of the A-frame! Significantly – this was the first time Superdog was awarded – we actually thought it up as a sort of funny reprise, nothing at all serious, just for fun!!! Isabela was that first Superdog, the dog at the top of the A-frame! There were other firsts. For the first and only time one dog won both High in Trial Obedience and Best in Specialty Show, Emmy Verkozen's Ch OTCH Alto Mare Gambol N Man UDX5 TD NA (Gammy), and they went home with most of the trophies from the show. Our Water trial for that first Specialty was at China Camp, a tiny area in the San Francisco Bay that once was home to a Chinese community of fishermen. There remained a dock and small cafe with a narrow beach area and a far too small parking lot. The water is brackish as it contains both Bay and river water. Folks inquired about sharks. We do not really have a shark problem inside the Bay, but we assured them that we would have a shark patrol ready. Since there was only a far too small parking lot nearby, we enlisted Club members (thank you Gary Masamori and Chuck Teasley) to drive a rented bus laden with people and dogs back and forth from the host hotel to the water trial site, all day long. We assured the cafe owner that we would need LOTS of lunch food for the crowd! Our biggest problem was trying to plan the trial around the ever-changing tides! But it was a first – a water trial in the U.S. in almost salt water and no sharks!

Our Club and the breed have come a long way since those days. We have new tests to abate the serious diseases/conditions that afflicted our original PWDs, we have Water trials held throughout the U.S. hosted by various clubs, our Club sponsors Agility trials annually, and we have a National Specialty that is a thing unto itself – with a myriad of events, seminars, meetings, merchandise, mega fund raising, and competition in every venue – and Superdog is a THING, no longer a funny little escapade.

Still the VERY best part of any of these activities is that it brings our people and our dogs together in so many ways. Together to relive the dogs' history through the Water trial exercises. Together to learn more about PWD health, breeding, training, and general welfare. Most important, it brings us together to share our experiences, our problems, our training strategies, and our successes because after all, why did we come together at the onset if not because we sought support, camaraderie, and the friendship of likeminded PWD enthusiasts? Indeed, a support, self-help group!

*Editors' Note:* You will enjoy another of Sherry's history perspectives at [pawdnc.org/club-info/history/](http://pawdnc.org/club-info/history/).

*For photos of Sherry's dogs, see next page ...*

*Reuben in the Utility ring*



*Reuben glowing in the sun*



*Gyro relaxing*

## *Reuben, Gyro, and Quiz: Sherry Hanen's Canine Variations on a Sandwich Theme*

*Quiz and toy*



*The photos of Quiz were taken by Tonya Perme*

*Quiz at Dogtoberfest*





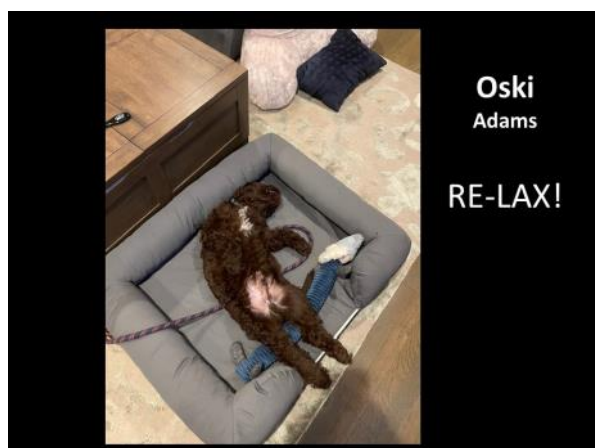
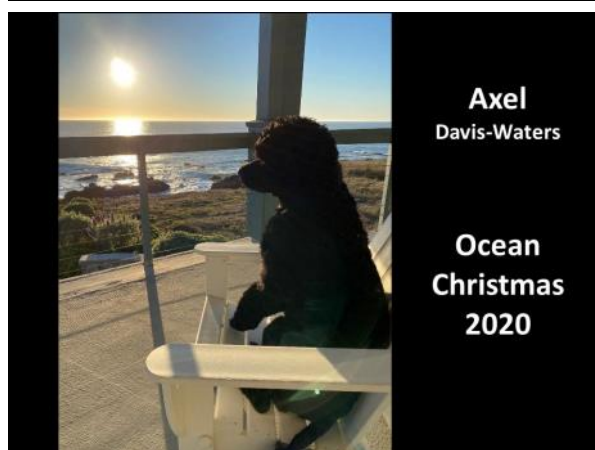
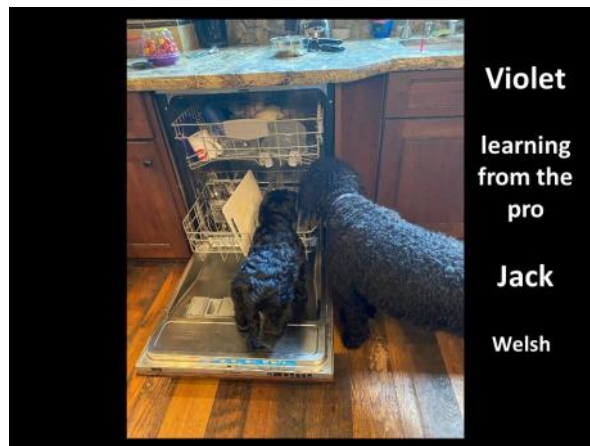
# Antics, Adventures, and Awards

Although last year has been hard on everybody, an important mitigating factor has been the companionship and entertainment provided by our dogs. Bill Waters put together a slideshow for this year's Annual Meeting that we thought our readers would enjoy. It's presented on this and the following two pages. After that, we present a list of titles earned by members' dogs in 2020 — this is an amplified version of the list shown at the Annual Meeting.

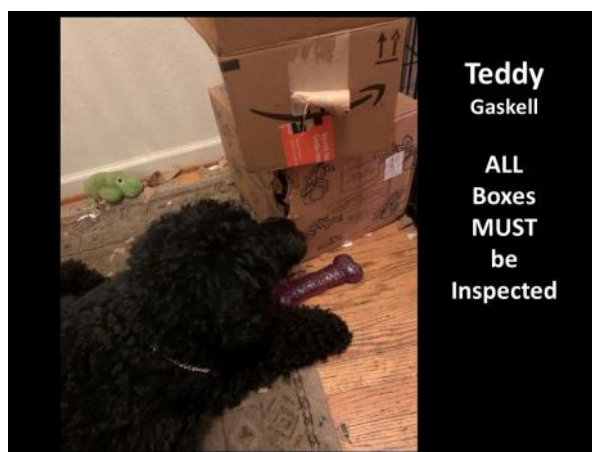


## The Dogs of Lockdown 2020

Assembled by Bill Waters

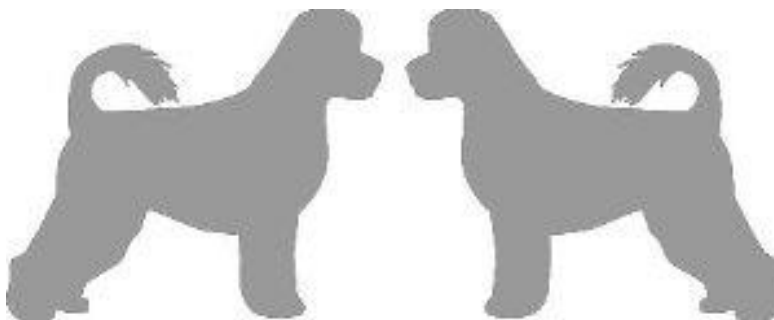
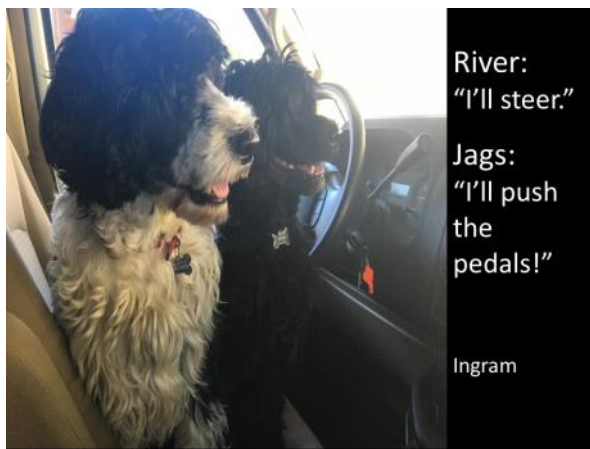
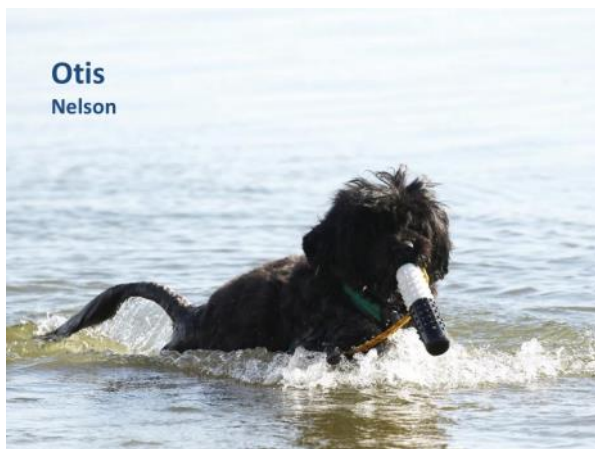
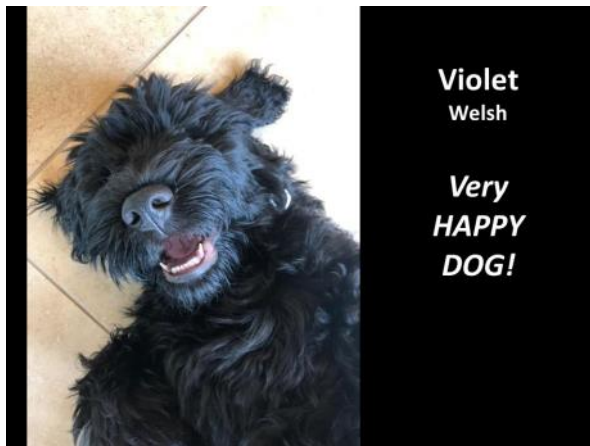


[More on next page ...](#)



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





## Titles Earned by PWDCNC Members' Dogs in 2020

Scheme of listings:

Owner's Name(s)

Registered Name (Call Name)

2020 Titles and Descriptions

Full Registered Name with All Titles



### Kathy Souza

Boardwalk River Song to Sealsle (Rivah)

NACSW Nose Work 3 Elite

NACSW Nose Work 3 Interior

TDA, Trick Dog Advanced

RI, Rally Intermediate

VHMA, Virtual Home Manners Adult

CH Boardwalk River Song to Sealsle RI SWA SINE SENE SCE SIE

SEE VHMA CGCA TKA DJ JWD ORT L1-C L2-I L1-V Elite-1 NW3

Containers NW3 Exterior NW3 Vehicle NW3 Interior PKD-T

MAC-5

### Kathy Souza

Sealsle The Divine Garbo (Greta)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

TKI, Trick Dog Intermediate

VHMA, Virtual Home Manners Adult

Sealsle The Divine Garbo TKI VHMA

### Sue Nelson

Freestyle Sittin on the Dock of the Bay (Otis)

RN, Rally Novice

NACSW Nose Work 2

FDC, Farm Dog Certified

ATT, AKC Temperament Test

CH Freestyle Sittin on the Dock of the Bay RN FDC SWA SIAE

SEAE NSD CGCA TKN ATT NW2 L1V L1C

### Sherry Hanen

Dacher's Quest for Quiznos (Quiznos)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

TKI, Trick Dog Intermediate

Dacher's Quest for Quiznos CGC TKI

### Janis Welsh

Roseknoll's California Poppy (Poppy)

SIN, Scent Work Interior Novice

CT Roseknoll's California Poppy VCD1 CDX BN RE NFP SWN

### Carl Craig

Esquire's Ripple Effect in Baypoint (Beau)

OAJ, Open Agility Jumper

Esquire's Ripple Effect in Baypoint OA, OAJ, NF, WWD

### Ann Gaskell

Agua Dulce's Tusind Tak (Teddy)

CH, AKC Conformation Champion

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

TKI, Trick Dog Intermediate

CH Agua Dulce's Tusind Tak TKI

### Janis Welsh

Roseknoll's Jack of All Trades (Jack)

OF, Agility FAST Open

SIN, Scent Work Interior Novice

Roseknoll's Jack of All Trades CD BN RI TDX NAJ OF SWN

### Carol Irving

Rustyco Now and Zen (Rudder)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

Rustyco Now and Zen TKN

### Matthew Davis and Bill Waters

Far Away Nyte Star of Asta (Axel)

GCH, AKC Grand Champion

GCH CH Far Away Nyte Star of Asta

### Rebecca Morin

Redwoods N' Legado Daenerys Stormborn (Dani)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

RN, Rally Novice

CH Redwoods N' Legado Daenerys Stormborn CGC BN RN TKN

### Rebecca Morin

Rough Seas' Viriatos De Toraq (Viriatos)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

RA, Rally Advanced

GCH CH Rough Seas' Viriatos De Toraq CD RA TKN CGCA

### Rebecca Morin

Toraq's Red Skies at Night (Kiara)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

CH Toraq's Red Skies at Night TKN

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

## Titles Earned by PWDCNC Members' Dogs in 2020, continued

*Rebecca Morin*

Toraq's Chances Are You're Lucky (Jayna)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

**Toraq's Chances Are You're Lucky BN RN TKN**

*Lewis and Casey Ingram*

Surfari's Jagged Edge (Jags)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

**CH Surfari's Jagged Edge RI CGC TKN AOM**

*Rebecca Morin*

Toraq's Sayyida Al Hurra De Pirate's Cove (Sayyida)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

**GCH CH Toraq's Sayyida Al Hurra De Pirate's Cove CGC TKN**

*Lewis and Casey Ingram*

Surfari's American River Sweetheart (River)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

**Surfari's American River Sweetheart RN TKN**

*Rebecca Morin*

Toraq N' Legado's Triss Merigold De Pirate's Cove (Triss)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

**Toraq N' Legado's Triss Merigold De Pirate's Cove TKN**

*Frank and Margaret Dietrich*

Claircreek Rainha Marina (Rainha)

RM, Rally Master

**GCHS CH Claircreek Rainha Marina BN CD RAE RM CGC**

*Mike McCallum*

Surfari's Frankly My Dear (Frankie)

RN, Rally Novice

**GCHS CH Surfari's Frankly My Dear AOM CGC RN**

*Jo Belton*

Asta's Nyte Flyte (Odin)

TKN, Trick Dog Novice

CGCA, CGC Advanced

CGCU, CGC Urban

ATT, AKC Temperament Test

**GCHP CH Asta's Nyte Flyte CGC ATT CGCA CGCU TKN**



We would love to feature you and your dogs in the Antics, Adventures, and Awards section. Almost anything goes — the title of the section says it all. Pictures and short descriptions of your dog's triumphs and foibles are always welcome. Please send an email to the editors at [wceditor@pawdcnc.org](mailto:wceditor@pawdcnc.org) and let us know what you have in mind. The next issue will be in July, 2021, so contributions should be submitted by the middle of June.

## Leptospirosis

*By Casey Ingram*

Every year, dogs in many areas contract the bacterial infection Leptospirosis. This is especially true for dogs that are around other dogs, in settings such as dog shows, performance trials, dog parks; the list is never-ending. Other risk factors are dogs that frequent outdoor areas visited by wildlife. Given the increasing incidences of encountering wildlife in urban areas, even the city is not off-limits for the risk of this potentially fatal and often debilitating bacterial disease.

Why is this important information to PWDNC members? According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA), Leptospirosis bacteria are often encountered in contaminated water. Our dogs by nature are drawn to water in all forms, and frequently swim and/or do water work. Additionally, our multitalented breed often competes in many venues with other dogs.

What is Leptospirosis and how is it contracted? “Lepto” is a bacterial infection contracted by coming in contact with water contaminated by the urine of rats, deer, raccoons, skunks, opossums, and even squirrels. Some forms of the bacteria can penetrate directly through the skin, for instance, when a dog is wading or swimming. Dogs can also contract Lepto from asymptomatic “carrier dogs” that have recovered from the disease but continue to carry the bacteria. Leptospirosis is also a “zoonotic” threat in that it can be spread from dog to human.

What are the signs of Leptospirosis? The onset of infection and clinical signs can be about four to twelve days from the initial exposure. Dogs may have a high fever, loss of appetite, fatigue, and small bleeding spots in the mouth, eyes, or skin. Bloody diarrhea or vomiting may also be present. Perhaps the most concerning is the chance for liver and/or kidney failure. Almost all cases require a hospital stay, and in the case of kidney failure dialysis may be required; even if performed, the dog may be left with chronic kidney disease.



Clearly, keeping your dog from contact with the bacteria is the best prevention. However, with our water-loving pups and their frequent participation in venues with other dogs, that is easier said than done. That, along with the wildlife rich California environment, makes it a challenge to keep your companion Lepto free. However, there is a vaccine available, and while no vaccine is 100% effective, it is definitely worth considering. Have a conversation with your veterinarian to determine if your dog should receive the Leptospirosis vaccine.

That ounce of prevention may well save a heartache later.

## A Reminder about Rattlesnakes

*By Margaret Dietrich*

**Spring is THIS...**



**...and, unfortunately, THIS**



Spring is bursting out all over! Lockdown or not, nature calls, and resisting a walk on trails in open spaces with your PWD may prove impossible. Do not forget that it is not only flowers that you may see. In the Lamorinda area a brazen coyote has come behind a Lafayette grocery store to bite a person eating his sandwich outside. The same animal bit a child while the child and its mother were walking near the Lafayette Reservoir. You most likely will not encounter this unusual behavior from a coyote, but not far from most city limits (or even within them) you could very likely encounter a rattlesnake awaking from its brumating nap and looking for a partner. It's important to be very vigilant. You may also want to consider immunization for rattlesnake venom or rattlesnake aversion classes. We recommend rereading the Wavies & Curlies article on rattlesnakes, available on the Club website ([April 2018 issue](#), pages 9-10).



# *A List of AKC Home Activities for You and Your Dog*

*This listing was initiated by Ann Gaskell in the last (November, 2020) issue of Wavies & Curlies to highlight the programs the AKC has developed to allow dog fanciers to enjoy, train, and earn titles for their dogs during the pandemic, which has resulted in most shows and trials being canceled and most people having to stay close to or at home. We will update this list as long as the need continues.*

There are so many things to do with your dog. As Ann says, “These activities are fun for both you and your dog, and offer a great bonding experience. If you have a PWD like mine, they can also be pretty hilarious.”

Recently, the AKC has expanded and extended the duration of their Virtual Rally program, and added an Obedience program.

For beginner training, there is **Virtual Home Manners**. Here is how AKC describes this program: Virtual Home Manners (VHM) is the answer when you want to train your dog at home. When you get a puppy or new adult dog, Virtual Home Manners can get you started on practical skills before you attend a training class. If you want to put a VHM title on your dog, there is information included on the AKC Virtual Home Manners page:

[https://www.akc.org/products-services/training-programs/canine-good-citizen/akc-family-dog-program/virtual-home-manners/?fbclid=IwAR1vFHlsijykqv1wZrJSWoM389aQdnRiS\\_XajMkXnLoZJmGujnHszVD7BMQ](https://www.akc.org/products-services/training-programs/canine-good-citizen/akc-family-dog-program/virtual-home-manners/?fbclid=IwAR1vFHlsijykqv1wZrJSWoM389aQdnRiS_XajMkXnLoZJmGujnHszVD7BMQ).

Enjoy Agility? Now you can get Agility titles at home with the **ACT Virtual Program**:

<https://www.akc.org/sports/agility/act-program/act-virtual-program/>.

Are you interested in Conformation? Do you miss the Conformation Ring? AKC has the answer for you: **Virtual Top Dog Challenge**. The entries for Virtual Top Dog III have closed. Stay tuned for the results! Visit <https://clippero.com/AmericanKennelClub> to follow along with the judging. To check out the program, and hopefully enter a future event, please go to <https://www.akc.org/sports/conformation/akc-virtual-top-dog-challenge/>.

AKC offers **Great Indoor Games to Play with Your Dog** and **How To Keep Your Dog Entertained Indoors**. Here are both links:

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/lifestyle/great-indoor-games-to-play-with-your-dog/>, and

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/how-to-keep-your-dog-entertained-indoors/>.

Want to venture outside? AKC helps with **A Mentally Stimulated Dog is A Happy One**. It is also one that doesn't get into as much trouble creating its own activities. You can find this at

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/training/mentally-stimulated-happy-dog/>.

AKC offers **AKC Trick Dog** titles (Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, Performer, and Elite Performer) that can be earned at home. To learn more about **Trick Dog**, including how to teach your special tricks to your dog, even just for fun, AKC gives you all you need to know at <https://www.akc.org/sports/trick-dog/>. Not only are Trick Dog tricks fun to do with your dog, but the recorded bloopers can be hilarious. Keep those bloopers so you can share them with the rest of us in the Antics, Adventures, and Awards section of this newsletter. There should also be some beautiful performances for Performer and Elite Performer titles. We want to see them too!

The **AKC Rally® Virtual Pilot Program**. This program now accepts entries in the Novice, Intermediate, Advanced, and Excellent classes. You can get regular AKC Rally titles in these classes without leaving home! The expiration date of the program has been extended to December 31, 2021. Here is the link: <https://www.akc.org/sports/rally/rally-virtual-entry-pilot/>.

The new **AKC Virtual Obedience Test** program allows Obedience titles to be earned at home. Currently the titles BN-V and CD-V are available for the Virtual Beginner Novice and Virtual Novice classes, respectively. This program will be expanded. For info, see <https://www.akc.org/sports/obedience/virtual-obedience-test/>. Note that this Virtual Obedience program is separate from the regular AKC Obedience program.

Looking for fun things to do at home with your dog? AKC offers **AKC Titles & Programs You Can Do From Home**. Follow this link: <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/sports/akc-titles-programs-can-home/>.

Just walking your dog will qualify you for **FIT DOG**. Who knew? Details can be found at <https://www.akc.org/sports/akc-family-dog-program/akc-fit-dog/>.

In addition to FIT DOG, AKC offers suggestions for other activities. Look for details at <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/how-to-get-fit-with-your-dog/>.