



WAVIES & CURLIES

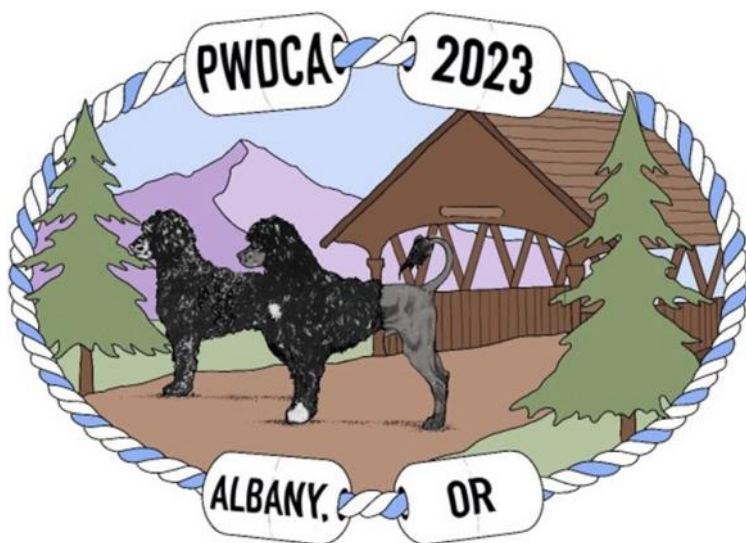
Newsletter of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of Northern California

DECEMBER 2023



Happy Pawlidays!

**Wishing you and
your pups a joyful
season**



**PWDCNC at the 2023
National Specialty inside!**



***So many goodies to
unwrap in this issue!
Go to next page for
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and page 3 for
Upcoming Events***

President's Message

Welcome to the latest issue of *Wavies & Curlies*. Winter is upon us and so are the holidays. Wishing each of you a very happy and healthy holiday season!

Since our last Newsletter, the club has put on a successful water trial, a supported entry in Santa Rosa, a regional specialty in Napa, and an agility trial. We will continue with events throughout the year. Next up is a scent work trial in December, a general membership meeting in January, and our annual meeting in February.

We are an active club, and we hold many events throughout the year. We need the volunteer support of the membership to continue to offer a wide variety of events. Please reach out to any of the board members or committee chairs and come on out: we would love to see you and have you join in the fun.

We are looking into adding additional events to the calendar including trick dog, rally, and scent work workshops. We are also working on some fun walks. Please, if you are interested in any of these events or would like to add something else to the calendar reach out and offer to volunteer.

Obrigada,
Becky Morin



PWDNC President Rebecca Morin with Viriatos



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PWDCNC Calendar of Upcoming Events

Check for updates on the Club's web calendar. And please consider volunteering to help with your favorite activities — see the contacts listed below for the various events.

Sunday, December 17
Dream Big Training Facility, 19681 Brandt Road, Lodi
PWDCNC-hosted AKC Scent Work Trial
Entries open at noon, Wednesday, September 19
Trial limited to 300 entries
Judges: Dee Dee Anderson, Suzanne Edholm,
and Lisa Kretner
Contact Ann Gaskell at ann.gaskell@gmail.com

Sunday, January 28, 2024
Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
PWDCNC General Membership Meeting
Details will be sent to the entire membership
Contact Ann Gaskell at ann.gaskell@gmail.com

Sunday, February 25
Zoom Meeting, 7 PM
PWDCNC Annual Meeting
Details will be sent to the entire membership
Contact Ann Gaskell at ann.gaskell@gmail.com



CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

We are currently signing up volunteers to work the Regional Specialty in 2024. We are also in need of volunteers to organize FCAT events. Please reach out and offer to help with these club events.

We are a large and active club, and we always need volunteers to help out at events, chair programs, or foster a dog in need.

If you're interested in volunteering for any positions or activities, or would like to learn more, contact the appropriate committee or activity/performance chair, or any board member (see [page 30](#) for contacts).

2023 Agility Trials

Prunedale

Report by Leslie Holt

The PWDCNC was back in Prunedale August 11-13, 2023 for our semiannual agility trial. The venue is a perfect place to beat the heat and run our dogs in agility. The fields at Manzanita Park are beautiful, and the grass makes for easy footing. Combined over the three days there were 396 dogs and 1086 runs.

Several of our club members came out to play, some with a new dog for the first time, like Sherry Hanen and Gyro. Other teams competing over the three days were Carl Craig and Beau, Judy Berger and Chill E, Margaret Mahua and Rio, Janis Welsh with Violet and Jack, and Marcus and me. A good time was had by all. Marcus and I won High in Trial on Saturday, and we received a beautiful ribbon from our club.

Special thanks to Valerie Newman, a long time club member, who loaned us a pop-up canopy for one of the score tables. She even delivered and picked it up!

Next up is our November trial at Rancho Murieta. We hope to see you there!



Carl Craig and Beau competing at the Agility Trial in Prunedale
Photo courtesy of Leslie Holt

Rancho Murieta

Report by Debbie Price

All had a wonderful time at the PWDCNC semi-annual agility event November 24-26. The setting of the Murieta Equestrian Center is beautiful, and their covered fields kept us warm during the cooler mornings till the sun warmed us up. Over the three days there were 919 runs.



L-R: Debbie Price, Jenna and Bobbi, and Judge Ms. Shannon Jones
Photo by Jessica Hecock

Many club members came out this weekend: Carl Craig and Beau, Judy Berger and Chill E, Leslie Holt and Marcus, and Jenna Bullis and Bobbi. Jenna and Bobbi won High in Trial on Saturday, receiving a very nice ribbon from our club. Big congratulations to them!

Thank you to everyone who came out and participated, volunteered, and cheered us all on. See you in 2024!

Watch a video of Jenna and Bobbi crushing the agility course:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-qlia1acq2s>

2023 Water Trials

Report by Kathy Souza

The first weekend in October blessed us with beautiful weather to spend time at Lake Camanche with our dogs and friends! I was very happy to see some brand new faces who came out to see what it was all about. We hope to see you joining us in the fun next year.

Judging this year was long-time friend from the Pacific Northwest, Suzanne Malick. What a delight it was not only to watch her expert judging but also to share trialing and training ideas with her.

As we have done in recent years, Friday afternoon was dedicated to the Junior level dogs. We saw 2 dogs title, Jenna Bullis and her girl Ember, Baywood N True North Burning Down the House and Stevie Viaene with her boy Bizzy, Oreobay Busy Being Fabulous.

SATURDAY RESULTS

On Saturday the rest of the levels were judged, beginning with **Apprentice**, where we saw the following qualifier: Movado – Highbidsapphire Almost Frozen In Time – Anne Duffy

Working qualifiers:

Supernova – Whoosh Supernova On The Move – Megan Dhalwal

Tug – InDrive's Tug At Your Heartstrings – Sandy Nicholls

Bobbi – True North N Cutwater Simply Irresistible – Jenna Bullis

Briza – Avida's Fine Breeze And Following Seas – Elaine Rasmussen

Crux – Chulsas Final Descent – Michelle Hammerschmidt. This was for their WWDX.

Courier qualifiers:

Fox – Fishbay's For Fox Sake Indrive – Rachel Cullen

Lummi – Fishbay's Lummi Or Leave Me Indrive – Rachel Cullen

Master qualifiers:

Beau – Esquire's Ripple Effect In Baypoint – Carl Craig. This earned Carl and Beau their CWDX.

Bandit – Lookout's Captain Lucky – Stevie Viaene

We had a single Senior Water Dog in the afternoon, Giligan, Fishbay's Merchant Of Venice with Rachel Cullen. This 11 year old performed the Apprentice float line retrieve, Working bumper retrieve, and Courier buoy ball drop. It's such a delight to watch the "old ones" enjoying being back in the water with their teammates.

SUNDAY RESULTS

Master qualifiers:

Beau – Esquire’s Ripple Effect In Baypoint – Carl Craig

Bandit – Lookout’s Captain Lucky – Stevie Viaene

Courier qualifiers:

Chill-E – Lyngar’s Hurry Up And Slow Me Down In Baypoint – Judy Berger

Lummi – Fishbay’s Lummi Or Leave Me Indrive – Rachel Cullen

Working qualifiers:

Supernova – Whoosh Supernova On The Move – Megan Dhalwal

Marcus – Shootin’ The Curl In Baypoint – Leslie Holt. This was to earn their WWDX.

Tiano – Avida’s Sebastiano Del Mare – Carol Amadeo

Bobbi – True North N Cutwater Simply Irresistible – Jenna Bullis

Briza – Avida’s Fine Breeze And Following Seas – Elaine Rasmussen

Apprentice qualifiers:

Rhea – SeaShell’s Midnight Lace & Pearls – BreAnne Green

Kayce – Baywood’s Party Girl – Judy Berger

Junior qualifiers:

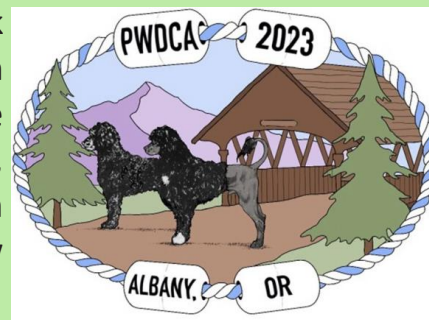
Tess – Toraq’s Queen Of The Deep Blue – Becky Morin

Water trials are a very labor-intensive endeavor, and we could not do this without the long hours put in by dedicated volunteers. A huge thank you to Casey Ingram for taking on the Chief Ring Steward tasks! And thank you to Judy Berger and Kathy Simmons for mentoring Casey through her first time in this position. The trials literally could not happen without our wonderful trial secretary, Elaine Rasmussen. Thank you!

Our rowers extraordinaire were John Cucura, Chris Rasmussen, George Ziemba, Mark O’Hair, Jan Malick, and Lew Ingram. Thank you for your excellent work! All our stewards were wonderful, thank you to Rachel Cullen, Sandy Nicholls, Ann Gaskell, Stevie Viaene, Susan Cucura, and Kathy Simmons. I know others filled in when needed and thank you for jumping in to help!

Reports from the 2023 PWDCA National Specialty

The National Specialty is the PWDCA's way of recognizing the bond between human and our very special breed of dog: the connection exemplified through work together in performance, conformation and happy companion venues. In August 2023, PWDs and their humans from across the United States returned to the Linn County Expo Center in Albany, Oregon (and environs) for a week of events. Many of our Northern California club members participated. The reports that follow highlight their achievements and experiences.



Scent Work Trials Surpass Expectations

Report by Kathy Souza, Scent Work Trial Secretary

The 2023 National Specialty Scent Work trials definitely exceeded the committee's expectations. For our two concurrent trials we were assigned the Santiam building for the Container, Interior and Exterior searches. We anticipated about 300 to 320 entries and expected it to be challenging to create separate search areas within those confines. We were totally stunned to add up the final entry numbers to an astounding 434 runs. Fortunately, our amazing specialty team was able to work with the event manager and locate additional spaces to accommodate the larger areas needed for the Excellent and Master searches. We were fortunate to find a fourth judge on short notice. With all this effort, we were set to go.

Our judges made very good use of the spaces without reusing any, always a challenge. The searches were level appropriate while challenging the dogs and handlers. The additional spaces provided for the Excellent and Master levels provided wonderful challenging searches, fun even if the team wasn't totally successful.

We experienced a number of IT problems starting Monday evening, with our primary laptop unable to connect to any email service to send out run orders on a final email. The backup laptop, working fine when packed in the van, was completely dead. Laptop #1 couldn't manage to print run orders to either of the printers available. Fortunately, laptop #1 cooperated Tuesday morning to print out run orders and some results.

TRIAL 1

Container Novice A

1st Place Busy—Susan Cucura
 Sundance—Meg O'Hair
 Violet—Janis Welsh
 Chill E—Steve Kent
 Ziva—Stacy Roth
 Mercedes—Chris Rasmussen
 Briza—Elaine Rasmussen

Container Novice B

2nd Place Teddy—Ann Gaskell
4th Place Nori—Eli Lantis
 Mika—Pam Wong

Container Advanced

4th Place Jack—Janis Welsh
 Teddy—Ann Gaskell
 Greta—Kathy Souza
 Rose—Ann Benninger
 Fig—Chris Rasmussen
 Zuzu—Leslie Hill

Container Excellent

2nd Place Gyro—Sherry Hanen

Container Master

2nd Place Rafa—Don Niemann

Interior Novice A

2nd Place Iris—John Cucura

3rd Place Violet—Janis Welsh

Sundance—Meg O’Hair

Briza—Elaine Rasmussen

Busy—Susan Cucura

Seabee—Leslie Hill

Chill E—Steve Kent

Interior Novice B

2nd Place Greta—Kathy Souza

4th Place Teddy—Ann Gaskell

Mika—Pam Wong

Beau—Carl Craig

Jack—Chris Welsh

Interior Advanced

Jack—Janis Welsh

Ramona—Don Niemann

Rose—Ann Benninger

Greta—Kathy Souza

Mercedes—Elaine Rasmussen

Gyro—Sherry Hanen

Teddy—Ann Gaskell

Fig—Chris Rasmussen

Exterior Novice A

1st Place Busy—Susan Cucura

2nd Place Sundance—Meg O’Hair

3rd Place Iris—John Cucura

4th Place Violet—Janis Welsh

Chill E—Steve Kent

Penny Lane—Nathalie Ann Kocher

Mercedes—Elaine Rasmussen

Exterior Novice B

2nd Place Nori—Eli Lantis

Seabee—Leslie Hill

Beau—Carl Craig

Teddy—Ann Gaskell

Nimbus—Ally Lantis

Mika—Pam Wong

Jack—Chris Welsh

Exterior Advanced

3rd Place Ramona—Don Niemann

4th Place Greta—Kathy Souza

Teddy—Ann Gaskell

Viriatos—Becky Morin

Fig—Chris Rasmussen

Jack—Janis Welsh

ZuZu—Leslie Hill

Exterior Excellent

Rose—Ann Benninger

Exterior Master

1st Place Rafa—Don Niemann

TRIAL 2

Container Novice A

2nd Place Kayce—Judy Berger

Busy—Susan Cucura

Violet—Janis Welsh

Sundance—Meg O’Hair

Iris—John Cucura

Mercedes—Chris Rasmussen

Container Novice B

1st Place Teddy—Ann Gaskell

Nori—Eli Lantis

Container Advanced

2nd Place Teddy—Ann Gaskell

3rd Place Greta—Kathy Souza

River—Casey Ingram

Container Advanced (cont'd)

Rose--Ann Benninger

Container Excellent

1st Place Gyro—Sherry Hanen

Container Master

2nd Place Rivah—Kathy Souza

Interior Novice A

2nd Place Kacey—Judy Berger

4th Place Sundance—Meg O'Hair

Busy—Susan Cucura

Iris—John Cucura

Violet—Janis Welsh

Penny Lane—Nathalie Ann Kocher

Seabee—Leslie Hill

Sayyida—Becky Morin

Chill E—Steve Kent

Briza—Elaine Rasmussen

Interior Novice B

Nori—Eli Lantis

Teddy—Ann Gaskell

Mika—Pam Wong

Interior Advanced

2nd Place Greta—Kathy Souza

Rose—Ann Benninger

Nimbus—Ally Lantis

Fig—Chris Rasmussen

Ramona—Don Niemann

Gyro—Sherry Hanen

Mercedes—Elaine Rasmussen

Exterior Novice A

1st Place Iris—John Cucura

2nd Place Sundance—Meg O'Hair

3rd Place Violet—Janis Welsh

Mercedes—Chris Rasmussen

Chill E—Steve Kent

Kayce—Judy Berger

Briza—Elaine Rasmussen

Exterior Novice B

Mika—Pam Wong

Nimbus—Ally Lantis

Jack—Chris Welsh

Exterior Advanced

1st Place Greta—Kathy Souza

4th Place Teddy—Ann Gaskell

Ramona—Don Niemann

ZuZu—Leslie Hill

Fig—Chris Rasmussen

Exterior Excellent

2nd Place Rose—Ann Benninger

Gyro—Sherry Hanen

Exterior Master

2nd Place Rafa—Don Niemann



NorCal members also brought home some special awards for Scent Work. In Trial 1 Novice High In Trial went to Sundance and Meg O'Hair. In Trial 2, Advanced High In Trial winner was Greta with Kathy Souza. Congratulations!

Thanks to all the volunteers who put in long hours during the day, with a special shout out to Chris Welsh, who did much of the day of trial data entry and helped with continuing IT problems during the day.

Thank you, Elaine Rasmussen, for serving as Trial Chair. Special thanks to LeeAnn Emirkhanian and Lauren Jones, both with the SoCal club, who jumped in and helped in so many places. THANK YOU everyone!

PWDCNC Agility Teams Excel at National Specialty

Report by Leslie Holt

In the AKC sport of agility, handlers navigate their dogs through a course laden with jumps and tunnels, weave poles, teeter-totter and an A-frame. Running agility at a National Specialty is a unique experience. Imagine the excitement, the challenge of having a clean run (no mistakes), and the fun of watching all the awesome PWDs gathered together to show what they have been working hard at all year long. We had it all at this year's specialty, and our club crushed it!

Judy Berger and Chill E took first place in every class at the 16" jump height—Master Standard, Master Jumpers with Weaves, Master FAST, and Time 2 Beat. They also won High In Trial!

Carl Craig and Beau took first place in Master Standard and Time 2 Beat at the 20" jump height. Marcus and I took second place in Master Standard and Master FAST and qualified in Time 2 Beat at the 20" jump height. (Fun fact: Beau and Marcus are litter mates from HIT Mom Chill E!) Janis Welsh and Violet took first place in Novice B Jumpers with Weaves, fourth place in Novice B Standard, and qualified in Novice B FAST at the 20" jump height.

We are so proud of our PWDCNC teams!



Judy Berger and HIT Chill E

Photos courtesy of Leslie Holt



Carl Craig and Beau, Leslie Holt and Marcus, Judy Berger and Chill E, and Lisa Kinney (Washington) and Reach (another Chill E pup!)



PWDCNC Water Work Teams Make Splash at National Specialty

Report by Janis Welsh

As the name implies, PWDs are rather fond of water. Water trial exercises replicate tasks that any good working water dog would do to earn its keep on a Portuguese fishing boat. The 2023 National Specialty Water Trial was held at Lowell State Park on Dexter reservoir, an hour south of Albany, Oregon. While humans found the under-water footing a bit challenging, the PWDs were raring to demonstrate what they were bred to do.

Junior

J Sundance – Whoosh Sundance Is Home For Christmas – Margaret O'Hair

Apprentice

A10 Briza – Avida's Fine Breeze And Following Seas CGC – Elaine Rasmussen

A26 Mercedes – CH Mercedes Do Lusiadas CGCA BN AWD – Elaine Rasmussen

Working

W4 Marcus – Shootin' The Curl In Baypoint AWD RN MX MXJ XF CGC – Leslie Holt

W12 Iris – GCH CH Freestyle Iridescence RA MX MXJ MJB MXF T2B SBN CGCA CGCU TKI WWD – John Cucura

W18 Violet – Chien D'Eau No Shrinking Violet BN RN NF BCAT AWD – Janis Welsh

W32 Tuli – Toraq N'Legado's Tulipa Preta De Pirate's Cove – John Wilson

Master

M5 Beau – Esquire's Ripple Effect In Baypoint AX AXJ XF – Carl Craig

The following dogs competing in the National Specialty Water Trial were judged as “not yet.” Why not pass or fail, win or lose? Because the joy of Water Work is in the process. In the spirit of the sport, there is no point system, no best time, and no determination of a winner or loser. The criteria are that the team achieves the tasks at each level. Thus, “not yet” is a means to honor the journey.

J8 Kayce – Baywood's Party Girl CGC – Judy Berger

J9 Pirah – Water's Edge Final Cut CGC TKI – Ally Lantis or Mandy Brown

J17 Mika – CH Seaisle Midnight TKN – Pam Wong

J18 Greta – CH Seaisle The Divine Garbo SWN CGC VSWI TKI VHMA – Kathy Souza

A2 Sayyida – GCH CH Toraq's Sayyida Al Hurra De Pirate's Cove CGC TKN – Rebecca Morin

A6 Teddy – CH Agua Dulce's Tusind Tak SHDN TKN – Ann Gaskell

A7 Nori – CH Afortunado California Rollin' RA CGCA VHMA TKP – Ally Lantis or Mandy Brown

A8 Seabee – Seaworthy's Standing Last Watch CGC – Leslie Hill

A16 Rolex – CH Skyfarer All The Good Times Del Sur RN NAJ CGC – Ann Benninger

A17 Fig – CH Aviators Figaro D'Avida BN RN SCN CGCA TKN – Elaine Rasmussen

A18 Rivah – CH Boardwalk River Song To Seaisle RI SWNE SWE DJ CGCA TKA VHMA – Kathy Souza

A24 Rhea – Seashell's Midnight Lace & Pearls RN – BreAnne Green

W11 Jack – Roseknoll's Jack Of All Trades VCD1 BN RI TDX OAJ OF BCAT SWN CD NAJ AWD – Janis Welsh

W28 Nimbus – GCH Crosswinds Reign Of Nimbus BN RE SIN CGCA CGCU BCAT FDC TKE ATT RATI – Ally Lantis

W29 Jags – CH Surfari's Jagged Edge RI CGC TKN – Lew Ingram

W31 Busy – GCH CH AGCH MACH7 Freestyle She Means Business CD RE MXS3 PDS MJG3 PJD

MXP2 MJP MFG TQX T2B6 CGC AOM CWD GROM – Susan Cucura

C13 Chill E – Lyngar's Hurry Up And Slow Me Down In Baypoint BN RN AX MXJ MXF CGC – Judy Berger

M3 Rafa – GCH CH Maritimo Rafaga Brillante VCD2 UD RE AX AXJ OF SWM SHDE THD MWD GROM – Don Niemann



Carl Craig and Beau competing in Master Water Dog

Photos courtesy of Janis Welsh



Janis Welsh and Jack competing in Working Water Dog

PWDCNC Rally and Obedience Teams Impress at National Specialty

Report by Ann Gaskell, Obedience Event Chair

Rally and Obedience are two sports that are always an important part of PWDCNC National Specialties. Our 2023 National Specialty in Albany, Oregon, was no exception. Both events were held in the Arena in the Cascade Livestock Pavilion.

And PWDCNC members won all the highest honors! Of course!

Rally was held on Wednesday, August 30, 2023. Our Rally judge was Hazel Olbrich, from Oakland, CA. We had 85 entries. The Rally High Combined award goes to the team that has the highest combined score in Rally Excellent B and Rally Advanced B. The winners of the 2023 Rally HC award were PWDCNC member Susan Cucura and Busy.

Obedience was held on Thursday, August 31, 2023, in the same location as Rally. In addition to Hazel Olbrich, Judge Carl Lentz, from Aloha, OR, joined us to judge Obedience.

Obedience is a sport of precision and close teamwork. It is not a natural sport for PWDs, who are independent in spirit and love to play games. Even to an experienced handler and dog in other canine sports, participating in regular (Novice, Open and Utility) Obedience is a whole new experience. Amazingly, the Highest Scoring dog in the Obedience trial came out of the Novice A class, a class for both green handlers and green dogs. The Obedience High In Trial award went to PWDCNC member John Cucura and Iris.

What an exceptional group of winners! Outstanding as a couple, Susan and John Cucura are dedicated volunteers, both regionally and nationally, working hard at any event they participate in. Obviously, they are excellent, dedicated, very successful trainers, who love their dogs. Congratulations to our two special winning teams, PWDCNC members Susan Cucura and Busy, Rally HC, and John and Iris, Obedience HIT.



John Cucura /Iris, Obedience HIT,
and Susan Cucura/Busy, Rally HC,
with Judge Hazel Olbrich

Photo courtesy of Ann Gaskell

Team Obedience was also offered. Team Obedience consists of four handlers and their dogs, in the ring at once, all doing the same exercise in unison. Obedience not being the easiest sport for our independent, game playing PWDs, instead of precision, our teams focused on fun, music and costumes. This was a hilarious, light-hearted way to cap a day of serious Obedience competition. The PWDCNC entered two teams in this fun event.



The California Raisins: L-R: Judge Carl Lentz, Judy/Chill E, Janis/Jack, Leslie/Marcus, Ann/Teddy, and Judge Hazel Olbrich

The first team was The California Raisins, performing to “I Heard It through the Grapevine.” Team members were Ann Gaskell with Teddy, Leslie Holt handling Marcus, Janis Welsh with Jack, and Judy Berger handling Chill E. Dogs wore purple grapes on their harnesses and humans wore them all over.

Sharp-Dressed Men was the name of the second team, a riff on the song they performed to by ZZ Top. The team, dressed sharply in black, were Mandy Brown and Maki, Ally Lantis with Nori, Elaine Rasmussen with Briza, and Casey Ingram handling Jags.

The Raisins placed first, and Sharp-Dressed Men placed a close second. Congratulations to all and thanks for the entertainment!



Sharp-Dressed Men: L-R: Mandy/Maki, Ally/Nori, Elaine/Briza, and Casey/Jags
Photos courtesy of Ann Gaskell

Nor-Cal PWDs Shine in Conformation at National Specialty

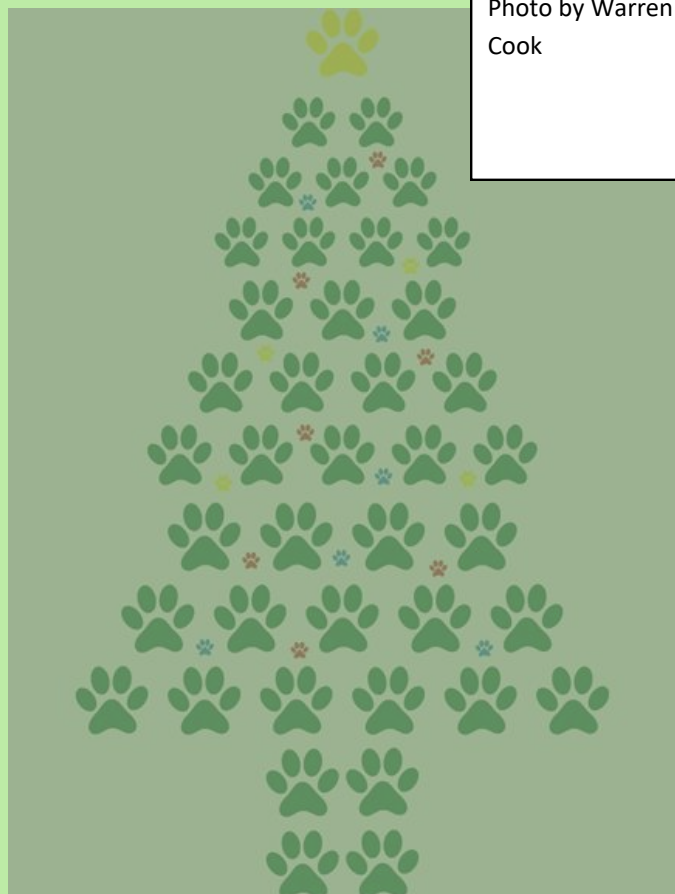
Top Twenty

The PWDCA created the Top Twenty to honor and present the twenty highest-ranking PWD conformation dogs, each of whom is invited to attend the National for this event. The Top Twenty is an opportunity to see the dogs that have been winning top honors (breed and all breed) throughout the nation. At the Specialty in 2023 the theme of the Top Twenty event was the Oscars, and the crowd and handlers were appropriately decked out in designer dress and sequins. The dogs of course needed no ornamentation.

Pepper (CH GCHB Seaisle Doctor Who Dat Pepper) ended a stellar 2022 in conformation as third-ranked PWD bitch in the country, with 24 Best of Breed wins. Kathy Souza and Cheri Ross, PWDCNC members and Pepper's co-owners along with Tim Lenoir, were overjoyed to be there in person to see Pepper celebrated in the Top Twenty event. Pepper was shown beautifully, as always, by Amy Rutherford, and she was thrilled by the applause of the enthusiastic crowd. She also loved having music to strut to: her theme song was "Under the Sea" from *The Little Mermaid*.

Top Twenty judges with
Pepper and her handler
Amy Rutherford

Photo by Warren & Vicky
Cook



PWDCNC Member Successes in National Specialty Conformation

SWEEPSTAKES

Judge: Mr. L. Seidlitz

1/BSW Toraq's Tribute To The Midnight Sun CGC

Owner: R Morin

REGULAR CLASSES

Dogs: Judge Dr. E Liebes

9-12 Months

1 Seashell's Everyone's Talkin' About Me

Owner: P Francis/L Otey

12-15 Months

1 Toraq's Tribute To The Midnight Sun

Owner: R Morin

15-18 Months

1 CH Chien D'Eau Yngve In The Sky With Diamonds

Owner: C Taylor/K Taylor/J Conger

Bitches: Judge Mr. S Dostie

12-15 Months

1 Toraq's Queen Of The Deep Blue

Owner: R Morin

American-Bred

1 Surfari's Short Skirt, Long Jacket

Owner: L McCallum/C McCallum

NON-REGULAR VETERANS

Dogs: Judge Dr. E Liebes

Veteran 13 Years

1 GCH CH Fog Horn Apollo BN RA TDX CGC

Owner: J Knorr/T Knorr



Becky with Moondancer
and Judge
Mr. Luke Seidlitz

Photo by Warren & Vicky
Cook

Sundance's Journey to the Specialty

By Meg O'Hair

I had Sailor and Surfer, and life was smooth and the road was easy. Why did we need a third dog? Somehow I found out about this puppy across the country and could not think of anything else: the yellow-collar curly puppy in his litter who did everything first. You know how that looks. The colorful puppy nursery where they frolic and they gambol around, fluffy, sweet, and hopeful for the world to come. And we just want to pick them up and bring them into ours.

Soon they said the yellow-collar puppy needed someone with experience to take him. They said he was "extra." They said he was "more." "What does that mean?" I said, and they would say, "Well, he is just. A. Lot." And they were completely accurate. And I was all about bringing him back to California.

Boom! We were off! Sundance is indeed extra, more, and a lot. He is a pain in the neck, demanding, sweet, soulful, clever, and single-mindedly intense. He is tiring. He is like a hiker who always needs to go over that last mountain top even though you are just done. Many emotional mountains are inside his brain. He needs structure, understanding, celebrating and love. Luckily, I run on structure, understanding, celebrating and love too. Welcome home, yellow-collar puppy!

Months went by. As we entered teenage world, he soon thought he was All That amongst the three dogs in our house. Wow. It was like living with a wild energetic rodeo horse. At two, we fixed him. And? He was able to hear me more. The lessons in Agility, Scent Work, Rally, and paddle boarding and water work. . .the lessons smoothed together, and it seemed like there could be progress for us. It is about this time that I lost Surfer and Sailor within 8 months of each other. My heart was broken over and over every time I opened my eyes and realized my wavy girls were not there. My heart was healed over and over every time I opened my eyes and saw Sundance, this bouncy best friend, staring at me, wishing me to wake up so we could play another day. He was still extra, a lot, and more. And it was his over-the-topness that brought energy back to my soul, festiveness to the ordinary day. We had not done more than a couple dog shows when it was time for the Specialty in Oregon.

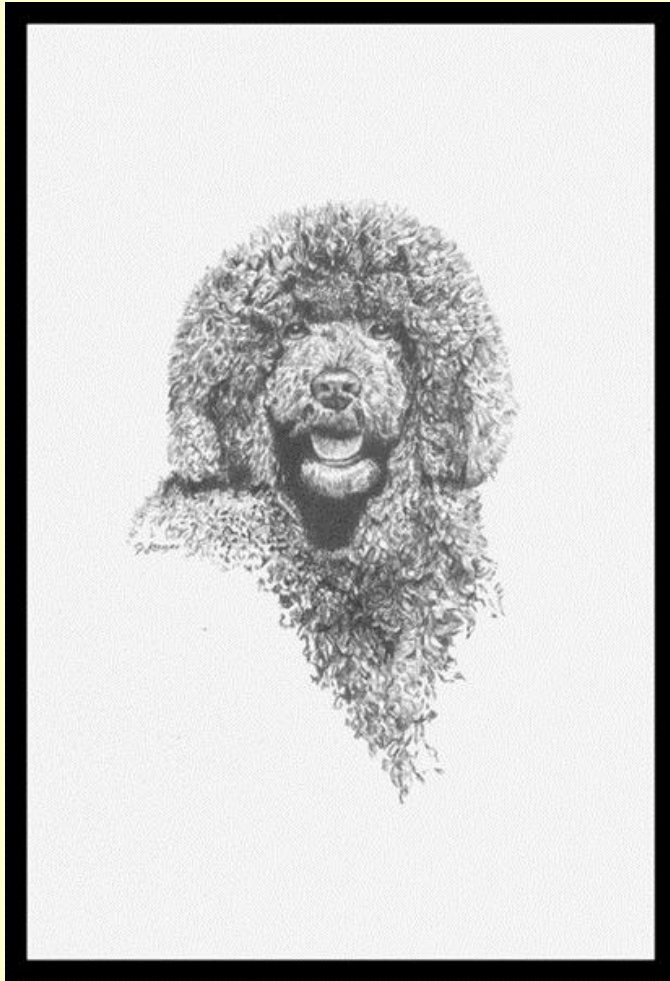
My mindset going to the Specialty was that whatever happened, we would learn from it and just go forward. Going forward, however fast or slow we go, is the point. And we will just keep trying till we can't try anymore. Sundance was entered in several events at the National Specialty. Surprisingly, he came home with pockets full of sunshine and things like High In Trial Novice Scent Dog, third with a score of 99 in Rally Novice B, five new titles across the board with placement ribbons. Life was suddenly a few days of very sunny-side-up.



Sundance enjoying his wins

Photo by Meg O'Hair

A few more days went by. We looked across the water to the mountains again. There are new things to climb and go over. There are slippery slopes, and we are sliding around on learning curves again. But going forward is the point. I can see more adventures around the bend, and I am blessed to have this dog with me. He is young, wild, and three. He is my bestest friend.



RAINHA

GCHS CH RACH Claircreek Rainha Marina CD BN RM6 RAE4 CGC

Portrait in graphite by [John Kreger](#)

A Gift to Frank Dietrich for His Service to the Club

After many years editing the *Wavies and Curlies* newsletter, Frank Dietrich has now taken on the role of Editor Emeritus.

At the Regional Specialty, the club was honored to present to Frank and Margaret a beautiful John Kreger portrait of Frank's beloved late RACH partner, Rainha.

Thank you again, Frank and Margaret. You set the standard for our wonderful newsletter!



2023 Regional Specialty in Napa

Report by Kathy Souza

The PWDCNC held its annual celebration of all things PWD at our Regional Specialty at the Napa Exposition Grounds on Friday, November 10, 2023.

We had a nice entry: 8 in Puppy Sweepstakes and 4 in Veterans Sweepstakes, and in regular conformation 40 entries. Especially exciting were the Junior Showmanship entries! We had 4 excellent Juniors who made a great showing. Obedience had 11 entries for 10 separate dogs. Rally had 19 entries for 13 dogs. It was a fun-filled day, with many dogs participating in both our Specialty and the Wine Country all-breed show.

Hospitality volunteer Abby Garner kept us all well fed with the complimentary breakfast and lunch, as well as hors d'oeuvres to accompany the after-show wine social. We had a well-stocked assortment of raffle offerings. Thank you to all who donated such wonderful baskets! Pam Francis and Jeannie Stark were great at organizing and presenting the event. Margaret Dietrich hosted our welcome table, as she has for many years. Our volunteer Obedience and Rally stewards were Mike and Anne Paterson, Laura Wilson and Eli Lantis: thank you!

Our setup and takedown crew included Lew and Casey Ingram, Elaine and Chris Rasmussen, and Dom Amadeo. Sherry Hanen worked tirelessly behind the website scene to ensure good communications and seamless registration and sales. There were many others who pitched in and helped to make the Specialty a success. I apologize if I missed you. Thank you all! A Regional Specialty is most definitely a TEAM effort!

Results

SWEEPSTAKES

Judge: Mrs. Wendy Corr

6-9 Months Puppy Dogs

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Ondakina's Bandit At M2 Straight Shooters | Owner: Unica Martin, James Martin, Byron, CA |
| 2 Seabrook's Leo The Lionheart | Owner: Annie Smith-Jones, Don Jones, David Scott Ross, Nichole Meister-Ross |

Junior, 12 & Under 18 Months Dogs

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1/BSW Toraq's Tribute To The Midnight Sun CGC | Owner: Rebecca Morin |
| 2 Seashell's Everybody's Talkin' About Me | Owner Pamela Francis, Linda Otey |

6-9 Months Puppy Bitches

- | | |
|--|-----------------------------------|
| 1 Chien D'Eau Baroness Bernadette De Lukos | Owner: Karen Widden, Julie Conger |
|--|-----------------------------------|

9-12 Months Puppy Bitches

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1 Baywood N True North Burning Down The House | Owner: Jenna Bullis, Brenda Brown, Katherine Butkovic |
|---|---|

Junior 12 & Under 18 Months Puppy Bitches

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1/BOSS Toraq's Queen Of The Deep Blue CGC | Owner: Rebecca Morin |
| 2 Surfari's My Cherie Amour | Owner: Corleen Estes, Charles McCallum, Lynda McCallum |

VETERANS SWEEPSTAKES

10 years & over Dogs

1/BVET GCH CH Foghorn Apollo BN RA TDX CGC

Owner: Judy & Torin Knorr

2 GCH Topnotch Celestial Phenomenon Of Alto Mare BN RN OA NF

Owner: Lisa & Mike Gallow, Karen D'Augusta,
Chloe Lete

7 Years & Under 10 Years Bitches

1/BOSVSW CH Boardwalk River Song To Sealsle RI SWNE SWE SCM SEM DJ CGCA TKA

Owner: Kathleen Souza

10 Years & Over Bitches

1 CH Toraq's Half A Chance RN

Owner: Rebecca L Morin, Diane M Wong,
Lance E Wong

REGULAR CLASSES

Judge: Ms. Diane Collins

6-9 Months Puppy Dogs

1/R Ondakina's Bandit At M2 Straight Shooters

Owner: Unica Martin James Martin, Byron, CA

2 Seabrook's Leo The Lionheart

Owner: Annie Smith-Jones, Don Jones,
David Scott Ross, Nichole Meister-Ross

12 & Under 18 Months Dogs

1 Seashell's Everybody's Talkin' About Me

Owner Pamela Francis, Linda Otey

Bred By Exhibitor Dogs

1/W/BBE Toraq's Tribute To The Midnight Sun CGC

Owner: Rebecca Morin

Open Dogs

1 KD's A Premiere Halloween Gift

Owner: Dina Rosenblatt

6 Months & under 9 Puppy Bitches

1 Chien D'Eau Baroness Bernadette De Lukos

Owner: Karen Widden, Julie Conger

9 Months & under 12 Puppy Bitches

1/RW/BP Baywood N True North Burning Down The House

Owner: Jenna Bullis, Brenda Brown, Katherine Butkovic

Bred By Exhibitor Bitches

1 Avida's Fine Breeze and Following Seas GCG RN

Owner: Elaine & Chris Rasmussen

American-Bred Bitches

1 Turnabout Simply Unsinkable At Rustyco

Owner: Julie & Ty Rust

Open Bitches

- | | | |
|--------|------------------------------------|--|
| 1/W/BW | Asta's Artic Nytesky At Aquatass | Owner: Debbie & James Price |
| 2 | Toraq's Queen Of The Deep Blue CGC | Owner: Rebecca L. Morin |
| 3 | Topnotch Goddess Of The Moon | Owner: Lisa Gallow, Karen D'Augusta, Catherine Lydon |
| 4 | Cutwater All My Tomorrows | Owner: Mary Alice Davis & Kishore Sundara-Rajan |

Veteran 7 Years & Under 10 Years, Dogs

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 | CH Aviators Figaro D'Avida CGCA BN RN SCN TKN | Owner: Elaine & Chris Rasmussen |
|---|---|---------------------------------|

Veteran 7 Years & Under 10 Years, Bitches

- | | | |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| 1/BVET/AOM | CH Boardwalk River Song To Sealsle RI SWNE SWE SCM SEM DJ CGCA TKA | Owner: Kathleen Souza |
|------------|--|-----------------------|

Veteran 10 Years & Over, Dogs

- | | | |
|--------|--|--|
| 1/BOSV | GCH CH Foghorn Apollo BN RA TDX CGC | Owner: Judy & Torin Knorr |
| 2 | GCHB Chien D'Eau Tobias De Remis BN-V RE CGC TKA | Owner: Frank & Margaret Dietrich, Julie Conger, Remy Smith-Lewis |
| 3 | GCH Topnotch Celestial Phenomenon Of Alto Mare BN RN OA NF | Owner: Lisa & Mike Gallow, Karen D'Augusta, Chloe Lete |

Veteran 10 Years & Over, Bitches

- | | | |
|---|-----------------------------|--|
| 1 | CH Toraq's Half A Chance RN | Owner: Rebecca L Morin, Diane M Wong, Lance E Wong |
|---|-----------------------------|--|

Best Of Breed

- | | | |
|---------|--|--|
| B/BOBOH | GCHG Allegiance How To Get Away with Murder for Lawless RN BCAT CGCA TKN ATT | Owner: Candice & Jason Duclos |
| OS | Toraq N'Legado's Art Of Racing The Rain CGC | Owner: Rebecca L Morin, Jeannie Stark, Isabella Ruffoni |
| SEL | CH Remis' I Will Always Love You | Owner: Remy Smith-Lewis, Alberto Montila, Taffe McFadden |
| SEL | GCHB Odysea It's Always Sonny At Surfari | Owner: Lynda McCallum, Charles McCallum |
| AOM | Chien D'Eau Nino's Belissima | Owner: Julie Conger |

NON-REGULAR CLASSES

Stud Dog

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | GCH Aqua Dulce's Tusind Tak BN RA TD SWN SHDAE SCA SHDE CGC TKN | Owner: Ann Gaskell, Theresa Zorad, Judy Knorr |
|---|---|---|

Brood Bitch

- | | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------|
| 1 | CH Chien D'eau Djuna's Moonlight Sonata | Owner: Kate Twain, Julie Conger |
|---|---|---------------------------------|

A sampling of the great trophies for the Regional Specialty, featuring the creative artistry of Angie Robinson



Top: Jenna Bullis showed Ember, who won Reserve Winners Bitch from 9-12 Month class and Best Puppy
Bottom: Ember's prizes



Becky Morin with MoonDancer, who went Winners Dog and finished his Championship, pending AKC approval. He was also awarded Best in Sweepstakes and Best Bred by Exhibitor



R-L: Best Junior Showman Isabella Ruffoni and Enzo; Reserve Junior Showman Imara Martin with Bandit; and Judge Ms. Diane Collings

JUNIOR SHOWMANSHIP

Judge: Ms. Diane Collings

Novice

- | | | |
|--------|--|---|
| 1/RBJH | Ondakina's Bandit At M2 Straight Shooters | Owner: Unica Martin, James Martin |
| | Handler: Imara Martin | |
| 2 | CH Afortunado California Rollin' RI CGCA TKA | Owner: Alexandra Lantis, Elijah Lantis, Shelley Plucker |
| | Handler: Elijah Lantis | |

Open

- | | | |
|------|---|---|
| 1/BJ | Toraq N'Legado's Art Of Racing The Rain CGC | Owner: Rebecca L Morin, Jeannie Stark, Isabella Ruffoni |
| | Handler: Isabella Ruffoni | |
| 2 | CH Water's Edge Maki Mine A Double CGC TKI | Owner: Alexandra Lantis, Elijah Lantis, Shelley Plucker |
| | Handler: Elsie Lantis | |

OBEDIENCE

Judge: Mr. Alvin W. Eng

Novice B

- | | | |
|-------|---|---|
| 1/HIT | GCH Aqua Dulce's Tusind Tak BN RA TD SWN SHDAE SCA SHDE CGC TKN | |
| | | Owner: Ann Gaskell, Theresa Zorad, Judy Knorr |

Beginner Novice A

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------|
| 1 | GCH CH Toraq's Sayyida Al Hurra De Pirate's Cove | Owner: Rebecca L Morin |
| 2 | CH Sealsle The Divine Garbo SWNE SCA SIA SEA CGCA TKI | |
| | | Owner: Kathleen Souza |

Graduate Novice

- | | | |
|---|---|------------------------|
| 1 | GCH CH Rough Seas' Viriatos De Toraq CD RA SWN CGCA TKN | |
| | | Owner: Rebecca L Morin |

Veterans Obedience

- | | | |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| 1 | Cortereal Just One of the Girls VCD2 UD RE TDX AXJ MJP OF SCN RATN | |
| | | Owner: Barbara & Donald Niemann |

RALLY

Judge: Mr. Alvin W. Eng

Novice B

- | | | |
|---|---|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | Water's Edge Final Cut | Owner: Ally Lantis |
| 2 | GCH Remiss' When They Go Low, We Go High CGC | Owner: Judy Knorr, Remy Smith-Lewis |
| 3 | CH Sealsle The Divine Garbo SWNE SCA SIA SEA CGCA TKI | Owner: Kathleen Souza |
| 4 | CH Mercedes Do Lusiadas | Owner: Elaine & Chris Rasmussen |
| Q | CH Toraq N' Legado's Gyro De Pirate's Cove SWN SCNE SCA SIA SEA CGC TKN | Owner: Sherry Hanen, Rebecca Morin |

Rally Intermediate

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | CH Water's Edge Maki Mine A Double CGC TKI | Owner: Amanda Brown, Alexandra Lantis |
| 2 | CH Toraq's Half A Chance RN | Owner: Rebecca L Morin, Diane & Lance Wong |

Rally Advanced

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---|
| 1 | CH Topnotch N Altomare MVP BN RI | Owner: Karen D'Augusta, Catherine Lydon,
Lisa Gallow, Chloe Lete |
|---|----------------------------------|---|

Rally Advanced B

- | | | |
|-------|--|--|
| 1/HC | GCH Maritimo Rafaga Brillante VCD2 UD RE AX AXJ OF SCE SHDA THDN | Owner: Barbara & Donald Niemann |
| 2/HTQ | GCH Agua Dulce's Tusind Tak BN RA TD SWN SHDAE SCA SHDE CGC TKN | Owner: Ann Gaskell, Theresa Zorad, Judy Knorr |
| 3 | CH Afortunado California Rollin' RI CGCA TKA | Owner: Alexandra Lantis, Elijah Lantis,
Shelley Plucker |

Rally Excellent B

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| 1 | GCH Maritimo Rafaga Brillante VCD2 UD RE AX AXJ OF SCE SHDA THDN | Owner: Barbara & Donald Niemann |
| 2 | GCH Agua Dulce's Tusind Tak BN RA TD SWN SHDAE SCA SHDE CGC TKN | Owner: Ann Gaskell, Theresa Zorad, Judy Knorr |
| 3 | CH Afortunado California Rollin' RI CGCA TKA | Owner: Alexandra Lantis, Elijah Lantis,
Shelley Plucker |

Rally Master

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| 1 | GCH Agua Dulce's Tusind Tak BN RA TD SWN SHDAE SCA SHDE CGC TKN | Owner: Ann Gaskell, Theresa Zorad, Judy Knorr |
| 2 | CH Afortunado California Rollin' RI CGCA TKA | Owner: Alexandra Lantis, Elijah Lantis,
Shelley Plucker |

In Loving Memory, Across the Rainbow Bridge

In the following pages we honor some of our members' dogs who have left us in the past months. If you would like to memorialize a dog in the newsletter, please contact the Editor at petportraitsbycheri@gmail.com.



Sailor and Surfer

A Remembrance by Meg O'Hair



Sailor and Surfer. Where do I start to tell you about them. . .They are a never-ending story in my soul.

Sailor and Surfer were sisters. Sailor was a black wavy girl with a white chest, white feet, and the classic milk-bucket chin. She was about 15 months old when we brought Surfer home. From then on, they just were together all the time. Just like the classic oldest child, Sailor was the smarter one, the one who wanted to please and did everything the right way. She got Junior Water Dog, Apprentice Water Dog, Working Water Dog, in three tries. She got High In Trial at a Portuguese Water Dog Agility trial. She had many agility and rally titles, and

she was a therapy dog. She did everything at a steady, quarter-horse trot, channeling serenity-now. Sailor thought about life and measured everything, including the volume of her heart, and every day she tried to love more than the next. Because there was so much of Sailor's heart, it was rounder than the moon and bigger than the sea. She knew the frailty of life.





Surfer was a black wavy with a jagged angel wing on the front of her chest, white front feet, and another milk-bucket chin. Surfer was the athlete. She was in love with her collection of white latex-bubble sheep. She would herd them into a little pile wherever she was in the house. And she loved to run. She would see a bird in the sky and run under it like she was attached to it on a string. Out at the lake, we would watch the bird until it was a dot in the sky, and Surfer until she was a dot on the fifth hill under the sunset. We would always wait for her, and she would always come back. This girl had dramatic water trial episodes like swimming to the middle of the lake after geese, chasing a float line halfway down the lake when the wind blew it away—and then bringing it back against the wind and the current. Eventually she got her Apprentice Water Dog title. Just like eventually after about 30 times in the Agility ring, she got her Jumper With Weaves title. People said, "Why do you bother entering her?" And Mark and I would say, as we watched her run feverish laps through the obstacles, "Well, she's having so much fun in there." Surfer got cancer when she was 6. The last couple years she was on \$200 of medicine a month, the last six months the cost went up considerably. But it took away the pain, and it was worth it to let her live as she loved to live. The last two weeks she would only eat coconut rolls, but she merrily munched them until she ran out of time, going over the Bridge, six months before Sailor did.

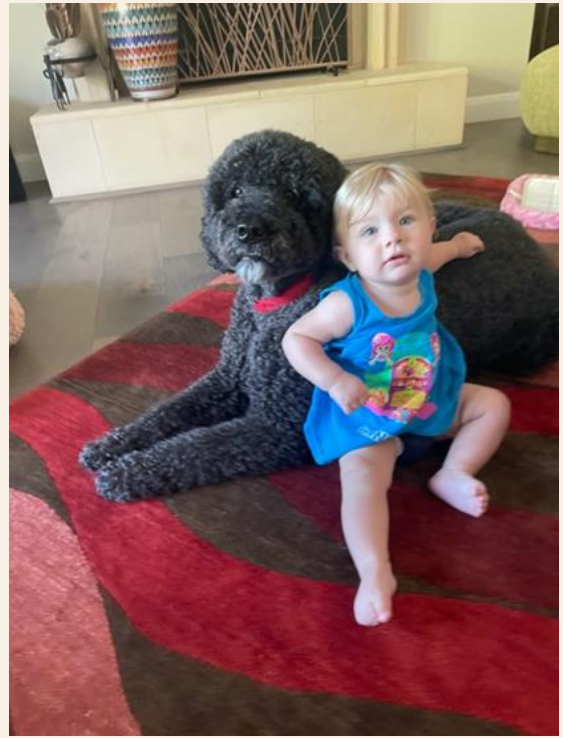
I miss them so much. The only saving grace is that I know I will see them again. My first Water Dog, Serra, came back for five days before going over the Bridge—another amazing story of an Angel Dog, but that is for another day. This story is about my Sister Angel Dogs. I feel them with their wings on, following me everywhere—and sometimes . . . like in this photo in the Tahoe snow . . . going before me. To find the stars, and light for where I need to go.





Kimmie

Ch Sete Mares Kimpossible



Ariel

Dacher's Always in Motion

Loved by Tim Lenoir and Cheri Ross

Kimmie came to us at one year old when Lorraine Carver needed to re-home her, and she instantly became Queen Kimmie, adored by us and her one-year-old brother Jenkins (Nautique's Crews n Ports Hijinx). She finished her show career just a few days before joining us, and immediately she asked us for beef, please. We pampered her with her favorite foods, and in every other way too. She was Jenkins' goddess. Years together followed, with Kimmie and Jenkins splitting their time between their North Carolina work home, where they had acres to romp, and their Tahoe play home, where the snow was unbelievable.

When Jenkins passed away, far too early, Kimmie wouldn't get off the sofa. She was getting old before her time. We adopted a pup from Cheryl and David Smith, and we named him Ariel. He was ready to play and worship Kimmie as she deserved. But she was having none of it. At eight years old and very much a grande dame, she hated the puppy. Cheryl said give her five days and she will love him. Nope. Five months later, Ariel was finally big enough to take on Kimmie—and fortunately she settled into line then. She accepted his presence, but she almost never played with him. No matter, he adored her anyway.



Kimmie was our miracle dog. At age 12, by this time a gray little lady, she became ill and nearly died. A wonderful vet treated her with prednisone, which helped the inflammation and she healed. As a side-effect of the medication, she lost her beautiful soft curls. For a while we gave her comb-overs to hide her bald spots. But when she got off the meds, and her coat came back, it was jet black! She looked and acted like a puppy again.

Eventually Kimmie passed away peacefully in her sleep, at the age of 16: our oldest PWD ever.

Ariel carried on, but he was obviously heartbroken at losing Kimmie. In a few months we were lucky enough to adopt Pepper from Kathy Souza, and Ariel was in heaven. He got to play with a puppy as he had never been played with by Kimmie. He raised Pepper and taught her all the water dog things. He let her crawl on him at will. He had an incredibly happy last year of his life.



As all PWD people know, every one of our dogs is different, and we love every one of them in a special way. Kimmie, you were Tim's girl, visiting him in his study for belly rubs. Ariel, you were my almost-big-as-a-pony heart dog. We miss you every day, so much, and we thank you every day, so many times, for all the love you gave us.



Toraq's Pollyana

May 30, 2008--November 5, 2023

A Tribute by Becky Morin

Polly was a beautiful spirit and loved everyone. She is missed by her family Mark, Diana, Shannon, Kaylee and Breno. Polly was originally loved and owned by Lalla Stark who passed away in February of 2018. Polly came to me with her sister, Rosy, nephew, Rain and Lalla's other pets just prior to Lalla's passing. Diana and her family took Polly in although she was 10 and gave her a beautiful life full of love and compassion.

Polly spent her early years going to shows. She was shown by my youngest daughter Sabrina. They had a beautiful relationship, and although Polly outweighed Sabrina she was always very well behaved in the ring. Sabrina loved showing Polly and the feeling was mutual. I have many fond memories of my dear friend Lalla and her animals and miss her daily. I know Polly, Rosy and Lalla are together again across the rainbow bridge.



Sabrina, Polly, Jessie, and Rosebud

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March 1, 2023 — February 29, 2024

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