

Perro Post

Fall 2022



The SWD Quarterly Journal

Spanish Water Dog Club of America

Quarterly Newsletter

Contents

From the Editor	3
SWDs at Work	4
First Certified Search and Rescue SWD in NA	
Breeders Digest	7
Early Puppy Socialization	
Breeders Digest	10
Update on SWD Breed Standard	
Conformation Corner	11
Phoebe Is on a Roll	
Junior Handlers	14
Triple Threat Gazette	15
SWDs Take to the Water in Colorado	
Regional Gathering: Herding Clinic	
Perros International	19
Does Your SWD Need Training?	
Que Pasa Perro de Agua: Events	21
Early Details for 2023 National Specialty	
Events on the Horizon	
Help Wanted	
Supported Entry: Timberland Valley	
Member Noticias:	25
Member Spotlight: Marnie Harrison	
Membership Map/Trivia	
Spani-Antics	28
Belly Rub Roster: Happy Woofday	29
Tail Spins: Webinar Recap	30
Cords and Capers Photo Gallery	31
Our Staff and Contributors	32
SWDCA Officers and Committees	33
Spotlight: Standard Committee	
SWDCA Code of Ethics	34
AKC Code of Sportsmanship	36

Newsletter Staff

Editor	Donna Perone
SWDs at Work	Donna Perone
Breeders	Lisa Harper
Pupdate	Chris Evans
Health and Wellness	Lisa Harper
Conformation	open
Breed Education	Lisa Harper
Performance Events	Sarah Spinler
Companion Events	open
Events	Cindy Woodling
Senior Dogs	Donna Perone
Webinar News	Donna Perone
AKC News	Lisa Harper
Book Review	open
Spani-Antics	open
Photos	Cindy Woodling
Perros International	Rachel Cooper
Member Spotlight	Trish Byron
New Member Profiles	James Coliz
Membership Map, Trivia	Donna Perone
Happy Woofday	Donna Perone
Forever in Our Hearts	Denise Velasquez
Awards and Recognition	Sarah Spinler
SWDCA Page, Spotlight	Donna Perone
Proofreader, Reviewer	Meg Normand

New Staff Members/Guest Contributors:

Art Morgan, Heather Wills - staff
Linda Perkins, David Milstein - contributors

If you would like to join the fun on the newsletter staff, want to contribute an article, have an idea, or have feedback, contact Donna at swdca.vicepresident@gmail.com

On the cover: Hola! We're Titanium de Guadalteba (aka Seron) and Maroma de Guadalteba (aka Ramona). We came from Spain to live with Chris Evans in South Carolina. We play ball and go for walks every day. We'd like to chase the cat, but our mom won't let us. We love it here, but learning English is a challenge. "Ball" and "treats" are our happy words, but we're still puzzled by the word "No." So we just ignore it and go on with what we are doing.

From the Editor

In this Issue



From the Editor

Welcome to another exciting **Perro Post** with lots of articles and updates. The best part of being editor of this newsletter is that I get to hear so many interesting things about SWDs and our members.

Our featured “SWDs at Work” article was so enjoyable to interview and write. I am hoping to be getting updates from our first official Search and Rescue SWD and the adventures Rio and Laura Plantell have ahead of them.

We also offer results from an interview by Chris Evans with one of the club’s breeders to discuss early socialization of puppies done by breeders. We know it makes a big difference and appreciate Amanda Smith sharing her process with us.

We provide you with an update of where things stand with our AKC Breed Standard. I still feel that this is probably the most significant and impactful role our club can play as the AKC parent club for the breed in the US. We are looking forward to seeing the new Standard implemented early next year.

Cindy Woodling gives us one more interview with one of our members who has had outstanding success with her bitch in conformation. Way to go Lisa Harper and Phoebe!

It’s wonderful to have a new junior handler on the job as well. David Milstein tells us about his grandson’s first venture into conformation.

Art Morgan gives us a summary of the fun had by all at the Water Work regional event in Colorado and Sarah Spinler tells us about the Herding regional event in Pennsylvania. The club is happy to see activities promoting two of the three types of work done historically by our breed: our Triple Threat of Herding, Hunting, and Waterwork.

We present a new column this issue for our friends from across the pond to give us some of their perspectives on life with SWDs in any of a variety of topic areas. Rachel Cooper starts out with an article about training. We look forward to more articles periodically in the future.

Our “Que Pasa” column provides details about upcoming events, including our 2023 National Specialty to be held in Pennsylvania next summer. Things haven’t quite been quite as full-steam-ahead with large gatherings since the pandemic and we are looking forward to finally being able to see a large gathering of folks who love our breed at this National event. Please mark your calendars now and plan to attend. We are long overdue for a big blowout! And please support the other events noted in this column as well.

There is one page that I especially want to highlight to all readers. Page 23 will be hard to miss as you scroll through this issue. We are looking for more volunteers for a number of club needs. The most urgent is someone who can take over from Nancy Valley as the National Specialty events coordinator. This is an important position for our club and needs someone (or a number of someones) to pull this together for us. Please give it some consideration.

We also need club members to add to our many committee activities. If you go to the “About Our Club” column on page 34 of this issue, you will see an enhanced listing of the many committees and activities in which our club is involved. Please consider joining in on at least one of them. If you aren’t sure how you can help, just send me a message at swdca.vicepresident@gmail.com and I will be delighted to talk with you about your interests, capabilities and any limitations to suggest something fun.

Donna Perone, Editor
Murray,  Assistant Editor

SWDs at Work

Search and Rescue



First Certified Search and Rescue SWD in North America

By Donna Perone

Search and Rescue (SAR) is an important role for keeping people safe all around the world. It takes dedication and teamwork from both dog and handler. SAR teams stand ready for a deployment at any time to assist with finding the lost, responding to disasters, and helping law enforcement find key evidence for investigations, among other things. There is a wide range of specialties for SAR teams but all focus on the ability of the dog to detect scent.

Perro Post heard about a Spanish Water Dog team in Colorado that is the first for the breed to become certified for the job in North America. We interviewed the human half of the team that accomplished this feat, Laura Plantell.

Perro Post: Can you tell us about your Spanish Water Dog and how you came about getting him as your Partner?

Laura Plantell: I selected Rio, a two year old male, specifically to train as my partner in Search and Rescue. I had been doing Wilderness SAR with a Beauceron for 8 years before taking a ten year break to focus on my family. I knew from experience what attributes I needed in a new partner. Also, due to dog allergies in the family, I knew I wanted a non-shedding working dog. I did a year of research on the kind of dog I wanted to get and determined a Spanish Water Dog was ideal for me.

Once I settled on the SWD breed, I did online searches for breeders and found Rob Driscoll.

In talking with Rob I determined that our philosophies in dog training meshed well. In selecting the right puppy, I described to him the type of temperament I was looking for: instinct to work, loyalty, and most importantly, a high fetch drive. Rob did temperament testing on his litter and told me there were two that fit my criteria. He sent me a video of all the puppies doing different things (being lifted, rolling on back, retrieving objects, etc.) and one dog really stood out to me. Yes, it was one

of the two dogs Rob said met the criteria. When I saw him, I knew right away that “yeah, that’s the one!”

PP: How does one go about becoming a certified SAR team?

LP: There are a number of groups for SAR Certification. The group I am part of, Search and Rescue Dogs of the United States (sardogsus.org), certifies in Montana, Wyoming, Nebraska, Washington, Oregon, and Colorado. There are other groups in other states, provinces, and around the world.

PP: How did you train Rio to prepare for certification?

LP: Our training involved weekly training sessions and clinics with some of the founders of our group, I focused on Rio as soon as I brought him home at 8 weeks to work towards his Urban Trailing certification. We starting playing hide and seek games with someone volunteering to be “lost.” My kids helped in a game called “puppy runaway.” In that game, I hold Rio and get him excited about playing the game while one of the kids runs and hides behind something. Rio



Continued next page

SWDs at Work

Search and Rescue



then runs to find him and gets a tug of war session as a reward.

There are different standards to meet for different SAR specialties. In Urban Trailing, we know where someone last saw the subject being sought (someone neither Rio nor I already know) and we are provided with a scent article such as a piece of clothing. We have to determine the direction of travel and follow the trail to locate them.

To certify in Urban Trailing, there are four levels of testing. The lowest level, Level 4, is a pre-test to assesses the dog's basic abilities to prove they have what it takes to perform the job. Levels get increasingly difficult up to Level 1 where the scent trail is 24 hours old and goes on for one mile. A team is deployable after certifying at Level 3.

PP: *What other kinds of SAR can you certify in besides Urban Trailing?*

LP: There are many different specialties for SAR. I used to do Wilderness Air Scent. There are also specialties like Avalanche, Water, Air Scent Dog, Human Remains Detection, and Evidence Dogs (such as firearms, shell (casings), to name a few.

PP: *What is the makeup of a typical team? Do the dogs get called out to work very often?*

LP: Handlers are about 50/50 split between men and women. There are many retired people. Most are civilian but a lot are in law enforcement.

Nearly all SAR dogs I see are German Shepherd Dogs or Labs, Border Collies, Bloodhounds or

mixed breed. A few women like Dutch Shepherds (like big Malinois).

Trained Dog Teams are in high demand. Rio was just certified but my experience prior to Rio was that teams were deployed a lot, at least twice a month. Law Enforcement calls are high on the request list. Our group in Colorado typically gets a call for a search on average about every 10 days.

Our most common request is for Human Remains Dogs (for homicide or if a person has been missing a long time) and various kinds of trailing (could be wilderness, rural, suburban, urban). The most common scenarios for trailing are to find hikers, a lost child, or a missing person with dementia. Our group also gets a number of calls for Evidence Dogs (usually firearms or shells, but

not drugs — that is a different thing altogether).

PP: *Can you tell us about any of your memorable previous deployments?*

LP: My previous dog Raven and I were deployed for one 3-day search to find a troubled youth, an 8-

year-old boy named Evan. He had been camping with a teacher in the wilderness. He walked away from the campsite and got lost. "Man Trailers" (Native American style trackers) were initially called in by the Incident Commander to track him by following the footprints of his Spiderman sneakers. Evan was afraid of strangers, especially men and law enforcement officers. He could hear the searchers calling for him but he stayed hidden and did not answer.



Continued next page

SWDs at Work

Search and Rescue



Dogs were also called in and on day 3 Raven and I were up where the Man Trailers left off. We coordinated with the other SAR dog teams to develop our search areas. Usually we are assigned to areas upon arrival but this Incident Commander was confident in the dog teams and let us coordinate on our own. In addition to the SAR dog teams, there were ATVs used on the trails and people searching on horseback.

Raven picked up on the scent after about three hours. Evan responded to my call but when my male teammate called out, Evan clammed up. We called in the coordinates and the Incident Commander brought all the teams to that location. He was in a gulch when we found him but ran up while we were making our way down and evaded everyone. It took four more hours to catch up with him where he was found on a trail by searchers on ATVs.

Raven and I searched for 8 hours over rugged terrain that day, plus we had to do a 2 hour walk back from the search area. My dog could barely walk the next day. This work can be a grueling physical challenge.

PP: *How does Rio perform as a part of your team?*

LP: Rio is still young so working on avoiding distractions and staying focused is important. His style of search is that he works with his head up and works the edge of the scent trail rather than footprint to footprint. A scent trail is typically about 10 feet wide, but will vary over time and is also dependent on weather conditions and terrain.

My goal was to complete our full Level 1 certification for Urban Trailing by Rio's 2nd birthday in October. We achieved it right on schedule.



PP: *Based on your experience with Rio, how do you see SWDs as a breed for SAR compared to other breeds being used?*

LP: I see a very high working ability and drive, right up there or even better than other breeds. Fear issues are something we are still working on. His fear of men with hats and sunglasses has subsided a lot but he still doesn't want them to pet him. He is great with kids though and he likes women. But I can take him anywhere, which I do to help train him to ignore distractions. He is wary of other dogs so I redirect him when out for walks.

I don't feel he would be as good an option as other breeds for FEMA (disaster) situations. He is the right size but he would need to be extremely trusting of people and strange noises and situations, work independently without a collar or vest and be willing to go with any stranger at any time.

I feel he is ideal for Wilderness and Urban SAR. I know I have definitely picked the right breed for work and for family. He just loves to do it and gets excited when he sees me getting the SAR gear together. Rio is great with my kids and their friends.

PP: *Where do you go from here? Any plans for certification in other specialties of S&R?*

LP: We will hopefully work on certification as an Evidence Dog team next. I am also planning to work with him on Water, although we will need to work on having him indicate his finding rather than jumping in. Human Remains is also something I hope to do in the future.

Regardless of our SAR specialty, I think I will surprise a lot of people when I show up for deployments with such a cute dog.

Breeders Digest

News for and about breeders



Early Puppy Socialization

by Amanda Smith and Chris Evans

Whenver puppy socialization is mentioned, SWD breeder Amanda Smith's name is one of the breeders at the top of the list. Chris Evans talked with Amanda about her approach to early socialization of puppies.

Chris: *How much time per week do you and your family spend with your puppies?*

Amanda: Puppies are a full-time job. We have had 5 litters over 9 years. Everyone of my family and friends have a different puppy age they love best. From birth we hold and love on each puppy daily. With all the family and friends that visit over the puppies' first 8 weeks, I would say they are loved on and played with several hours each day.

CE: *What makes a well socialized puppy?*

AS: Positive exposure to people of all ages, noises, new places, car rides, and different animals. The key is positive experiences.

Often a puppies first car ride can be a negative experience when put in a crate with all their siblings and driven to their first vet appointment. That rattling crate and car ride can be a traumatic first experience. I

take a different approach; I start car rides as

early as the first week. My adult SWD's go everywhere I go, so my girls are not stressed traveling to visit family and friends with their new babies in tow. All my litters are traveling at least once a week in a car from birth.



CE: *When do you start socializing your litters?*

AS: I believe socialization starts the day puppies are born. As soon as the puppies arrive, my house becomes very busy with visitors of all ages that want puppy cuddles. During the first two weeks of the puppies lives, they are all held multiple times a day, by many different family and friends.

CE: *Do you have a schedule for introducing new experiences to your puppies?*

AS: From birth I have many people coming over to hold and love on the newborn puppies. This is not a common practice for many breeders to allow visitors at an early age, but I do believe handling them from the start with different people is helpful.

Newborn puppies start their life only having a strong sense of smell. While newborns cannot see the different visitors, they are smelling different people that are giving them a warm loving experience. Puppies have almost daily visitors from birth to 8 weeks.



Continued next page

Breeders Digest (cont.)

News for and about breeders



I have even been fortunate to have a couple puppies placed locally and their owners would visit weekly to play with the litter.

From two weeks on when their sense of hearing has developed, I expose them to many different sounds. I have a speaker system to play all kinds of sounds throughout the day. *Calm Pet: Desensitizing Sounds for Animals* is a great album. It has a variety of sounds to help with desensitizing. Every night the puppies have a different nature sound that is played. In addition to desensitizing sounds played on a speaker, I take them to many different places outside to be exposed to sounds.

Around 3 weeks I start having the puppies spend a little bit of time out of the whelping box in what will be their new living area. If the weather is nice, I may take them outside for exposure to new smells and sounds.



At 4 weeks they move to their puppy play area. Inside their living area they have

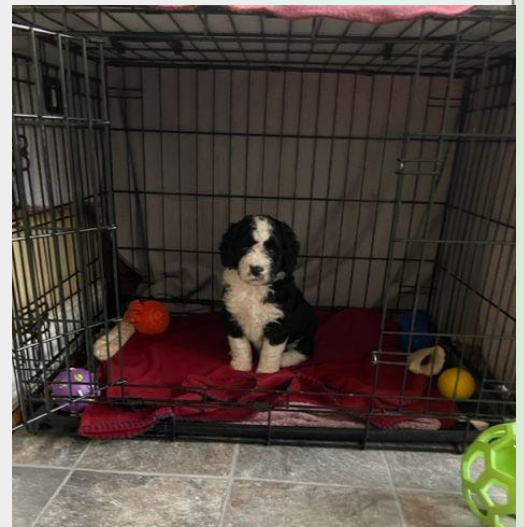
a wide variety of toys and physically stimulating objects. I also have crates set up in this area so they can go in and out of the crate at their own free will.

From 4 to 8 weeks the puppies get a lot of outside time. I am fortunate to have their play area set up in my sunroom, located right next to my backdoor.

I guess you could say I have a bit of OCD

when it comes to cleanliness and not wanting my house to smell like puppy poo. This is the time I start getting the puppies accustomed to going potty outside. They have multiple outside potty breaks throughout the day. During this time they get familiar with three words "outside," "potty," and "come."

At 7-8 weeks is when I start working on crate training. Each puppy has a small crate set up and they spend a maximum of 2 hours at a time in the crates with



different chews. This is done a couple times throughout the day. I have found this helps greatly with potty training a group of puppies and helping them get accustomed to a crate.



Continued next page

Breeders Digest (cont.)

News for and about breeders



In my more recent litters, I have started working with the puppies on leashes. With the help of my adult dogs, I find it takes little time to get a puppy to have some basic leash training.

CE: You are well known for creating puppy play-grounds full of toys and physical experiences. What sorts of items do you make or use?

AS: PVC pipe is a great thing to use to create the frame of a gym with dangling objects to stimulate the puppies.



I hang a variety of objects from metal cans and chains that make loud noise when they bang together, rubber hoses cut into pieces to tug on, and many different toys to play with. Some of the puppies' favorites to climb on are a balance board and skateboard. Children's toys that make noises when stepped on are also a fun thing to add to their area.

I believe the more noise and objects that make noise, the more it helps the puppies become more desensitized to what they will experience once they go to new homes.

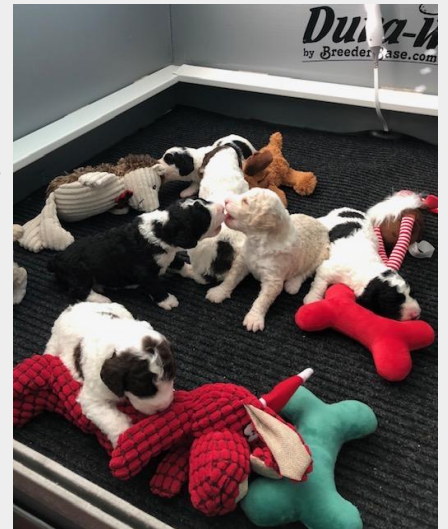


CE: How important is introducing new people to the puppies?

AS: I believe it is extremely important to introduce puppies to new people from birth until 2 years of age. Socialization is key to having this breed be a well-rounded adult dog.

CE: What effect do new people have on puppies?

AS: My puppies are extremely outgoing and friendly with new people they meet. In addition to new people, I try to expose the puppies to different dogs. All the puppies are very outgoing with the dogs that live in my house but adding a non-SWD to the pack does cause some of the puppies to be a bit reserved with their first meetings.



CE: What is the most important thing for a breeder to do to socialize their puppies?

AS: The most important thing a breeder should do is have the puppy prepared for its life past 8 weeks. To do that requires 8 weeks of socializing with people of all ages, noises, new places, car rides, and different animals. By doing this each puppy leaves confident, without fears, and ready for their new owner to continue their learning process.

Breed Education

Breed Info for Those in the Know



Update on SWD Breed Standard

As published in the Spring 2022 issue of the *Perro Post*, The Spanish Water Dog Club of America made a number of proposed revisions to the Spanish Water Dog Breed Standard.

The ballots went out to voting members over the summer and votes were counted in September by Sarah Spinler, Trish Byron and Donna Perone. The votes were overwhelmingly in favor of the revisions to the standard:

yes - 82
no - 3
invalid ballot - 2

The revised Standard will be presented to the AKC board for final approval at their November meeting. If approved, the new Standard will become the official SWD Breed Standard as of February 1, 2023. The AKC will send the revised standard to all approved judges and update their website.

Below is a link to the current Standard. This will be updated upon approval of the revision.

***Current AKC Spanish Water
Dog Breed Standard***

The key revisions to the proposed Standard include updates in the following areas:

- Coat presentation
- Correction of ears to be dropped and set above eye level instead drooping and set at eye level
- Arch of neck removed, topline and back clarified
- Depth of chest clarified
- Description of tails (required by the AKC)
- Call for 90-degree shoulder layback removed
- Coat colors clarified and albino listed as a disqualification
- Coat presentation completely re-written. "Clipped subjects are allowed" line removed. Puppy coat description included.
- Movement changed to "efficient" from "effortless"

The full text of the official Standard will be printed in the next issue of the *Perro Post*. The Spanish Water Dog Club of America would like to thank Lisa Harper and Marnie Harrison for their hard work on getting this document updated to reflect the best representation of what an ideal Spanish Water Dog should be conformationally. Their job was a particularly important one as it represents one of the most significant roles the club plays as the AKC Parent Club for Spanish Water Dogs.

Conformation Corner

Info for the Fancier



Phoebe Is on a Roll

by Cindy Woodling

2022 has been a momentous year for Lisa Harper and young bred-by exhibitor bitch, Phoebe. Lisa shared her thoughts with me about winning both Westminster and the Spanish Water Dog Club of America National Specialty.

I asked Lisa if there was anything she wanted to share before I began asking her my questions:

"It takes a long time to truly develop a line, to understand what is in your line, what it brings, what it needs. Breeding is an art; exhibiting is an art. And it all needs to come together on the right day like a symphony.

"When Phoebe and I are in the ring, all the others are with us: her mother, her grandfather, her great-grandmother Pinkie (my heart dog), her great-grandmother Tia and great-grandfather Boquerón, their dam Dama and grandsire Ch Belo, all of whom I met. I see them clearly. They all culminated in Phoebe. She's a treasure. I couldn't be happier."



Cindy: For readers who don't know you, can you give a brief overview of your history with the Spanish Water Dog?

Lisa: My first Spanish Water Dog; Tia (CH Bruma de Benamaina CGC), was born in Spain in 1999 to a young breeder named Sebastian Alonso Jimenez and imported by my mentor and mother-in-dogs Judy Seibert. In January 2000, Judy gave Tia to me and completely changed the trajectory of my life. Until then, I had worked with Judy showing, trialing and breeding Portuguese Water Dogs.

In 2001, Craig Pope, Bev Zeman, Connie O'Hara and I founded the Spanish Water Dog Association of America. The Spanish Water Dog Club was formed in 2004 and I served as the first Chair. We applied and received recognition in AKC's Foundation Stock Service program. We held annual Jamborees across the USA, offering conformation, herding, agility, water, tracking and other activities. We uncovered prcd-PRA and hypothyroidism in the breed. My dogs were the first registered with the AKC, first AKC agility title, joint first AKC herding title alongside Marnie Harrison's legendary Chase. I was the breed's first AKC Breeder of Merit.

In 22 years, my life has been dedicated to this breed and club. I have continuously served in almost every board position, chaired committees, helped write and revise standards, trained judges, researched, and pulled together Jamborees and Specialties.

My real passion is understanding how history, geography and other factors created this amazing breed. This knowledge steers the development of my line. These last several years, I've been privileged to co-own and co-breed with Colleen Nolan. And I met my husband through this wonderful breed.

Continued next page

Conformation Corner

Info for the Fancier



CW: You've had a high profile year with Phoebe; winning both Westminster and the National Speciality this summer. What's Phoebe like at home?

Lisa: (laughing) She's the queen bee, except when her mother Kai is in the house. Like her mama, she sleeps on top of the back of the sofa. She is an avid retriever and owns the deep end of our pool. The other dogs don't even bother to try; she outswims them all.



Cindy: What are a few things that you attribute to your success this year with Phoebe?

Lisa: Well, Phoebe has that elusive "it" quality, but she certainly didn't start life enjoying conformation. Yes, she won, but she was not enjoying it. My heart broke a little at each show. It was only through the mentorship of judges, handlers, and others that Phoebe and I were able to find the joy of conformation. We stopped showing, found the right handling instructor (1.5 hours away!) and worked with a professional for a couple of weekends. The process took a good three to four months. In the end, we rebuilt as a team and now we're having fun together.

Cindy: Most of our readers have seen the Photos taken after your prestigious wins. The emotion is very evident to me. Can you describe the emotions you had when the judge pointed at you?

Lisa: I'd like to say, the entry at this year's Westminster was particularly nice. As someone who helped launch this breed, I was extremely proud to see us so well represented.

Elated. That's the word. When Ms. Lauren pointed to Phoebe, I was elated! Phoebe entered the ring on fire. She really showed herself. And honestly, I don't remember much after that pull. Phoebe is a once-in-a-lifetime dog, and I was over the moon knowing she was the first Bred by Exhibitor dog of our breed to win Best of Breed at Westminster.



Ms. Lauren asked if Phoebe was related to another brown dog I'd shown to her, and of course she meant Phoebe's mother Kai, whom I co-own with Colleen Nolan. Kai was an American-bred Westminster Best of Breed winner, but I did not breed her. I bred her sire, but Susan DeAngelo (Angel kennel) bred Kai.

Continued next page

Conformation Corner

Info for the Fancier



So, yes, Phoebe is out of two Westminster winners: Marnie Harrison's Hudson (CH AKC GCH CKC Zorraro Xplorer RA AGI AGXJ JTX Am PT) and Kai (GCHS CH Angel Kiss the S'Kai de Ariosia CD BN RE CAA FCAT2 CGCA).



We had our work cut out for us at the National specialty in Michigan this summer. Judge Andrew Ritter had witnessed us in our low point earlier in the year. We needed to rock the ring 120% if we had a chance. The gods smiled upon. Judge Ritter pointed to Phoebe, making her the first breeder-owner handled SWDCA Specialty Winner. I think that win—that judge and that National—was even an even more important win for me than Westminster. To have built a long-vision and purposeful breeding program; to have caught each puppy as they were born; to have shown every dog myself, and understood their strengths and weaknesses; to have searched worldwide for just the right sires and dams have it all culminate in Phoebe, and then to put so much effort and heart into her success... Well, it's very special.

The icing on the cake was, that same day, winning Owner-Handler Best In Show. The exhibitor behind us said she knew the moment Phoebe entered the ring that we would win. Phoebe's mom has a NOHS BIS under her belt, too. Both

had Westminster BOBs and National Specialty BOBs. Wouldn't it be wonderful to keep this ball rolling?

Cindy: *What's next for Phoebe?*

Lisa: I would like to explore AKC companion and performance events including scent work and obedience, but it is hard to leave the conformation ring behind with such a fine dog. She'll be three next season, right at her conformational peak. So we'll see.

Cindy: *One final question, Lisa. Do you intend to breed Phoebe?*

Lisa: When I breed, there's a reason. Usually, it's for my next big winner or for a specific person's needs. My intention is to produce all-arounders: beautiful, healthy, happy, typey working dogs. Lord willing, Phoebe will continue that journey.



Lisa Harper and her husband Raimo live on a farm in rural Connecticut with their 6 SWDs. Lisa is a professional groomer and breeds under the kennel name Ariosia Spanish Water Dogs.

Junior Handlers

The Next Generation

Junior Show Ring

by David Milstein

The weekend of September 17-18 was a coming together of seven years of waiting. My grandson, Jonah, was going to show our Spanish Water Dog, Tango, in the Junior Show Ring for the first time. I have watched other Juniors show SWDs before, I have even competed against them in the regular show ring.

Jonah has shown a interest in showmanship ever since we got Tango. He went with me to several shows as I showed Tango. As he approached his ninth birthday, I started to take him and Tango to conformation class. I also applied to the AKC to get him a Junior Handler number that he would need to compete. At first I sat in the class with him and Tango. As he showed more self-confidence I sat outside the classroom. The Instructor had nothing but good things to say about his handling of Tango.

I also started him at Fast Cat competition. It was Tango's first time running too. The host club was very kind to him and to Tango, allowing him extra time at the start and having Jonah walk the length of the run while Tango watched him go. It gave

Tango the idea to chase down Jonah to reach the finish line. He then competed again several weeks later and had good results.



As Jonah and Tango grow up together they are growing the owner-and-dog bond. The time spent together helps Jonah understand the responsibility of dog ownership and the happiness that owning a dog brings.

The Junior judges were very understanding of the children and dogs and gave clear instructions. They explained what they wanted and allowed the handlers a second chance at following the instructions. My grandson earned two third places over the weekend. His confidence grew over the two shows. We were also happy that his conformation instructor was there on Saturday and spoke to him. She cheered him on and expressed her joy in his work. Our whole SWD family encouraged him and he got to feel their support.

As the club's AKC Junior representative, I can give suggestions and offer help as to how to start with your junior.

David Milstein is
SWDCA Director of Rescue East and
SWDCAAKC Junior Representative

Triple Threat Gazette

Herd, Hunt, Swim Performance Sports

SWDs Take to the Water in Colorado

By Art Morgan

After a few months of planning, nine Spanish Water Dog “fans” got together with six SWDs for a water work meetup and practice session in Loveland, Colorado on August 19, 2022. The meetup was held at the group picnic area of Boyd Lake State Park, which provided an excellent private area with a grass for land practice before getting into the water, a boat ramp for easy access to the water, and covered picnic tables for eating, drinking, and socializing after the practice session.

worked with Lisa to gather historical documentation about what tasks SWDs would have done most frequently. We decided to focus this first practice session on three water tasks that both are used in PWD trials and are mentioned in historical documentation for SWDs: 1) retrieve an object in the water from shore, 2) board a boat and ride safely with the handler, and 3) retrieve an object in the water from a boat and re-board the boat with the object. These are also three very practical skills for our SWDs to have in modern life, if you want to enjoy time with your dogs on or near the water.



I've been working with Rob Driscoll, Lisa Harper, and several other SWDCA members over the last few months on plans for a program that would provide water work courses, tests, and certifications. In late spring Rob and I decided that it made sense to do some informal practice and experimentation with SWDs of various ages and amounts of exposure to water. Since Rob had placed several SWDs in homes in Colorado and I was planning to go to Colorado to visit my parents in the summer, Colorado was a natural choice for our first water work get-together.

In preparation for the event, Rob and I talked with two Portuguese Water Dog water trial experts and studied the PWD Trial Manual carefully. We also

Training Technique

Retrieving an object in the water from the boat is a fairly advanced skill that is not tested until the third level in PWD Trials (Working Water Dog), but nearly all of the SWDs at our get together in Colorado were able to do this their first time out on the boat, and all showed the potential to do it with a little practice. Here is the training sequence we used to get them ready to retrieve from a boat:

1. Practice land retrieves with a favorite ball or dummy. Once the dog enthusiastically associates an object with fun retrieves, s/he is much more likely to make the jump to more advanced retrieves if you use the same object.

Continued next page

Triple Threat Gazette

Herd, Hunt, Swim Performance Sports

2. Practice land-to-water retrieves with the same object, at first in very shallow water and then progressively deeper/farther, until they have to swim several yards to bring it back to shore.
3. Put a harness or vest on the dog and have him/her board the boat on the shore with the handler. Have a second person do the paddling or rowing, so the handler can focus on his/her dog.
4. We paddled out 20 - 30 yards into the lake, and then the handler threw the dummy/toy from the boat into the water.



Some dogs needed a little encouragement to jump from the boat, but for the most part they were so familiar with both the water and the toy at this point that

it wasn't a huge "leap of faith" to jump from the boat. After swimming to and grabbing their dummy, some dogs initially wanted to swim to shore (to their "other handler"), rather than returning to the boat. To adjust for this, we threw the dummies away from the shore and positioned the boat in between the dog and the shore. The boat we were using had a very low draft and the dogs only had to be lifted about six inches to get back over the side hull back into the boat, so all dogs were easily successful at reboarding the boat. A big, stable, paddle board also works well for practicing this skill, and you can practice it first in shallow water with an extra person holding the board.

Share Your Stories

It was a small gathering but a good experiment, and hopefully it will set the stage for more SWD owners to work on water skills with their dogs in the years to come, whether it be for work or simply recreation. Laura Plantell, who was in attendance at the Colorado meetup with her trained search and rescue dog Rio, shared that adding water skills to Rio's repertoire will help Team Rio expand the types of searches that they can assist with. Denise Velasquez has already returned to Boyd Lake with her SWDs for more practice. My Paco garnered a small amount of local fame this summer by being featured on television retrieving baseballs in McCovey Cove outside the San Francisco Giants stadium (see photo), and I am working with our youngest SWD, Izzy, on learning to surf, in hopes that she may qualify next year for the World Dog Surfing Championships.



If you are working with your dog on water skills, send your stories, questions, and photos to me at art.morgan@gmail.com. I will do my best to feature more stories and answer questions in future articles.

Triple Threat Gazette, Part 2

Scarlett's Mill Herding Clinic

Herding Clinic Regional Gathering

by Sarah Spinler

A half-day herding clinic was held on Monday, August 15th at Scarlett's Mill Farm in Birdsboro, PA. Scarlett's Mill Farm is owned by Amanda Nickel. It is the primary venue for AKC herding trials of the Del-Bay Herding & Tracking Club. The clinician was AKC herding judge Terry Wofford. Terry has experience in both training and trialing Spanish Water Dogs. The following owners and dogs attended:

Valor: Doug and Dana
Shoop

Indi and Cali: Sarah Spinler
and Jim Creedon

Rudi: Nancy Valley

Nipo: Andrea Valley
Paskiewicz

Canjinco and Teo: Cindy
Woodling

Maggie: Ken Miller

Jack: Sue DeAngelo



All of the dogs worked sheep. Nancy and Rudi worked ducks. Spanish Water Dogs are an upright (not crouching), loose-eyed (rather than a "strong" eye that stares down the sheep) herding breed. A variety of herding tendencies were exhibited by the dogs working sheep including – circling, barking, and attempts to nip at heels. Fetching – going out, around, and returning the sheep to the handler is easier for our breed than driving – moving the

sheep more independently out and away from the handler. Owners with less experience learned some basic commands like "Away" and Come By" and their dogs mostly worked on a long line. We enjoyed a great lunch afterwards and listened to Terry tell fascinating "stories" and show us his fine handmade leash leatherworks. Several purchases were made.

According to Terry, all of the dogs exhibited breed herding tendencies. All would be able to obtain a Herding Instinct Title and most would be

able to obtain a Herding Tested title (with owner training and with some dogs, more training than others).

For those interested in what is required for a Herding Instinct or Herding Tested AKC titles, please see the AKC website:

<https://www.akc.org/sports/herding/getting-started>

Overall it was great seeing people in person outside of the Breed ring.

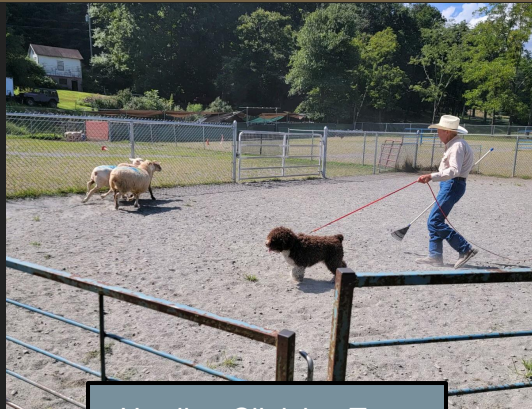
Continued next page

Triple Threat Gazette, Part 2

Scarlet's Mill Herding Clinic



Nancy Valley
& Rudi



Herding Clinician Terry
Wofford & Canjico



Sarah Spindler
& Cali



Scarlet's Mill Herding clinic



Andrea Paskiewicz & Nippo



Doug Shoop & Valor

Perros International

Words from Members and Friends Across the Pond



Does Your Spanish Water Dog Need Training?

By Rachel Cooper, KCAI

As UK Breed Health Coordinator, I consider my job to be about the whole dog, including their mental well-being. So the question of whether we should/should not train our dogs intrigues me – I have my own strong opinions here, but I wanted to look at it logically.

So, what do we mean by training?

TRAINING: The education, instruction or discipline of a person or thing that is being trained. (Dictionary.com)

According to this definition, it sounds to me as though training is just what our clever SWDs need. However, different sorts of training abound; I am going to assume here that we all use positive training methods, as that is not the question this time, but even using kind methods, training can be crudely divided into formal and informal training.

Formal training is relatively easy to define - teaching your SWD specific skills which will enable her/him to succeed in a particular field, e.g. obedience, barn

hunt, agility, rally, etc. I term this "sports training." I would say these skills are optional, i.e., we may

enjoy training these skills and competing with them but they are not necessary to our lives. Consider classic competition obedience heelwork, great to watch in the ring but not that practical in real life!



Informal training is much more difficult to pin down as a concept, but incredibly important IMHO. This embraces all the skills we teach our dogs so that we can live in harmony together. This includes socialisation but is so much more than just that – I have a friend who has all her dogs by the age of 6 months able to sit on the back seat of her VW, remotely open both side doors from a distance, i.e., she is away from the vehicle, and her young dogs will just wait for her to come back and give them their next instruction. It is quite an impressive feat! Yet she tells me 'I don't train my dogs every day!' This is an example of a life-skill that these dogs are taught, as it makes my friend's life with her dogs easier and therefore more enjoyable.



I think we can accept, then, that we all train our dogs, whether formally or informally, or a mixture of both, which probably applies to many of us.

But *why* should our SWDs be trained?

The benefits of both sorts of training are many, the biggest in my opinion being the bond that we form and develop with our dogs through training of any sort. It is also fun for both dog and owner!

When our dogs understand what is expected of them and how we work together, this reduces uncertainty and therefore stress for all concerned. Society expects an awful lot of our dogs in public, and appropriate training ensures they will not act anti-socially and get themselves (or us!) into trouble.

Perros International

Words from Members and Friends Across the Pond



Our breed being so recently a pure working breed, there are many who really need a job to do, and training helps to fulfill this need. It also provides mental stimulation for dogs when they cannot be exercised, when recovering or during rehabilitation. Some types of training are calming in themselves, for dogs which do not easily self-regulate or need help to do so, e.g., scentwork.



Of course, I am preaching to the converted here when I say that training is useful for socialisation of all dogs, learning to focus on their owner despite distractions is a very useful skill, both in life and in the competition environment.

I guess you can see where I'm going with this!- regardless of whether we train for dog sports or competitions, we all train our dogs all the time. That's why when we dogsit for someone else's dogs there are things they do that annoy us, things their family requires which we don't or really dislike. Having someone else's dog to stay is always a culture shock, there are always differences in the way we bring our dog up, and that's okay. But it's definitely training.

I have two wheelchair-using friends who have three dogs. Their dogs always learn very quickly to walk behind the wheels of the chair when it is moving – I guess that's a survival instinct, really! So within days of getting a new puppy, it is walking nicely next to the chair, behind the

wheels, a skill it takes many puppy owners weeks or months to perfect. This is, of course, a required life-skill when living with two wheelchairs.

Formal training brings something on top of all the informal training we all do – and I would argue that attending classes, learning in the company of others, brings even more to your partnership.



Most SWDs really do need a job to do, in my opinion, with their people. They are not ideally

suited to being kennel dogs, certainly not couch potato dogs, and are most fulfilled working together with their families.

So, even if you don't think you're training your SWD, you are, all the time! And if you've never tried formal training, for a sport or competition, why not give it a go? Try out a few, different partnerships like different things, but there are so many options out there now.... And here's a thought, if you're not training your SWD, is s/he perhaps training you?



Que Pasa Perro de Agua

Events: **Comings** ... and Goings

Early Details for 2023 National Specialty

Summer 2023 Schedule [tentative as of 09/14/2022]:

Thursday August 10th In Lebanon, PA:

Conformation show [Huntingdon Valley Kennel club]

Friday, August 11th: In Lebanon, PA:

Conformation show [Huntingdon Valley Kennel club]

In Lewisberry, PA [1 hour west from Lebanon]: starting at about noon or 1pm and running 'til dinner: Agility try-its: instructor TBD

Following the fun, social dinner at local venue outside with dogs allowed

Saturday, August 12th: In Lebanon, PA:

9am proposed ring time Conformation Specialty show with Sweepstakes [sweepstakes allow fixed dogs-puppies and veterans] Breed Judge: Mary Anne Brocius Sweeps Judge TBD

Obedience/Rally

Sunday, August 13th: In Lebanon, PA:

start time TBD More conformation and Obedience/Rally

In Biglerville, PA [1.5 hours west from Lebanon]: we would rent the facility for the day Dock diving and dock diving try-its and other fun

Following the fun, Catered dinner and Annual meeting at the brewery Monday,

August 14th: In Birdsboro, PA: [1 hour east from Lebanon]:

Start time approx. 8am-1:30pm?

Herding clinic: trainer TBD

Addresses Lebanon Valley Exposition Center [Conformation and Obedience] 2120 Cornwall Road Lebanon, PA

Historic Round Barn and Farm Market [Dock diving] 298 Cashtown Rd. Biglerville, PA 17307

Scarlet's Mill Farm [Amada Nickle's herding facility] 2384 Hay Creek Road Birdsboro, PA 19508

Huntingdon Valley Kennel Club, Inc.

Event No: 2023105902

Lebanon Valley Exposition Center
2120 Cornwall Road
Lebanon, PA
Pended

All AKC-Recognized Breeds

Start Date: Thursday - August 10, 2023

End Date: Thursday - August 10, 2023

Closing Date: Wednesday - July 26, 2023

Closing Time: 05:00:00 PM

Time Zone: EASTERN

Add event to your calendar.

Event Chair

Sue Ratz

3382 E Buck Road

Pennsburg, PA 18073

sue.k.ratz1@gmail.com

267-905-4351

For additional information contact:

Jim Rau Dog Shows, Ltd., Superintendent

PO BOX 6898

READING, PA 19610-0898

(610) 376-1880

info@raudogshows.com

AKC National Owner-Handled Series

Continued next page

Que Pasa Perro de Agua

Events: **Comings** ... and Goings

Other Events on the Horizon:



AKC National Championship presented by Royal Canin
AKC National Owner-Handled Series Final
AKC Obedience Classic
AKC Agility Invitational
AKC FastCAT Invitational

December 17-18, 2022

Orlando, FL

Dog Show Judges Advanced Institute

Spanish Water Dog Judges Education
Judges seminar & hands-on workshop

Sunday, January 22, 2023

Presenters: Lisa Harper and Marnie Harrison

Location Rose City Classic Cluster

We need volunteers with conformation dogs!

Contact Lisa at ariosaswds@gmail.com

Rose City Classic Cluster Dog Show

The Spanish Water Dog Club of America is looking into making the Rose City Cluster in Portland, OR, in late January a supported entry. You can check on our website (swdclub.org) for details as we get closer to the event.

Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show

June 18-22, 2023

Location not yet announced



Que Pasa Perro de Agua

Events: **Comings** ... and Goings

Help Wanted

***Nancy Valley is retiring as Specialty Coordinator
after the 2023 National Specialty***

***New Specialty Coordinators are urgently
needed for future years, beginning 2024!!!***

***Please contact anyone on the Board of Directors
if you want more information about the position.
Nancy will be available to assist as long as needed
in learning the job.***

The Club is also looking for members who want to get more involved by volunteering for small-to-larger jobs. We have lots of fun opportunities to be engaged with what's going on. Check out the list of committees on the Club column on page 34. Contact Donna at swdca.vicepresident@gmail.com to find the role that's right for you.

Que Pasa Perro de Agua

Events: Comings ... and Goings



Supported Entry - *Timberland Valley*

Dog Fanciers

by Linda Perkins

I had the pleasure of helping set up the SWDCA supported entry on Sept 17th at the TVDFA show in Chehalis, WA. This was a 3-day all-breed show weekend with Rally on Friday. Judges were Stephanie Hedgepath, Dana Cline (supported entry), Raymond Filburn, Jr. and Debbi Addicoat for Rally.

I am pleased to say we had a very nice entry all 3 days. Friday had 4 dogs, 2 bitches and 1 bitch special entered, with a major in the dogs (major all 3 days in fact). Results were: Marnie Harrison's Chego BOB, BOW, BOH with a GPOH3, Milstein's Tango – RWD, and Betsy – BOS. (Class bitches were absent.) Marnie Harrison's Meg placed 1st in Novice B Rally and Linda Perkins' Burton placed 4th in Intermediate Rally.



Marnie Harrison & Chego



Susan Pfister & Poco

Saturday's supported entry 4 dogs, 3 bitches and 2 bitch specials entered. Results were: Burton – BOB, BOW, BOH, WD; Cheri Levenson's Lucia – Select Bitch; Chego – RWD, BBE; Annette Martin's Peaches – WB, BOS; Megan Thompson/ Rob Driscoll's Elektra RWB.

Sunday, the same except 1 bitch special with the following results: Burton – BOB, BOW, WD for his championship; Susan Pfister/Roy Loder's Poco – RWD; Betsy – BOS; Peaches WB; and Cheryl Williams/Rob Driscoll's Holly – RWB.



Linda Perkins & Burton

I want to thank Andi Martin for handling the trophies on Saturday for the ring steward and judge. After judging 3 SWD's took part in a CGC test with with Tango and Elektra earning those titles.

We also had prospective owners watching ringside

being mentored by exhibitors and learning about the breed.

Several of us got together at Jeremy's Farm to Table Restaurant for drinks/dinner after the show.

In addition to breed competition, we also had a junior handler – Jonah Milstein handling Tango. First time showing and Jonah was in the ribbons both days. Way to GO!!! Looking forward to seeing Jonah and Tango in the ring again.

I want to thank everyone who came for either competition or education. Hope to see you all again, maybe in Portland for the Rose City shows.



Meghan Thompson
Rob Driscoll

Member Noticias

Member Spotlight

Goli and Chase



Marnie Harrison

by Trish Byron

Marnie Harrison has done it all in her 20 years with Spanish Water Dogs – conformation, agility, rally, obedience, herding, breeding and a trip to Westminster!



Marnie and Meg with her first litter

It all began in 2002 when she acquired Goli from Connie O'Hara. "I was involved with Chesapeake Bay Retrievers from a young age. My husband, Barry, has allergies so I started looking into other breeds. I wasn't interested

in any of the bigger non-shedding dogs," Marnie explained. "I contacted Connie and asked to come out to meet her dogs. I came home with Goli."

"I thought, like many people, that a dog is a dog but these dogs are unique. Words that have never left my mind came from Craig Pope, one of the few people breeding these dogs at the time, "This breed is almost like a feral dog. They're so vigilant and wary."

Marnie lives in suburban Calgary where there is easy access to endless hiking trails and places for the dogs to run as well as recreational water access. Marnie taught elementary school for many years then did substitute teaching until COVID hit when "It was time to hang up the chalk."

Currently Meg, 6½ and 4½-year-old Oro are a part of the Harrison household. Meg is competing at Master's level in agility in Canada. "She loves agility." Meg was spayed after three litters. "Oro is my husband's favorite of all the dogs we've had. Barry is a musician. He taught Oro to "sing" along with the music. Now we can't get him to stop!"

"I decided that I wanted to get into breeding," so after years of investigation, in 2014, acting on a suggestion from Wanda Tait, Marnie and friend Glenda Kealy made the trip to the World Dog Show. "There were 90 Spanish Water Dogs entered!" Here Marnie and Glenda met Marika Fredrikson from Croatia. "The next year we traveled to Croatia and brought back three Zorrazo dogs – Hudson, Fasú and Vitsi. That got us going as a breeding kennel. All Praderia foundation stock is from Marika."

"I have actively worked with all of my dogs. I have very strong feelings about early training and brainwork for these dogs. They are so much easier to live with when they get regular recreational outings and training opportunities. I get so many compliments on Meg as an agility dog."

"SWDs have taught me so much. When I enrolled Chase in puppy class,

I was exposed to clicker/positive training. It's improved the relationship I've had with all



The Gang: Meg, Jade, Hudson, and Oro

Continued next page

Member Noticias

Member Spotlight

Goli and Chase



subsequent dogs. These dogs are so smart that harsh methods make them wary.” Marnie states that positive training in general and finding training instructors that are a good match for you and your dog is key. “If a pet is your goal, that’s probably enough – finding that right trainer. If you want to go farther – to do conformation or agility or be a breeder – finding a mentor is very important. It’s the person who, when you have to discuss a hard issue, is there. You can trust them and trust their judgement.”



Chase conquering weave pole

Marnie encourages someone considering a SWD puppy to do a “meet and greet.” “They need to be educated about the temperament of the breed. So many people come for the non-shedding dog but they are so much more! They will need ongoing stimulation of some kind even if it’s just regular sniffing walks. Something that brings ongoing satisfaction and pleasure to me at this point in my SWD involvement is the success of the puppies I’ve sold. From families that absolutely adore their pet, to competitors who are having success in their chosen activities – agility, dock diving, conformation, etc.”

Marnie recommends that people new to the breed “get involved. Try rally, especially rally novice. It’s stuff every dog should know anyway. It starts that working relationship and enhances that dog-person bond.”

Marnie has been involved with the Spanish Water Dog Club in a variety of ways over the years. Before it became the AKC Liaison club, Marnie served on the board. She wrote the AKC Gazette column for years. She worked closely with Lisa Harper on the revised breed standard. Marnie is also involved with Judges Education. “I hope there will be some succession in the club. We need new blood. It’s time for other folks to step up. It’s critical for the breed and the club. We need folks with depth and longevity in the dog world.”



Meg at AKC herding trial

ster and that first litter of puppies. I enjoy the ongoing agility fun that we have. I love to go hiking with my dogs.”

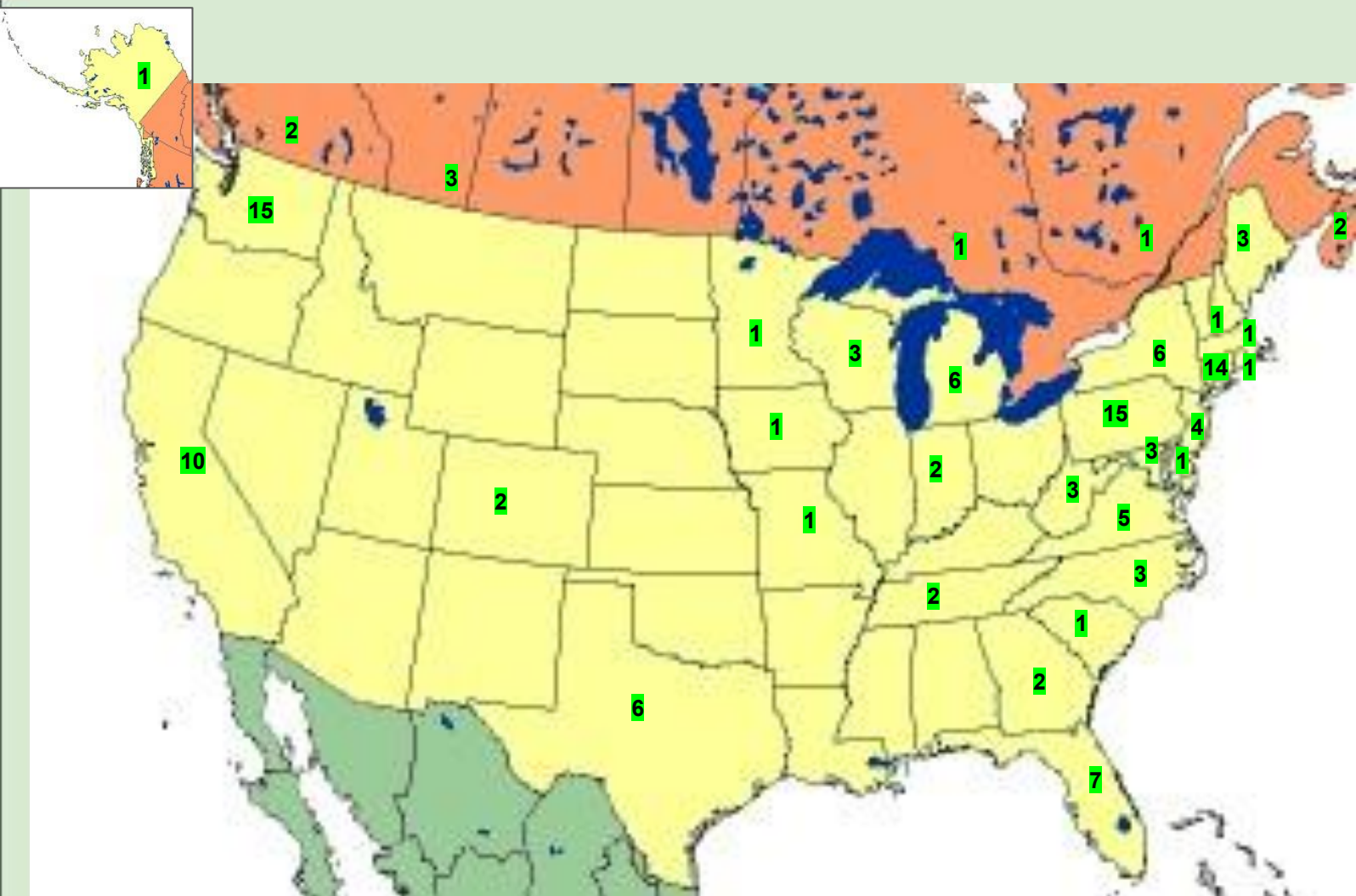
“I would like to encourage people to work as hard as they can to support their dog to function in many different environments. What kind of ambassadors are my dogs for the breed if I have to tell people to look but not touch? They need to be able to greet people without incident.

One thing stands out after a conversation with Marnie – she is passionate about all things Spanish Water Dog!

Among Marnie’s fondest Spanish Water Dog memories are “Hudson taking best of breed at Westminster and that first litter of puppies. I enjoy the ongoing

Member Noticias

Membership Map



England - 1
Finland - 1
New Zealand - 1
Northern Ireland - 2
Spain - 2

Spanish Water Dog Club of America Trivia:

Question: When did the first Spanish Water Dog Club form in the US?

Answer: The Spanish Water Dog Association of America was formed in 2001. A different club was formed in 2004 to affiliate with the American Kennel Club. The two clubs merged in 2010 into the current Spanish Water Dog Club of America,

Spani-Antics

Real Stories about Our Comedic Canines



Betty and Rudi Mayer:

We take Diego to the small-dog side of the dog park when it is empty because I'm afraid he'll get into it with a big dog who tries to share his beloved ball. But Diego, who loves to swim in the pool, realizes concessions must be made.



Donna Perone:

Murray and I have run across lots of nature during our frequent walks, but Murray thought this creature was particularly puzzling. Besides being strange looking a bit smelly, he had no manners at all and completely ignored all of Murray's strange noises and barks. I finally pulled Murray away before the snapping turtle decided she'd had enough of this furry beast and tried to take a chunk out of him. We found where she laid eggs in that area a few days later.



Sarah Spinler:

Cali's thoughts on a warm sunny day:

Practice my agility weaves or lay in the sun? Sun wins!



Belly Rub Roster

SWD Celebrations



Coppers Bailey's Irish Cream

Casa de Rancho's Hagan Ruido

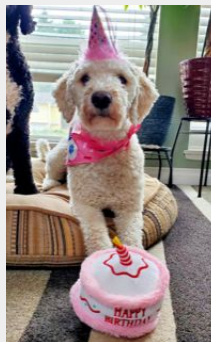
Happy Woofday

Happy birthday to our SWDs born
November-January

If you do not see your dog listed, please make sure to send your info to swdca.secretary@gmail.com. And don't forget to send in info for new puppies or older dogs you adopt so we can add them to the list!

November

- 11/09/17 Chloe (Chloe De Lago)
- 11/10/15 Riley (Waverly's All Riled Up)
- 11/18/19 Phoebe (Ariosa Praderia Seamist Songbird De Fiesta)
- 11/18/19 Quinn (Ariosa Praderia Quintessential Bay Breez de Fiesta)
- 11/18/19 Rico (Ariosa Praderia Guapo Rey Rico de Fiesta)
- 11/18/19 Rocky (Ariosa Praderia Catch a Wave De Fiesta)
- 11/20/16 Cara (Highview's Sweet Caroline)
- 11/20/05 Floyd
- 11/28/19 Oakley (Waverly's Notadoodle)
- 11/28/19 Oliver
- 11/25/21 Selah (Guadalmilla de Los Llanos del Valle)
- 11/26/09 Fami (Concurrado Vivencia)
- 11/27/17 Pika (Concurrado United Football)



December

- 12/01/19 Roxy (Oberlind's Roxy Del Nieve)
- 12/03/19 Gracie (Highview's Dulce Caridad)
- 12/06/13 Opi (Opium del Rabadan)
- 12/06/04 Bella (I Inca Canela Bella de Benamaina)
- 12/09/20 Jade (Zorrado Firecracker)
- 12/12/15 Bailey (Coppers Bailey's Irish Cream)
- 12/12/18 Bella (LIJA's Bella Grace Johnson)
- 12/15/17 Amapola
- 12/21/12 Stanley (Stim de Turko de la Dehesa)
- 12/21/12 Tinta (Stim de Turko de la Dehesa)
- 12/22/11 Cali (Casa de Rancho's Cali)
- 12/22/11 Nippo (Nispero De Los Duendes)
- 12/22/11 Rudi (Casa de Rancho's Hagan Ruido)
- 12/22/11 Ivy (Casa de Rancho's Hiedra)
- 12/26/12 Bosley (Bosely)
- 12/26/12 Teddy
- 12/27/19 Xlika (Xlika de Ubbadat)
- 12/30/16 Gomez (De Lago's Gomez Go-Go Gozerian)
- 12/30/16 Maizie (De Lago's Maizie)
- 12/30/16 Ziggy (Delago's Ziggy Starfish)
- 12/31/08 Isabella (Isabella de Lago)

January

- 01/04/14 Rumba (Rayaragua Watching the Moon)
- 01/21/18 Kikki (Zorrado's Peanut Butter)
- 01/21/18 Oro (Zorrado's Painted In Gold For Praderia)
- 01/21/15 Snow (Fundy Bay Gypsy Snow)
- 01/25/19 Noodles

Tail Spins

Webinar Reviews and News



SWD Life Hacks

by Donna Perone

The Spanish Water Dog Club of America hosted a webinar on September 8, 2022 to share thoughts and ideas about life with a Spanish Water Dog. This was an unusual event in that it was held in a town-hall-style format, whereby questions were asked and answered by anyone attending the event.

We were unfortunately unable to record this webinar, but were able to collect a number of good takeaways from the event. A number of people offered tips for dealing with separation anxiety, such as turning on soothing background music, leaving the dog an article of clothing with your scent on it, getting into a routine when leaving home so they understand what is happening (for example, always using the same phrase and motions when leaving home and returning), and

not making a big fuss upon your return so the dog is less likely to get as revved up as they anticipate your return.

The breeders on our panel (David Hickerson, Gina Peckford, and Wanda Tait) discussed what breeders should typically do before a puppy is picked up to prepare the dog for life in its new home. The panel explained why crate training is important and how it can help with some behaviors.

Tips were also provided for dealing with dogs struggling with loose leash walking and managing your dog's struggles with fear phases and reactive behavior. Use of anxiety drugs and helping with fireworks were also discussed.

Panelist Brian Batres led a discussion on grooming, provided some tips for cording and some recommended grooming products and applications.



SWD Life Hacks

Tips for living with Spanish Water Dogs



Topics

- SWD Socialization
- Behavior Issue Management
- Separation Anxiety
- Reactive Behavior
- Loose Leash Walking
- Fear Phases
- Avoiding Over-Exercising
- Grooming Tips and Considerations
- Question and Answers

Thursday, September 8, 2022
8:00 pm Eastern Time

This will be a "town hall" format:
audience participation encouraged

Our Panel

- Brian Batres, Texas
- David Hickerson, California
- Gina Peckford, Nova Scotia
- Vanessa Rivera, New York
- Wanda Tait, British Columbia
- Denise Velasquez, Colorado

Moderator: Donna Perone

How to register

To **register**, send an email to swdca.secretary@gmail.com

This is a free webinar offered to the entire SWD community

Who Should attend?

Anyone who owns, used to own or wants to own a Spanish Water Dog

Newer to the breed: hear from and ask questions of those who have gone before you

Seasoned SWD owners: share your experiences



Cords & Capers

Photo Gallery



Susan DeAngelo's puppy, Ivy



Celebrating Ken Miller's Birthday at the Macungie, PA show



Art Morgan & Paco in Colorado



Cindy Woodling's Teodoro

Our Staff and Contributors

Trish Byron, Columnist

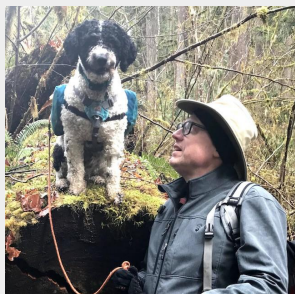
Dogs have always been a part of Dave and Trish Byron's household. During a trip to Tanglewood they were introduced to a Spanish Water Dog. It was love at first sight. After some research, Trish applied to the Rescue Committee. A few months later, they made the trip to meet Bob, then four years old. After a long and happy life together, Bob passed away in January 2020 at the age of 16.



James Colitz, Columnist

James Colitz lives in Seattle, WA, with his wife Sheila, two teenage children, and two-year old SWD, Roxy. Roxy loves action in all forms, though her favorites are swimming, long hikes, beachcombing, obedience training, and of course, high-intensity fetch.

James and Roxy are training as a Search Dog team with the county sheriff's Search and Rescue unit.



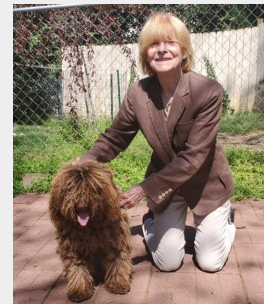
Rachel Cooper, Contributor

Rachel Cooper and husband Adrian are "FiveNinePlus," Kennel Club Assured Breeders in the UK. Rachel is the Breed Health Coordinator for the UK SWD Club. She is a teacher, trained in Modern Languages and lives in the green Northern Irish countryside.



Chris Evans, Columnist

Chris Evans lives in South Carolina with her three SWDs Ramona, River, and Seron. She has a long history with Komondors and especially enjoys showing her dogs in conformation.



Lisa Harper, Columnist

Lisa Harper lives on her grandparents' farm in Connecticut with five SWDs, an assortment of chickens, bats, occasional predatory visitors, and her husband and fellow SWD club member Raimo

Tuomela. Lisa is currently the club Vice President, and chair of the Health and Wellness, Judges Education, and Standard Committees. She's been involved with the breed since 2000. She was the breed's first Breeder of Merit and is a true standard-bearer for the breed.



Art Morgan, Columnist

Art Morgan lives in San Mateo, CA, with his wife Mie and two SWDs, Paco and Izzy. Paco is a bird dog who lives to retrieve, especially in the water. Izzy is still a pup, but she definitely is showing the instincts to follow in Paco's footsteps. Art's adult daughter Nia also owns an SWD in Chicago.



Continued next page

Our Staff and Contributors

David Milstein, Contributor

David Milstein started in with an SWD in early 2014. He enjoys showing dogs in the conformation ring and in dog activities. He is active in the club, he served as the Recording Secretary and now is the Director of Rescue East. He recently became the club's AKC Junior representative. His grandson has started competing in Juniors.



Meg Normand, Reviewer/Proofer

After years in theatrical costuming, Meg Normand loves to critique ring outfits while watching dog shows and never tires of seeing SWDs in action.

Linda Perkins, Contributor

I participated in the early days of the 4-H dog program when it was only obedience. My first "show dog" was a beagle, followed by dalmatians and a great dane. While living in Germany, I was given a bearded collie bitch who was followed up with several more thru the years. I have owned beardies for 43 years, participating in conformation, herding and rally. When I decided to downsize and reduce the grooming aspect, my research ended up with getting Burton, CH Praderia's Scandal and Concern, RI, SIN, ORT from Marnie Harrison. Burton has integrated himself well with the elder beardies and also taken me into other venues. We train and compete in rally and nosework/scentwork in addition to conformation. He has also competed in barn hunt, but not sure it is his cup of tea.

Donna Perone, Editor, Columnist

Donna Perone and her SWD, Murray, are BFFs. They enjoy swimming and hiking and all sorts of canine sports and activities. Murray's main job is making sure he knows the where-



abouts of Donna at all times. His favorite activity is chasing geese, but he is game for trying anything that looks fun, especially if there might be a treat involved.

Sarah Spinler, Columnist

Sarah has owned SWDs since 2011. She and her dogs Cali and Indi enjoy dock diving, conformation,



agility, sheep herding, Barn Hunt, Fast CAT, and CAT, and Dock Dogs (because the events are often held at wineries). She works as a college faculty Dept. Chair of Pharmacy Practice to support her dogs sports.

Cindy Woodling, Columnist



Cindy Woodling is a semi-retired College Administrator and first-time dog owner. Having lived the majority of her life in the Pocono region of Pennsylvania, she enjoys gardening, reading, and sewing, when she has time. Owning her first SWD was so rewarding that she recently added a second to her empty- nest home.

Spanish Water Dog Club of America

About Our Club



Club Officers and Committees

President	Vickie Miller
Vice President	Donna Perone
Corresponding Secretary	Cindy Woodling
Recording Secretary	Andrea Paskiewicz
Treasurer	Nancy Valley
Director East	David Milstein
Director West	Art Morgan
AKC Liaison	Lisa Harper

Committees chairs:

Rescue	Art Morgan and David Milstein	
Events		Nancy Valley
• Specialties:	2023	Nancy Valley
	2024	Ruth/David Milstein
	2025	open
• Supported Entries		Nancy Valley
• Meet the Breeds		Nancy Valley
• Regional Gatherings		various
Health and Wellness		Lisa Harper
Bylaws		Vickie Miller
Standard		Lisa Harper
Judges Education		Lisa Harper
Sunshine		Denise Velasquez
Outreach		Donna Perone
• External Outreach		Denise Velasquez
• Member Connections		Donna Perone
• Online Learning		Donna Perone
• Website		Lisa Harper
Crate Tag Program		Colleen Nolan
Water Trial		Rob Driscoll
Stud Book		Lisa Harper
Pedigree Database		Lisa Harper
Versatility		open
Mentorship		open

[Become a member](#)

swdclub.org

Committee Spotlight: Standard

A breed Standard is a document that provides a detailed description of the specific attributes that make a certain breed unique. The Spanish Water Dog Club of America is responsible for defining our breed for all concerns in the United States as part of our role as the parent club for Spanish Water Dogs under the American Kennel Club. It is one of, if not the, most important of our roles as a parent club.

The Spanish Water Dog AKC Standard was first established in 2015 when Spanish Water Dogs entered the AKC as a part of the process for becoming an officially listed breed. This Standard then became the model set for judges to use at conformation events and to which breeders should strive to achieve in their breeding programs.

After a Standard has been written and approved, there is a moratorium of 5 years before a new revision can be made. The Standard Committee is responsible for revising the SWD Standard when needed and following the process for updating the formal Standard with the American Kennel Club. The Standard Committee must follow rules established by the AKC in writing the Standard such as the [guidelines for writing standards](#). There is a strict formal procedure which must be followed when making revisions to AKC Standards.

Revisions can be a challenging task as they will be reflected in how the breed is set for the future. Committee membership requires an extensive knowledge of the breed's history, key attributes and conformation.

Spanish Water Dog Club of America

Code of Ethics

SWDCA Code of Ethics

INTRODUCTION

Below you will find the most current revision of the Code of Ethics of the Spanish Water Dog Club of America (SWDCA). The Code's nature is not punitive, rather it serves as a guideline that is informational and states the Spanish Water Dog Club of America's accepted norm.

Recommendations that have changed from prior versions of this Code of Ethics are intended to be applied in a forward-looking manner. For example, previous screening examinations performed in accordance with a prior Code of Ethics while in effect will remain acceptable. In all such circumstances, every reasonable effort should be made to parallel as closely as possible the spirit of the most current Code.

This Code will appear on the SWDCA website and in the new member packets. New members, by their application, agree to abide by and follow the guidelines outlined in the Code of Ethics. Current members, by their annual renewal, reaffirm their agreement to follow the guidelines of this Code. The Spanish Water Dog Club of America endorses the following Code of Ethics for its members.

RESPONSIBILITIES AS A DOG OWNER

Members must ensure that their dogs are kept safe and under control at all times. Members should properly train their dogs so that they are an asset to their community and not a nuisance. Dogs must be maintained with their safety and good health in mind at all times. This includes adequate and appropriate attention, socialization, grooming, feeding, veterinary care, housing, and exercise.

RESPONSIBILITIES AS A MEMBER OF SWDCA

Members should keep in mind that they and their dogs represent the breed, SWDCA, and the sport of purebred dogs in general. They are expected to maintain good sportsmanship at all events and competitions, abiding by the applicable rules and regulations. Members' conduct should always be in accordance with the objectives and intent of the SWDCA Bylaws (available at www.swdclub.org).

Members are urged to accept the Spanish Water Dog Breed Standard as approved by the American Kennel Club (AKC), as the description of the ideal temperament and physical qualities by which the breed is to be judged. Members are also encouraged to take opportunities when available to educate the public about the breed and the SWDCA.

RESPONSIBILITIES AS A BREEDER

General Guidelines

I. Overview

SWDCA members who breed Spanish Water Dogs are encouraged to maintain the purpose of the breed; that is:

Recognizing that the Spanish Water Dog breed was developed as a multi-purpose farm dog, to encourage improvement by careful and selective breeding of Spanish Water Dogs that possess the appearance, structure, soundness, temperament, natural ability, and personality that are characterized in the standard of the breed, and to do all possible to advance and promote these qualities. Breeders should not knowingly breed any dog who has genetic defects which are life-changing disorders. These include seizures caused by epilepsy, genetic orthopedic disorders such as hip dysplasia, and temperament issues. Not only do these disorders require lifetime management, but they impact the dog's health, alter the lifestyle of the dog and owner, and often shorten the dog's life expectancy.

II. Dealing with Others

Owners of dogs involved in a breeding or sale should ensure that appropriate documentation is readily available to the public regarding results of screening as recommended by CHIC (Canine Health Information Center). If any such examinations have not been done, this should be stated; and any past or present health or temperament concerns should be disclosed. Submission of health information, both normal and abnormal, to the OFA online database is encouraged.

III. Responsibilities to the Dogs

Members who breed should sell puppies, permit stud service, and/or lease dogs only to individuals who give satisfactory evidence that they will give proper care and attention to the dogs concerned, and who may be expected to act within the intent of the statements of

Spanish Water Dog Club of America

SWDCA Code of Ethics (cont.)

this Code of Ethics. Members should not sell dogs at auction, or to brokers or commercial dealers. Breeders should understand that they may need to take back, or assist in finding a new home for any dog they produce at any time in its life, if requested to do so.

IV. Record Keeping

SWDCA members are encouraged to follow AKC requirements for record keeping, identification of dogs, and registration procedures. They should use clear, concise, written contracts to document the sale of dogs, use of stud dogs, and lease arrangements; including the use, when appropriate, of non-breeding agreements and/or Limited Registration. All litters should be registered with the American Kennel Club

General Breeding Guidelines

I. Dogs selected for breeding should:

1. Ideally, be of temperament typical of the breed, i.e., stable, trainable, and willing to work. Temperament is of utmost importance to the breed and must never be neglected or altered from the Standard.
2. Be of conformation typical of the breed.
3. Be in overall good health, and be physically and mentally mature (which is generally not until two years of age).
4. Possess examination reports and certifications as outlined below. **II. The following reports are acceptable:**

Recommended Tests as of 4/13/2015

1. Hips – a report from the Orthopedic Foundation for Animals (OFA) at 24 months of age or older; or PennHIP at 4 months of age or older; or OVC.
2. Eyes – a report from a Diplomat of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmology. Examinations should be done within 12 months prior to a breeding. Dogs that produce offspring should continue to have ophthalmology examinations on a yearly basis for their lifetime.
3. *prcd* –PRA—a report from OptiGen
4. Compensative Autoimmune Thyroiditis— full OFA thyroid report from an approved laboratory at 24 months of age or older.

Optional tests as of 4/13/2015

1. Elbows – a report from the OFA at 24 months of age or older.
2. Congenital Hypothyroidism with Goiter (CHG)—DNA panel through Dr. John Fyfe, Michigan State University.

****** Any dog residing outside of the United States used for breeding should parallel as closely as possible the most up to date health evaluations as recommended by the SWDCA.

DNA Tests

DNA tests are available for several diseases that affect Spanish Water Dogs (such as for *prcd*-PRA, CHG), and more will certainly be added over time. The SWDCA Health & Wellness Committee anticipates releasing advisory statements as new DNA tests become available. However, in a general sense, the decision to test or not should include considerations such as: the seriousness of the disease, the reliability of the test, the prevalence of the disease in the breed, and the presence of affected or carrier dogs in the vertical pedigree. The ideal use of DNA tests is to prevent producing affected puppies, while at the same time maintaining genetic diversity and gradually decreasing the prevalence of the disease gene(s) in the breed.

Other Considerations

Consideration should also be given to other conditions that may have a genetic component, including but not limited to: cancer, epilepsy, skin disorders, allergies, longevity, swallowing disorders, and orthopedic disorders. Good breeding decisions must balance many factors, recognizing that no dog is genetically perfect; that maintaining a rich and diverse gene pool is important for the long-term health of the breed. It is suggested that breeders give the highest health priority to selection against heritable disorders that significantly decrease quality of life and that have the greatest likelihood for improvement through careful breeding decisions. SWDCA members' highest motivation is their love for their dogs, and difficult decisions should be resolved in a manner that places the best interests of the dogs and the breed at the forefront.

American Kennel Club Code

AKC Code of Sportsmanship: www.akc.org

AKC Code of Sportsmanship

PREFACE: The sport of purebred dog competitive events dates prior to 1884, the year of AKC's birth. Shared values of those involved in the sport include principles of sportsmanship. They are practiced in all sectors of our sport: conformation, performance and companionship. Many believe that these principles of sportsmanship are the prime reason why our sport has thrived for over one hundred years. With the belief that it is useful to periodically articulate the fundamentals of our sport, this code is presented.

- Sportsmen respect the history, traditions and integrity of the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen commit themselves to values of fair play, honesty, courtesy, and vigorous competition, as well as winning and losing with grace.
- Sportsmen refuse to compromise their commitment and obligation to the sport of purebred dogs by injecting personal advantage or consideration into their decisions or behavior.
- The sportsman judge judges only on the merits of the dogs and considers no other factors.
- The sportsman judge or exhibitor accepts constructive criticism.
- The sportsman exhibitor declines to enter or exhibit under a judge where it might reasonably appear that the judge's placements could be based on something other than the merits of the dogs.
- The sportsman exhibitor refuses to compromise the impartiality of a judge.
- The sportsman respects the AKC bylaws, rules, regulations and policies governing the sport of purebred dogs.
- Sportsmen find that vigorous competition and civility are not inconsistent and are able to appreciate the merit of their competition and the effort of competitors.
- Sportsmen welcome, encourage and support newcomers to the sport.
- Sportsmen will deal fairly with all those who trade with them.
- Sportsmen are willing to share honest and open appraisals of both the strengths and weaknesses of their breeding stock.
- Sportsmen spurn any opportunity to take personal advantage of positions offered or bestowed upon them.
- Sportsmen always consider as paramount the welfare of their dog.
- Sportsmen refuse to embarrass the sport, the American Kennel Club, or themselves while taking part in the sport.



**AMERICAN
KENNEL CLUB®**

GSSPT2 (11/16)