

Perro Post

Spring 2022



The SWD Quarterly Journal

Spanish Water Dog Club of America

Quarterly Newsletter

Contents

From the Editor	3
SWDs at Work	4
This Therapy Dog Saves Lives!	
Health Bulletin	7
Bo and Addison's Disease	
Breeders Digest	9
Coefficient of Inbreeding	
Breeders Digest	11
Whelping and Raising Puppies: A Breeder's Journal (Part 2)	
SWD Pupdate	14
Getting a Jump on Training: CGC Puppy	
Breed Education	16
New Breed Standard	
Conformation Corner	19
The Road to Orlando 2021	
Que Pasa Perro de Agua: Events	21
Upcoming National Specialty	
Member Noticias:	
Member Spotlight	24
New Member Welcome	25
Membership Map/Trivia	26
Belly Rub Roster: Happy Woofday	27
Forever in Our Hearts	29
Loulie: The Story of a Foster Dog	
Cords and Capers: Photo Gallery	32
Our Staff and Contributors	34
SWDCA Officers and Committees	36
Spotlight: Nominating Committee	
SWDCA Code of Ethics	37
AKC Code of Sportsmanship	39

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	open
Book Review	open
Photos	Cindy Woodling
Member Spotlight	Trish Byron
New Member Profiles	James Coliz
Membership Map, Trivia	Donna Perone
Poochday	Donna Perone
Forever in Our Hearts	Denise Velasquez
Awards and Recognition	Sarah Spindler
SWDCA Page, Spotlight	Donna Perone
Proofreader, Reviewer	Meg Normand

New Staff Members/Guest Contributors: Heather Wills, Mary Beth Hughes, Rachel Cooper, Cathy Moyer

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.secretary@gmail.com

On the cover: Kepa De Cobre is an intense fellow and I think this photo captures his serious nature. When he is not pondering how to take over the world, he loves hiking, swimming, agility and ball catching. He lives on the family farm with his son Mojito, me, hubs, our son and 3 horses. — Susan Lynch Smith —

From the Editor

In this Issue



From the Editor

We skipped the Winter 2022 issue due to heavy demands on the editor's schedule. I hope you are excited to get another issue now! Thanks for your patience.

Our feature story this spring, about our "SWDs at Work," was the result of a fascinating interview. I'm sure you will be impressed with Reese, the service dog made therapy dog and her ability to zero in on what is happening with the people around her. She takes her job very seriously, and that is a good thing for those who benefit from her skills. Shout out to Melanie Wood for her training skills.

We have a story about Bo in Virginia who had a life-threatening experience with Atypical Addison's Disease. Thank you Mary Beth for sharing the details with us. I learned a lot.

We have two "Breeder's Digest" articles this issue. The first is from our friend and member across the Pond, Rachel Cooper, who gives us a lesson on COI and why it is so important to our breed. The second article is a continuation of the Journal account from Chris Evans about her recent litter and provides insights and real-life situations for what can happen during breeding.

Heather Wills shares a informative article with us about training her puppy to for the Canine Good Citizen test. It proves that early training works.

Our "Conformation Corner" article by Cindy Woodling provides a nice perspective of what it's like to work your way up to a big show, in this case AKC Championships in Orlando.

Lisa Harper has submitted an update on where things stand with the AKC on the revised standard for SWDs. A full draft of the standard with changes noted is included. This is one of the most

important actions we take as a club as it will impact the whole breed as it expands in the US.

Mark your calendar for the three events listed in our "Que Pasa" section. I hope everyone will try to go to at least one club-supported event scheduled for this summer. It's a great chance for quality time with other SWD owners and promises to be great fun. Shout outs to Nancy, Art, and Sarah for organizing.

Meet some more of our members with our "Member Spotlight" profile of Carol and Jeff Plautz and our "New Member Welcome" to Christopher Mejo in NYC. And grab your tissue box when you read Cathy Moyer's heartfelt tribute to one of her rescues in the "Forever in Our Hearts" column.

Thank you to Cindy Woodling for stepping in as our new photo editor since Susan Smith had to step down after her new job promotion. Thank you Susan for your hard work (and congrats on the promotion!) and thank you Cindy for answering the call.

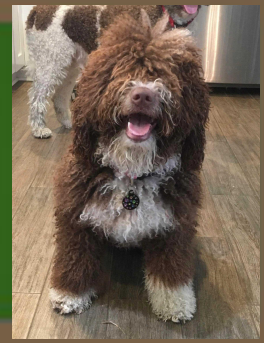
If you ever wondered how people get on the club's Board of Directors, you might want to take a look at the "Committee Spotlight" in this issue. We describe the Nominating Committee and roll through the whole election process.

Now, for some fun news: we decided we need a little more fun to accompany our educational articles, so we will introduce a new column next issue called "**Spani-Antics**." Be thinking on some of those funny things your SWD manages to get themselves into or does with total abandon as only wacky SWDs can do. We will be soliciting short stories and captioned photos to include periodically in future issues, beginning with our next one. So get those cameras and keypads ready to submit something about your crazy canine.

Donna Perone, Editor
Murray,  Assistant Editor

SWDs at Work

Feature Articles About Our Multi-Talented Breed



This Therapy Dog Saves Lives! *by Donna Perone*

Some of us have dogs who provide informal therapy to family members or friends. Some of us have dogs who have been trained as therapy dogs. Some have taken the next step to be certified as "official" therapy dogs. Some dogs have worked in formal therapy settings and have even received AKC therapy dog titles as recognition.

We would like you to meet a very special Spanish Water Dog who not only works as a full-time therapy dog in a rehabilitation facility but she also saves lives in the process.

Lots of Zorazzo Vom Lissfeld, aka "Reese," lives in Eden Prairie, Minnesota with Jo Ellen Diers, a therapist with Pride Institute. We interviewed Jo Ellen to learn more about the work she and Reese do for their clients.

Perro Post: What can you tell us about the services you and Reese provide?

Jo Ellen Diers: Reese and I work full time at Pride Institute, a residential treatment center for substance abuse in the LGBTQIA+ community. This involves up to 10-hour days, 5 days a week with individual clients as well as in group meetings and workshops with 30-40 clients at a time. In addition, we both work on weekends with individual clients and group meetings in my private practice.

PP: What does Reese do in her job as your therapy dog partner?

JED: I use a therapy method called Rapid Resolution Therapy. It is not a traditional talk

therapy but is an active therapy to "tune up the mind." Reese picks up on energy coming from clients and will comfort them when she feels they need her. Also, she will intervene and not lie down until she feels that both the client and I are on the right path in the therapy process. She senses when the client is dodging and not talking about the real issue.

In a group setting, Reese will pick up on those certain people in the group who need special attention and indicate those who are at high risk. She will pull me to those clients for attention who may be highly suicidal even though they initially present as okay on the surface. Otherwise, it could be several days before we could delve deeply enough into what the client is going through and the risk is identified. By then they could have left the center and ended up with very bad outcomes.

PP: How did you come to have Reese work with you and how did you learn to work so well together?

JED: Reese was originally from Austria and was brought to Florida to live with Melanie Wood, who had another SWD trained and certified as an emotional-support service dog. Melanie trained Reese to also be a service dog to read anxiety levels and intervene before panic attacks became problematic. So when Reese came to me, she already had a high sensitivity to reading energy levels and anxiety.

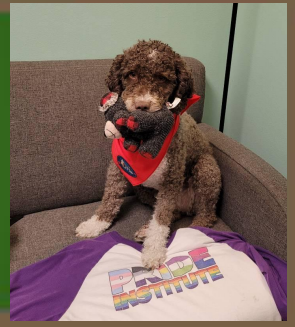
Melanie also trained Reese to be able to pass her therapy dog certification test. I was then able to get her certification through Therapy Dogs International when I moved to Minnesota. Reese and I working together as a team was a learning process. Reese had skills she had trained for as a service dog and she had a very high level of natural intuition and intelligence. I just had to learn to understand her cues when she was sensing something she needed to tell me about.



Jo Ellen and Reese

Continued next page

SWDs at Work (cont.)



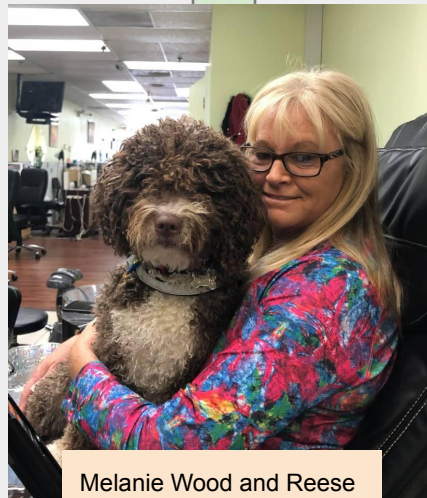
We are a team and she sees herself as working at all times even if it just accompany me to the copier or lying down while I talk with a client. She has boundless energy for this work and is up for anything to be able to do her job.

She also has learned to work with a labradoodle, Dash, that does some part-time therapy work but with a very different style and purpose. Dash is a dog that loves everyone he sees and is easy to attract for petting. He doesn't have Reese's energy or focus for the job though so only works one or two days a week at most.

The clients have learned that Reese is a different kind of therapy dog - she is all business. She constantly scans the room and protects her people and is always on alert. Her affection is highly coveted by the clients and they respond to being selected by Reese for attention. For a population who have often had to keep secrets and who have dealt with abandonment and vulnerability issues practically since birth, the combination of intermittent enthusiastic cuddles from Dash and the constant protection and selective visits from the more reserved Reese works well. It helps clients be comfortable working on their substance abuse issues as they can be themselves.

PP: What kind of impact has Reese made since she arrived at Pride?

JED: Clients stay with us for 15, 28, even 90 days. Unfortunately, the first days are challenging and it was not uncommon to see clients leave within their first 3 days of arriving. Since Reese has begun her work, we have seen the number of those early departures noticeably decline.



Melanie Wood and Reese

Another significant impact Reese has been able to make is even more dramatic: she saves lives. Reese can sense those clients that we would consider high risk for suicide but who may mask those risks to us. I can tell you that she has actually saved lives as a result of her actions and in specifically identifying high risk clients.

PP: Can you give us an example of how you are so sure of that claim?

JED: Several of our clients have shared that they were planning to end their lives at some point, but that when Reese showed them special attention, things changed for them.

Many clients struggle with depression and abandonment issues, among other problems. Being singled out by Reese and treated as someone special can help them turn a corner.

Let me describe one example of a client where Reese made all the difference: This client came in to see us and was keeping her issues hidden. Reese sensed something wrong and laid her head in the client's lap. This is not something Reese typically does. The client was so overwhelmed by the gesture from Reese that she broke down crying and shared everything that was going on. It was very powerful. If Reese hadn't decided on her own to lay her head in her lap, the client said she would have ended her life within the next 12 hours. She said that Reese saved her life. It has been well over a year now and she continues to do well. Thanks to Reese.

I have learned to respond to what Reese is trying to tell me so I make special effort to work with any clients she signals to me on a more urgent schedule. Direct intervention at the right time has

Continued next page

SWDs at Work

(Cont.)

People often confuse the three types of dogs mentioned in this article. To give you a quick summary:

- **Service Dogs** have been trained to help people with specific mental and/or physical disabilities or impairments.
- **Therapy Dogs** have been trained to provide comfort and affection to individuals and/or groups of people.
- **Emotional Support Dogs** provide companionship to their owners for therapeutic benefit.

prevented several clients from continuing with their plans to end their lives and allowed them to get the treatment they needed in the nick of time. Reese was responsible for getting them that help in time and has saved lives in the process.

PP: What do the other staff members think of Reese as a fellow member of the team?

JED: Reese fits right in. She is clearly my partner and sticks very close to me, but even staff members who are not fans of dogs have been won over. "Uncle James" has never been a fan of dogs but now sneaks Reese food. He now totally sees the benefit of having Reese and even says he would consider a SWD therapy dog himself in the future.

PP: What about the clients? Any concerns?

JED: The clients love Reese. I have only had a couple of instances where I needed to make an adjustment for Reese. Once was for a person who found dogs a threat to their religious practices. I have also had a couple of clients who had an issue with Reese being in the room. Those issues were not about being around a dog but about her skills and their own vulnerabilities. They were concerned that Reese would reveal things when they didn't want to be found out. Otherwise, clients readily accept her as part of the therapy team.

PP: What attributes about Reese as a Spanish Water Dog do you think make her so good at her job?

JED: Reese is very strategic and very intuitive. It's a special gift that you can't simply train a dog to do; it has to come from them. She makes decisions on who to interact with and how she wants to do her job. She is very focused on working and always has energy to be with clients and doing what is important. She wants to do anything you want of her. She goes with me everywhere, both at the center and in my personal life.

PP: Would you get another SWD after Reese or recommend SWDs for other therapists?

JED: This is my first time using a therapy dog but I have had black labs and beagles. And I used to show Ridgebacks. But if I needed to get another therapy dog, it would definitely be a Spanish Water Dog. My colleagues are sold on the breed as well. It is an amazing breed for this kind of work.



Jo Ellen and Reese at Pride

Update:

A lot has changed since this interview was done last fall and the article written. Jo Ellen – and Reese – have changed jobs. Jo Ellen is now working as a Supervisor for Headway Emotional Health Services, a therapy non-profit serving the greater Twin Cities (St. Paul-Minneapolis) area. Jo Ellen supervises therapists who are assigned to schools to provide emotional health to students and their families.

Reese continues to go with Jo Ellen to her office as well as to some of the schools when she meets with the therapist or school staff. Reese also continues to support Jo Ellen's private practice clients and the client group she works with on Sundays. Jo Ellen says Reese is loved by all.

Health Bulletin

Health and Wellness News



Bo and Addison's Disease *by Mary Beth Hughes*

In October, I had a scary experience with Bo which resulted in his diagnosis with Atypical Addison's Disease. I hope that sharing will help others recognize the signs earlier and possibly save a life.

Addison's Disease, also known as hypoadrenocorticism, is a low-prevalence disease that can affect both humans and dogs. It is often difficult to diagnose as it can have vague clinical signs and often non-specific clinicopathologic features. It results from adrenocortical insufficiency (a deficiency of hormones (cortisol, aldosterone) normally produced by the adrenal glands) and requires ACTH stimulation testing for a definitive diagnosis.

The disease can develop in dogs of any age and breed, but it is more commonly found in certain breeds (Portuguese Water Dogs and Poodles among others). North Carolina State University is conducting a genetic study looking for genetic causes in standard poodles, but I was able to have Bo's DNA run at University of Minnesota College of Veterinary Medicine. They will bank and run the specimens for future research, so let me know if you'd like to learn more.



Bo's crisis began with what appeared to be a bit of diarrhea. He's known to drink sea water and eat things that he may find in the woods so this was not an immediate cause for alarm. A few hours later he began to drink lots of water and vomit almost immediately which continued for 4-5 hours. Our vet suggested we hold food for a day, but by the next morning he was having intermittent "raspberry jam poop." Though he wanted to play, he simply fell down while chasing a frisbee and did not get up.

We rushed him to our local vet and within 30 minutes, Bo was found to be in a full critical Addisonian Crisis. His condition included volemic shock, sepsis, brachycardia, hypothermia, and hypoglycemia, which in many cases could have been fatal.

We are lucky to have had a veterinary ICU clinic nearby and a local vet that quickly ruled out poisoning and other possibilities. After five hours, he was stable enough to move to our local ICU clinic who gave us the opportunity to offer him the clinical interventions and the best chance of survival. Once he was stable, an ACTH Stim test resulted in the diagnosis of Atypical Addison's Disease.

Continued next page

Health Bulletin (cont.)



His electrolytes were monitored weekly for the first two months and we now feel we have a good understanding of how to monitor and manage him.

There are two types of Addison's – Typical and Atypical and they are treated differently.

Atypical Addison's is treated with a low daily dose of steroids (ours is prednisone) that is slightly increased if he is under stress (such as traveling, kennel, strangers or workman visiting in our home etc.). Some vets do treat with an additional monthly shot of DOCP, but our vet prefers to start with single agent prednisone, as the evidence is controversial for Atypical dogs which can convert to Typical over time.

Typical is treated with low-dose steroids and shots of DOCP given monthly or at intervals dictated by electrolyte monitoring.

There is a fabulous Facebook Group (**Addison's Disease in Dogs**) that is run by a group of admins that include several veterinarians. They have been an invaluable resource and have multiple pages of files to help both newbies and experienced owners alike.

We were happy to learn Addison's does not shorten a dog's lifespan when treated and managed well. Bo should have a long and happy life with us! He had excellent veterinary health insurance to help with the initial costs which we hope will never happen again.



We split our time between two towns here in Virginia, one rural and one urban where our critical-care hospital is. Our local vet was very clear that without access to an ICU facility with 24 hour care, our outcome would have been very different. I am eternally grateful to the SWD and Addison's page for being so supportive through our entire journey.



Looking back, we are sure that his first few GI bouts were likely the beginning of this disease. We hope that our story will help others to be both proactive and informed when you see symptoms that just seem more serious than a simple upset tummy.

Feel free to reach out to me with questions and to read through the files on the FB site as they answered many of my questions, were able to help me make sense of all the labs we were running, and help with what we should be on the lookout for regarding early warning signs to avert another crisis.

Breeders Digest

News for and about breeders



Coefficient of Inbreeding *by Rachel Cooper*

Are our mating decisions killing our breed?
What is the Coefficient of Inbreeding (COI)?
Why should we be worried about it?

Why does the COI matter?

COI is a tool for breeders to tell them how inbred the puppies from a litter will be which tells them and puppy owners the (statistical) risk of health issues, length of life, and infant mortality of puppies in this litter. The COI matters.

Traditionally, breeders used line-breeding of closely related genetically similar individuals, to fix traits and characteristics in their lines, producing pups of similar, consistent appearance. This practice does not come without costs; with a COI of 5%, there will be a gradual drop off in fertility, a rise in infant mortality, and life span shortens. A COI of 10% and over leads to the 'extinction vortex' – setting a breed on a spiral of decline, eventually leading to extinction, so the COI really is a big deal.

What is the COI?

In Spanish Water Dogs in the UK at the moment, the COI is decreasing, year on year. In 2020, the average COI for our breed was 4.4%. (In 2009, the average COI was around 7.5%).

How is the COI calculated?

In the UK that we have free access to any dog's individual COI if

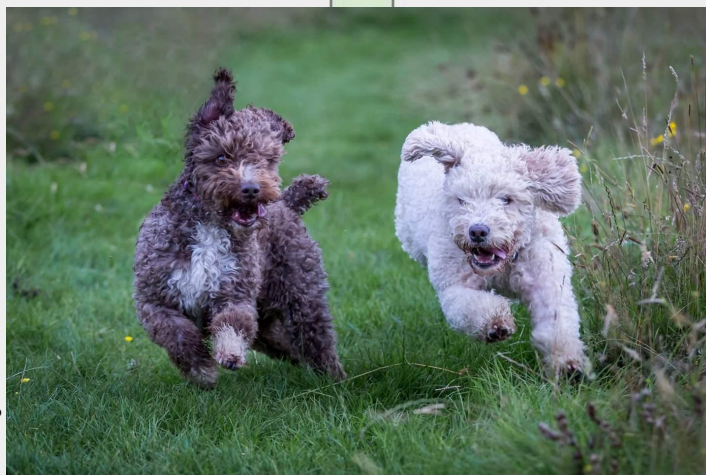
it is registered on the Kennel Club's breed register, using the dog's KC registered names or numbers. Using the Inbreeding Coefficient Lookup on the Kennel Club website, we can calculate the COI of any potential mating. (Of course, any US dogs registered with the KC would be a part of this database and therefore could avail of these KC services...)

Snags with automatic COI calculation

Of course, that was bound to be too easy! In our breed, full of imports and with only around 30 years of KC pedigree information, it is difficult to calculate a properly accurate COI, as there are lots of details missing. For an accurate calculation of the COI, we need 8 or 10 generations, more if possible, ideally 20+. Most UK SWDs I have looked up have 4 or 5 generations complete. In the US, this will be even more of an issue, as the breed is newer there. This means the KC website's COI is always artificially low, because of this lack of Information.

Balancing the COI with other factors when choosing pairings

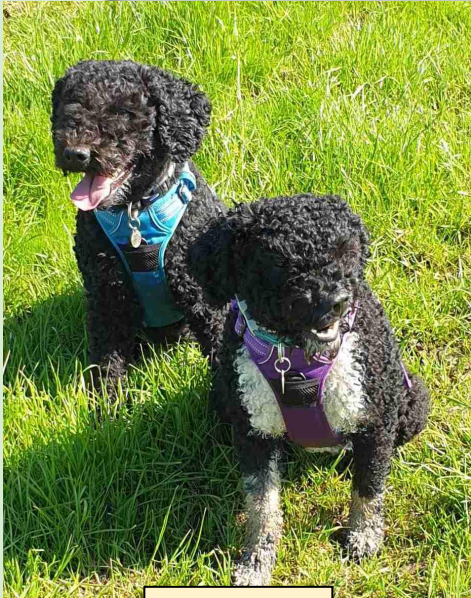
Simply ensuring the COI of the pups from a mating is under 5% will not be the only factor under consideration when choosing mating partners. Temperament, health test results, working achievements and show accolades all count, as do the conformation and appearance of the chosen dogs. The COI is not the only factor, but it does have a potentially huge effect on the breed



Mother and daughter

Continued next page

Breeders Digest (cont.)



Half sisters

as a whole and perhaps on the puppies from that litter, depending on how high or low we go.

General rules of thumb for using the COI in breeding decisions

It is clear from research that a COI of less than 5% is definitely best

to produce the healthiest puppies possible. Above that threshold, the negative effects of inbreeding must be weighed against other aspects of the individual breeding on its merits.

Advice for potential puppy owners

Ask! Ask the breeder what the COI is for the litter you're interested in, if it's under 5%, happy days. If not, ask why? Your breeder should have a good reason which they can explain to you clearly. If they don't know the COI of the litter, they should, at least in the UK!

And finally...

If a breed gets to the point where all breedings are forced to have COIs over 10%, that breed is in serious trouble and at great risk of extinction. The only way out of this 'genetic bottleneck' is the use of another breed, with carefully controlled and documented breeding and back breeding over 4

or 5 generations. As in many things, prevention is better than cure, so we need to worry about the COI of our matings now.

Knowing, choosing, and managing the COI of litters you breed is vitally important to secure the future of our beloved breed.

Rachel Cooper, KCAI, Breed Health Co-Ordinator, SWDs UK

Further reading

<https://www.instituteofcaninebiology.org/blog/COI-faqs-understanding-the-coefficient-of-inbreeding>
"Managing Breeds for a secure future", 2nd Edition, Dr Phillip Sponenberg, Alison Martin, Heannette Beranger.
(I got mine on a well-known site with fast delivery!)



Mother and daughter

[Click here for SWDCA Breeders List](#)

Breeders Digest

News For and About Breeders



Whelping and Raising Puppies: A Breeder's Journal Part 2

by Chris Evans

Long-time Komondor breeder, first-time Spanish Water Dog breeder Christine Evans shares her breeding experience via her weekly Journal in this two-part article. In this issue, Chris shares her joys and heartbreak during the second half of breeding her SWD, River: whelping and raising the litter.

The Planning, Creating, and Weekly Progress of River and Her First Litter

... Continued from Fall Issue at Day 61 with the whelping box being set up and River looking like a beached whale. →

Pregnancy Day 62:

River's temperature was unchanged, but I thought she was in labor. Spent the night on the sofa next to the whelping box; we both slept.

I have 2 living puppies. I lost 4. First puppy arrived around 7:30 am. A very small, dark brown placenta came out first, with a dark mass. Inside was a small decaying skeleton. A liquid gush an hour later but that pup was not pushed out until half an hour later. No sac, no placenta, I could not get the second puppy breathing. An hour later a healthy male, black and white, was born. Then all labor stopped, no panting, no contractions, no pushing. Three puppies were still inside. The veterinary protocol is to wait 2 & 1/2 hours. My vet then did an emergency c-section, but could only revive 1 of the puppies.

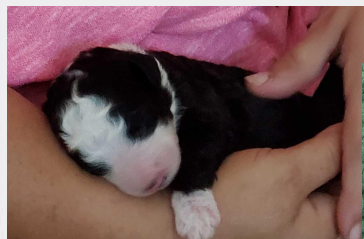


But he revived the only bitch. When the vet brought her out to us, she wasn't moving. We rubbed her, talked to her, blew on her, nothing. Then my vet brought River out. When River licked her puppy, she immediately came to life and started to cry and wiggle. We had her nursing in the vet's office before we took her home.

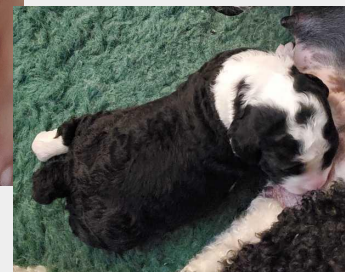
No one really knows what happened, but a logical explanation is that the first puppy died for unknown reasons days before the litter was due and the decomposing body "poisoned" most of the remaining puppies and interfered with the normal birthing process. I have heard of people losing whole litters when a puppy dies in utero. I should be glad to have 2 survive.

Puppy Raising
Weeks 1 & 2:

24 hours after we got our puppies home they seemed weak. The male especially was not able to stay latched on. We gave each puppy a bottle feeding of Esbilac. The girl took off and from then and was energetic and eager to nurse. The little boy didn't have the energy or ability to successfully nurse, so we began regular bottle feedings. For 2 weeks he is bottle fed every 2 hours, 24 hours a day. I once had a Komondor litter of 10 which had a weak puppy, so we have had experience in raising a bottle baby. Fortunately, with the Kom pup and with this pup, my son is staying with us and working remotely from home. He spent the next 2 weeks



Boy "Bu" at 1 week



Girl "Brunhilde" at 1 week

Continued next page

Breeders Digest (cont.)



staying up until 4 or 5 am, doing night feedings and teleworking. I took over for the daytime bottle feedings. The girl has unlimited access to the mom milk bar, and has become huge. We call her "The Hippo." River is a devoted mother to both babies.

Week 3:

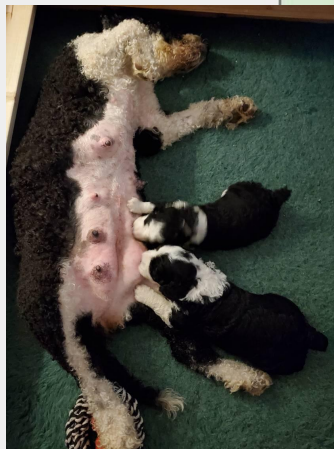
Eyes are open. Girl weighs 5 lbs, boy 3 lbs. Girl is starting to get up on her legs, but sits a lot. Trying to play and pulls on my sleeve. The boy can nurse but has problems staying latched on, so the bottle feeding continues. We have stepped back and are now feeding every 3 hours. Boy has severe shaking when he tries to stand. He cannot walk. He is slower than the girl in development. River is still an excellent mother.

Week 4:

We start feeding puppy food mush. Girl is not interested, the boy is eating ravenously. His stomach is so full we don't think he can stand. We hope the solid food will help his strength. Took pups to the vet for worming.

The boy has gained 2 lbs, from 3 lbs to 5 lbs in 10 days. He cannot walk, but does some bunny hopping. Falls a lot. He has difficulty getting to where he wants to go and seems to go the opposite way at times. One of the vet techs who saw him said her brother has a dog with similar problems. That dog was

diagnosed with cerebellar hypoplasia, a doggy version of cerebral palsy. This can be caused by infection in the uterus. Our pup is still young, so we hope for improvement. We can sleep at night; midnight or later feedings have ended.



River and pups at 4 weeks

Week 5:

Girl is not enthusiastic about dog food, prefers her mother. Boy is a healthy eater. We have turned a part of our family room into a straight corridor with fencing and good traction carpets. We now have a place for the boy to exercise. There is some improvement, but he has a long way to go. But the pup doesn't know he has problems, plays with his sister and tries to run. Falls and gets up, falls and gets up, etc. He is showing some slow improvement.

Week 6:

Boy may not be good at walking, but is excellent at eating. First shots are at the end of the week. Girl weighs 11 lbs., boy weighs 7.6 lbs. Because of our continuing pandemic, no clients go into my veterinary building. Vet techs come to the car to take pets in and out of the clinic. After their shots, my vet comes out to talk to me. This was the first time he has seen the puppies. He hesitates; he doesn't know what to say. I tell him "I know." He asks if I will keep him. I tell him a good friend of mine will give him a home. We were going to co-own the pick male so she would have a pet and I would have a dog to show. Showing him will never happen now, but she has a soft heart and wants him anyway. She has been visiting him twice a week since he was born.



Continued next page

Breeders Digest (cont.)



Week 7

What to do about the girl? She seems perfectly normal, cute as a button, and is enthusiastically affectionate. I have an excellent prospective home for her and originally thought I'd just co-own the boy. The puppy is pretty and promising as a show prospect, but nothing is guaranteed at 7 weeks of age. I can't come up with a name for her, and as the old adage says: "If you can't name them, you won't keep them." My breeder in Spain has interesting advice. "Follow what your inner voice tells you to do." My inner voice is confused. This has been the litter from hell. 4 dead puppies, 1 puppy who had to be hand raised and is now a special needs puppy, 1 apparently normal puppy. This girl came from a toxic environment that killed or crippled everyone else. Will she be normal in 6 months, 2 years, always? What if she has future health problems? Or develops cancer at an early age? I decide that I can't take a chance on her future health and send her to someone who just wants a nice, healthy pet. I decide I will keep her. And right away, she has a name. Brunhilde.



Brunhilde at 9 weeks

8 to 12 weeks

The puppies play every day, but the boy can only play laying down and wrestling. They love to go outside in the grass, but Brunhilde runs while the boy continually hops and falls. He is painful to watch, but his movement slowly improves. By 12 weeks he can stand and walk. He is still unsteady and falls if he tries to run, but he has become stronger when he walks. My friend, his new owner, takes him to her home for a few hours to gradually introduce him to her older dog, and her cats. They go from once a week visits to overnights and weekends. She has carpets and a flat grassy backyard, so he can safely move around. At 12 weeks, he moves to her home permanently. She sends me a video of him playing with cats. The cats are purring.



Bu at 10 weeks

A wise breeder once said, "Breeding is not easy, and I hope it never becomes so."

Chris Evans displays great courage sharing the hope, heartbreak and joy of her first Spanish Water Dog breeding.

— Lisa Harper

Click here for [SWDCA Breeders List](#)

SWD Pupdate

All About Puppies!



Getting a Jump on Training: CGC Puppy *by Heather Wills*

"Exercise finished!" called the examiner. And just like that, Pancho was a newly minted Canine Good Citizen (CGC). Right after sharing the good news with family, I texted Rob Driscoll our breeder and co-owner ((<https://www.spanishwaterdognorthwest.com/>)). Part of our contract was to have this AKC recognition by 18 months. Well, Pancho was only 11 months – the youngest in his class by two years. We were thrilled!

So how did we achieve such a feat? Perhaps a little background will help. First of all, we were blessed to find an outstanding breeder. Rob knows how to harness SWD's intelligence and he has a knack for smoothing out some of their natural wariness. By the time we came to pick up Pancho at nine weeks, Rob had instilled a solid recall and exposed all the pups to various sounds, people and experiences. He assigned *The Spanish Water Dog Book* by Wanda Sooby and Di Williamson (<http://www.thespanishwaterdogbook.co.uk/>). "It's the only book you need" is his quote and I totally agree. With this firm foundation, we were off to the races.

First, we had three in-home "puppy kindergarten" classes by a private dog trainer who has a lot of experience with independent herding dogs. Once Pancho had finished his shots, we joined our

local dog training club (<https://www.nashville-dog.org/>) and we took him *everywhere*! Early and ongoing exposure is vital for SWD's. Daily walks consisted of different surfaces, different people, different noises. "Field trips" to Home Depot, PetSmart, and even the grocery store were incorporated in those early months – and they still are.

"Beginner Obedience" was a six-week, 1.5 hour class with eight other dogs of various ages. Pancho showed off his already firm sit/stay/down/come commands. It was not a waste of time

or money, however. Rather, it taught me how to handle Pancho under all kinds of distractions – namely unruly dogs. I learned without a doubt that SWD's have the ability to "tune out" and focus on their handler. This class built a lot of trust between me and Pancho.

Next, it was "Intermediate Obedience" where more formal leash work was introduced. Heel, turns, off leash, and recall from 20 feet. Some of it was redundant but none of it was wasted. Due to schedule conflicts, Pancho ended up having not only me, but also my adult daughter, husband and family friend be his handler for those six classes! Again, Pancho demonstrated his ability to be flexible and learn from a variety of people. We realized we could sign up for these classes and not worry if Pancho would have a consistent handler.



Continued next page

SWD Pupdate (cont.)



Unbeknown to us, this actually set him up for success while training for the Canine Good Citizen test.

Finally, it was time for the CGC class. Technically, Pancho wasn't old enough (one year is recommended). However, by that time we were a known commodity around the club. Many marveled at his happy, eager temperament and enjoyed seeing him before and after a shearing. Most important, the trainers felt he was ready for the rigors of the class.

And rigorous it was. There are ten elements the dog must complete to receive CGC designation. The evaluator can only allow two chances for each element or the dog does not pass.

Here are the ten elements:

- Greets a friendly stranger
- Sits politely for petting
- Welcomes being groomed, brushed; allows all 4 paws and ears to be handled
- Walks as directed on a loose leash
- Moves politely through a crowd
- Sits, lies down, and stays in place on command
- Comes when called
- Behaves politely around other dogs
- Reacts with confidence to distractions
- Can be left with a trusted person



As with any class/training session, the key is consistent training in everyday life. Some elements were easy to incorporate. I obnoxiously stopped people, handed them a treat and asked them if they would pet Pancho and handle his paws – I was never resisted. I took him on trails where there would be other dogs. I taught the instructors that SWD's are never brushed so they modified the test to run the paddle side down his back. The most difficult for Pancho was being left

with a "trusted person" as he is the quintessential "Velcro dog." So, outside of class, we worked on separation by putting him in a room and shutting the door. Slowly we worked up to the five minutes required.

I am not going to lie; training ourselves how to train a dog takes time, creativity, and patience but the rewards are worth it. Pancho comes when I call him. He sits/stays and does not bolt through the door when I open it. And, he walks on a loose leash!!! Woohoo!

Training is ongoing but it gets easier. These days Pancho has been struggling to ignore other dogs on command and he has developed a jumping habit. In just two targeted sessions with our trainer, we are seeing huge progress. Turns out it was me who needed the refresher! The foundation is there. The intelligence is there. And a strong, trusting relationship is the result.

Breed Education

Breed Info for Those in the Know



Standard Revision Approved for Balloting

On April 12, 2022, AKC Vice President Mari-Beth O'Neill informed our club that "the AKC Board has approved that the SWDCA may proceed to ballot the membership on the breed standard revision in compliance with the Constitution and By Laws of the club."

Per the SWDCA By-laws, Section 2 - Voting: "The election of officers and directors, amendments to the constitution and by-laws, and the establishment of or amendments to the breed standard shall be decided by written ballot cast by mail."

Date of ballot is to be determined.

The key revisions of the standard focus on:

- 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"

Following is the revision with edits in red:

Current Proposed Spanish Water Dog AKC Standard

General Appearance: A rustic breed of the Iberian Peninsula, the Spanish Water Dog is a sturdy, medium-sized, well-proportioned, athletic dog of medium size and weight that is suited to perform a variety of tasks including herding, hunting, and assisting fishermen. ~~He is a loyal, vigilant, and intelligent working dog with strong herding instincts.~~ His working ability is attributed to an intense desire to please. In profile, the Spanish Water Dog is slightly longer than tall. ~~He has a distinctive curly coat, which is adapted to the variation of humidity and drought of his homeland.~~ His distinctive rustic curly, single coat is a hallmark of the breed. He must always be shown in a natural coat and **never** be aesthetically groomed in any way. Traditionally, he has a docked tail; today, all tail lengths are equally acceptable.

Size, Proportion, Substance: **Size** - Height at the withers: Dogs, 17½ to 19¾ inches; Bitches, 15¾ to 18 inches. Weight - In proportion to height.

Proportions - Measured from point of shoulder to buttocks and withers to the ground 9:8.

Substance - Solidly built, robust, muscular with moderate bone but neither coarse nor refined.

Head: **Head** is in balance with the body.

Expression is alert and attentive. **Eyes** are slightly oblique, very expressive and have a shade of brown from hazel to dark chestnut, with the color harmonizing with the coat. **Ears** are set at medium height at above eye level. They are

Continued next page

Breed Education (cont.)



~~drooping dropped~~, and triangular in shape with slightly rounded tips. The tips should not reach past the inside corner of the eye. **Skull** is broad and flat. Occiput is not prominent. Ratio of cranium to muzzle is 3:2. Stop is apparent but not abrupt. **Muzzle** is wide at the base, tapering slightly to ~~a rounded tip~~ the tip, strong lower jaw, never snipey. Cheeks are well filled below the eyes. Planes of skull and muzzle are parallel. Nose is of the same color or slightly darker than the darkest color of the coat and has well defined nostrils. Beige or white dogs may have either black or brown pigment. Lips are well fitting, labial corners well defined and are pigmented as the nose. Flews are tight. Scissors **bite** preferred, level bite accepted. Teeth are strong with full dentition.

Neck, Topline and Body: ~~Neck is in proportion to the length of the body; strong and slightly arched;~~ Neck is strong and moderate in length, blending smoothly into the shoulders. Back is straight and topline is firm and level. Topline is straight. **Body** is robust. The body is slightly longer than tall in an approximate ratio of ~~nine to eight 9:8~~ 9:8 measured from the point of shoulder to the point of buttocks. ~~Chest is broad and well let down, reaching at least the elbows. Ratio of depth of chest to height at withers is 50 percent of the height. Depth of chest to height at withers is 50 percent. Back is straight level and powerful.~~ Loin is short. The length of the back comes from the length of the ribcage, not from that of the loin. Croup is slightly sloping. **Tail** is set smoothly into the croup neither high nor low. ~~Traditionally docked between the second and fourth vertebra, some are born with a naturally~~

~~bobbed tail which can range from almost no tail to almost a full tail. The tail is historically docked; today all tail lengths are equally acceptable. Docked tails are docked between the 2nd and 4th vertebrae. Full length tails reach approximately to the hock. Preferred tail carriage is scimitar-like. Some individuals display a brachyury (natural bob-tail) gene which can shorten the tail anywhere from an almost full tail to no tail at all.~~ Preference is not to be given to docked or undocked tails. Skin is supple, ~~fine~~ and adheres closely to the body.

Forequarters: Shoulders are well-muscled and well-laid back and approximately the same length as the upper arm. ~~The upper arm and scapula form approximately a 90-degree angle.~~ Elbows are close to the chest and turn neither in nor out. Legs are straight, and strong with moderate bone. Pasterns are strong and flexible. Front dewclaws may be removed. Feet are round and compact. Toes are tight and well arched.

Hindquarters: The hindquarters give an impression of strength and energetic impulsion. Angulation is in balance with the front. Upper thigh is well muscled. Stifle is well bent. Second thigh is well developed. Hock joint is well let down. Rear pastern is short and perpendicular to the ground. Dewclaws if present are to be removed. Feet are as the front.

Color: The Spanish Water Dog may be solid (in its various shades of black, brown, beige, or white), Irish-marked or parti-color where ~~the second color is white~~ one of the colors must be white.

Continued next page

Breed Education (cont.)



Disqualifications - Tricolor, tan-point, ~~or~~ parti-color where ~~the second color one of the~~ colors is not white, or albino.

Coat: ~~The rustic coat is a hallmark of the breed. Any brushing, scissoring, aesthetic trimming or sculpting of the coat destroys breed type and must be penalized so severely as to eliminate the dog from competition.~~ The hair is a single coat, always curly and of a wooly texture. ~~For shows, the recommended extended length of the coat is between 1-6 inches to demonstrate the quality of the curl or cord. There is no preference for length of coat within this range. The sole breed clip is a utilitarian kennel clip, one length all over the entire dog. Left to grow long, coats will develop roughly pencil-thin cords that are distinct from those of other breeds in their degree of felting: from loose to tight, with the quality of the curl being evident throughout. Cords must have natural fish-hook curls at the tips indicating a lack of scissoring or shaping. Puppy coats: Puppy coat (up to 15 months) may be wavy and somewhat softer than adult coat. Most puppy coats will not form cords. It is never brushed or combed and is shown either in natural curls or in rustic cords with tapered tips. The ends of the cords usually show a curl. The entire body, including the head, should be well covered with hair. In full coat, the hair will cover the eyes. Clipped subjects are allowed, the clipping always complete and even, never to become an "aesthetic" grooming. Minimal hygienic trimming is allowed but should not be noticeable on presentation. For shows, the recommended extended length of the coat is between 1 inch and~~

~~5 inches to demonstrate the quality of the curl or cord. Any brushing, aesthetic trimming, or sculpting of the coat that alters natural appearance is to be severely penalized. Traditionally, the Spanish Water Dog was sheared one time per year (with the sheep), the same length all over.~~ Disqualification - Smooth or wavy coat.

Gait: Movement is efficient, free, smooth, ~~effortless~~, and ground covering. Balance combines good reach in forequarters with front foot reaching the nose, and equally strong drive in the rear. As speed increases, the feet converge toward the centerline of gravity ~~of the dog~~ while the back remains firm and level.

Temperament: The Spanish Water Dog is faithful, obedient, lively, hard-working, and watchful. He is highly intelligent with an outstanding learning ability. His loyalty and protective instincts make him a self-appointed guardian to his owner, his family, and his property. He should be neither timid nor shy, but is naturally suspicious of strangers. ~~Properly introduced, and given time, the Spanish Water Dog will accept strangers.~~ He is very affectionate with his own people.

Disqualifications: Parti-colored, where the second color is not white. Tri-color, tan point, or albino. Smooth or wavy coat.

Standard Committee:

Lisa Harper (chair)
Marnie Harrison

Conformation Corner

Info for the Fancier



Cindy and Canjico

The Road to AKC Champs: Orlando 2021 by Cindy Woodling

Thinking back on Orlando 2021, I am reminded of a song from girl scouts; "...Make new friends and keep the old, one is silver and the other gold." Our journey to Orlando began in 2020. At that time, I had only one dog; Canjico, and we participated in one conformation show before COVID locked down shows in the US. My being a first-time dog owner and being green in the ring, his freakiness (SWD freaky – are you serious??), isolation and lack of socialization due to COVID all contributed to a rough start in the ring. I was thankful for my breeder, Susan DeAngelo and the concentration of SWD owners in my area who became our support and encouragement during our start. As the 2021 season opened, I was thankful for our little showing group.

My dog and I worked hard to observe and learn from our new friends in dogs. Orlando wasn't even on the radar at that time. Over the summer of '21 we began to gain momentum and my dog seemed to smooth out and mature. We had a surprise addition to our house with a new co-owned puppy during the summer and Canjico became a totally new dog. My puppy's co-owner became my conformation mentor. Spending time in person and on the phone, we talked through our handling challenges and developed strategies to overcome our handling struggles. I shifted my registration category to AM Bred, which differentiated us and we participated in a two-day handling seminar. We went into the Labor Day weekend as a class dog and came out as a champion team, taking both a Variety Group 4 and a NOHS Group 1.

Using the momentum from the Sussex shows, we rolled into the historic Morris & Essex show and took a surprise win as BoB. It was at that time that Orlando became a thought. Sealing the intention was receiving a coveted invitation to the NOHS

finals. Reservations were a challenge. Most accommodations near the convention center were booked. Using a well-connected new friend in the show world, a nice room was found and registrations for shows were submitted for both dogs. I was excited to see how my new champion would stack up (pun intended) against exhibitors we had never shown against, and I set a goal to finish our grand championship and introduce the puppy to the ring in Orlando.

The 16-hour drive from Pennsylvania to Florida was easier than I anticipated and my son and I enjoyed stopping in both North and South Carolina to visit family. I suffered a major panic attack approaching and crossing the bridge bypassing Jacksonville. Thankful for my co-pilot we both agreed that the bypass would be avoided on the trip home.

Both dogs served as exhibits for the hands-on portion of the AKC judges' education for the SWD on Wednesday morning. I enjoyed meeting, in-person, folks who I had previously only known on FB or by word of mouth and their furry friends. After lunch we rolled into the Brevard Kennel Club show where my co-owned puppy Teodoro had a good first experience and earned a Reserve Winner in the 6–9-month puppy class and my CH dog won Select Dog under judge Mrs. Lobb. We had the opportunity to show in the largest gathering of SWD's and owners in our short history.

Thursday under judge Mr. Lobb, I made handling errors with Canjico on the lead and got Select Dog and a major at the Central Florida Kennel Club show. Time to regroup and refocus on what we learned and where we could improve. Friday was going to be busy with three shows, so I declined a dinner invitation with some members of the showing group.

In retrospect this was the second thing I would do differently, where better to learn about the breed?

Continued next page

Conformation Corner (cont.)



Cindy and Canjico

Friday began early with the Royal Canin Puppy show where we went in with the intention of having a good experience with judge Mrs. Cynthia Stansell. Our ring judge provided a great encounter, even though we didn't win. Later in the morning the CH dog participated in the NOHS finals under judge Mr. Garry Newton where we again won a major as Select Dog. Trying to break through our Select Dog ceiling was proving to be a challenge.

Late in the day both dogs had OFA eye exams sponsored by a club on site. That was a perk for me because there isn't a canine eye specialist in our veterinary practice at home. Being a person who is up to the task we rolled into the afternoon Herding Specialty under Mrs. Emily Barnhart with 22 exhibits. Passersby were stopping to watch, and many thought we were having a specialty. Canjico earned a major again as Select Dog. It wasn't until Saturday morning that I learned that he had accumulated the points necessary to complete his Grand Championship requirements.

Having achieved my goal of finishing Canjico while in Orlando, it was time to relax and have fun. Knowing how tired my dog gets when showing, I had purposely planned to skip the Saturday show. The day was full of vendor shopping and cheering on and lending support at the AKC Obedience finals. Collen and her little girl did a great job, and I was amazed at their bond and teamwork. Afterward we accepted a gracious invitation for dinner, and I had a new experience by having my first ever margarita. Another new friend, lol!! Dinner was great, the company better and we had a lively discussion about – what else but – Spanish Water Dogs.

Sunday rolled in much quicker than I had expected and our time in Orlando was nearing an end. I had previously decided that the puppy would not participate in the AKC National Championship

show under international judge Mr. Juan Miranda. Leaving the puppy in the hotel with my son, I arrived ringside early where those of us exhibiting were greeted by several SWD owners who came to support those showing. I was introduced to the SWDCA president and others club members and their dogs. It was also my first opportunity to be formally introduced to some of the other exhibitors (more new friends in dogs). We finished the Sunday show with another five-point major as Select Dog and after the show I was rewarded with many positive comments and constructive criticisms on my dog. A huge thank you to all of you who took the time to share!

Pictures were called for and the ring participants broke into their respective friendly clusters to capture the gathering and the end of Orlando 2021. How fortunate I was to have existing friends and new friends in dogs, and new experiences and fresh eyes on how I can differentiate my dog in the ring. The drive home was quick and I insisted that I would never do it again.

Guess what? I already have my reservations for Orlando '22. See you there my friends!



Group photo from left: David Milstein, Brian Batres, Ruth Milstein, Brett Mills, Cindy Woodling

Que Pasa Perro de Agua

Comings ... and Goings (Events!)

The 2022 Spanish Water Dog Club of America National Specialty Weekend FRIDAY, SATURDAY & SUNDAY JULY 8 - 10TH 2022

Friday, July 8, 2022

The Maize and Blue Dog Show
Monroe County Fairgrounds
3775 S. Custer Rd. (M-50), Monroe, Michigan 48161

Saturday, July 9, 2022

Spanish Water Dog Club of America National Specialty at:

Ann Arbor Kennel Club, Inc. Show
Monroe County Fairgrounds
3775 S. Custer Rd. (M-50), Monroe, Michigan 48161

Continental breakfast will be provided for all SWD owners

The Spanish Water Dog Club of America will have its specialty judged by Judge Andrew Ritter
Followed by sweepstakes with Judge Robette Johns

Also Saturday, July 9, 2022

...Followed by a Casual Barbeque and SWDCA Membership Meeting

Guests are welcome to attend all events except the SWDCA membership meeting, which is only open to members in good standing.

Que Pasa Perro de Agua (cont.)

Comings ... and Goings (Events!)



Sunday, July 10, 2022

Spanish Water Dog Supported Entry at:

Ann Arbor Kennel Club, Inc. Show
Monroe County Fairgrounds
3775 S. Custer Rd. (M-50), Monroe, Michigan 48161

Other Monroe Fairgrounds on site offerings for the three day weekend:

4 & Under 6 Months Puppy Competition---Saturday
AKC National Owner-Handled Series---Saturday & Sunday
Obedience Trial & Rally Trial---Saturday & Sunday
NADD Diving Dog Trial---Friday, Saturday and Sunday
Possible BHA Barn Hunt.
Coursing ability test and FAST Cat
Eye Certification Clinic (CERF/OFA)---Saturday

Que Pasa Perro de Agua

Comings ... and Goings (Events!)

SWD gathering in Colorado - August 18-22, 2022

SWDCA member, Art Morgan, is pulling together a gathering of all interested SWD owners for some SWD fun in Greeley, Colorado. There is a large cluster of shows there in mid-August and Art would like to not only try his younger SWD out in the conformation show ring, but also wants to organize some SWD specific fun activities as well.

Art has two SWDs, Paco, age 3, and Izzy, 7 months. He says he loves the breed, and is doing his best to learn more about them, and allow them to show off their natural talents. Art also has some exposure to herding, as his mother is a long-time collie breeder and herding group judge, and has many friends who train herding dogs.

Some possible activities for the gathering include:

- The **all breed shows** are Aug19-22 at the Island Grove Regional Park in Greeley (where the Greeley Stampede Rodeo is held). There are several breeds holding their national specialties there on August 18.
- In conjunction with the shows, there will be many of the AKC and AKC-adjacent events, such as **obedience, rally, dock diving, and barn hunt**.
- There is a lake in Loveland called Boyd Lake where we could reserve an area to do a **water work workshop** to help do some hands-on training.
- Art's mother knows a herding trainer in Ft. Collins who has geese, goats, and sheep, and she could give **herding instinct tests**.
- An **informal demo** to each other some of the things we've trained our SWDs to do is an option as well.

Contact Art at art.morgan@gmail.com if you're interested, and indicate what activities you might like. He will make arrangements according to level of interest.

SWD gathering in Pennsylvania August 14 & 15, 2022

Coordinated by club member Sarah Spinler, August 14 and 15 will see a gathering of SWDs and their owners in Central Pennsylvania to participate in Dock Diving and Herding.



Coined "Bumper and Brews," open **Dock Diving practice** will be held on August 14th in Biglersville, PA from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. Located just 45 minutes South from Harrisburg at the Thirsty Farmer Brewery site, dogs of all skill levels may use the dock to learn dock diving or they may just swim. Cost is \$25 per dog. The **Thirsty Farmer Brew Works** serves ales, lagers and ciders from local hops along with light fare. The Brewery opens at 12pm. Participants should bring a bumper or retrievable item that can float.

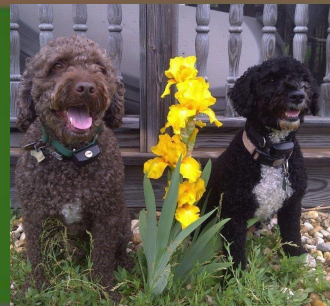
The following day, a **herding clinic** will be held in Scarletts Mill, which is a 1 hour and 12 minute drive east from Harrisburg, PA, near Reading, PA. The no-experience-necessary seminar will be held on August 15th from 8:00am to 12:00pm and the cost per dog will be based on the number of participants. The clinician is Terry Wofford, AKC herding judge. Herding sticks and long lines will be provided for those who don't own their own. Depending on weather, we may venture over to French Creek State Park for a **swim**.



Please confirm your spot for the PA gathering by emailing Sarah at Spinler@comcast.net.

Member Noticias

Member Spotlight



Member Spotlight: **Carol and Jeff Plautz** *By Trish Byron*

"Neither of us had ever had dogs. Where we lived in West Virginia had lots of space, perfect for a dog. We were sitting at the table on a Saturday morning, talking about getting a dog when a random dog scratched at the back door. We took it as a sign!"

"We took a quiz that suggested the Spanish Water Dog would be good for us. We did more research." The Spanish Water Dog club specialty was held that fall in Punxsutawney, PA and Jeff and Carol decided to go to experience Spanish Water Dogs first hand. "As we were checking into our hotel we met Sheryl Gaines and Rancho. Everyone we met was super nice and helpful."



Rancho is the sire for both of their pups. Roy is 14, nearly 15 years old, from Mike Ginder's Mudge in Hershey, Pennsylvania. 10-year-old Vera is from Lisa Harper's Pink. "The dogs' names have meaning for us: Since we love SWDs and we love wine, we decided our dogs should be named after Spanish wines! Roy (Rioja del Bolanio USA) is derived from Rioja, and Vera (Ariosa la Fantasia del Verdejo) from Verdejo!"

Even though they are Spanish Water Dogs, Roy and Vera spent their early years in West Virginia with not much water exposure. "We currently live in Carolina Beach, NC on the beach. Roy is our 'Spanish Wading Dog'; he'll go up to his belly but likes to keep his feet on the ground. Vera is our

little princess. She likes to walk along the edge of the water but doesn't even like to let the water touch her toes. She runs away as the tide comes in then chases it back to the ocean. Roy's favorite thing to do at the beach is to roll in the sand. He also likes to roll in leaves and snow but the sand seems to be his favorite."

"It amazes us how different two dogs can be when they've been together their entire lives, except for the first 10 weeks." Jeff is keeping notes for a possible future article. He shared a few snippets from his observations. "Roy likes to bark; Vera doesn't make a sound when playing. Vera likes to fetch, fetch and only fetch; Roy wants to play everything else. Vera likes to hunt; Roy is a protector. Vera is very food motivated; you could leave a sandwich on the floor and Roy wouldn't touch it."

The biggest similarity is that they're both good dogs. When asked about a funny thing their dogs had done, Carol recounted the following, "Roy has always loved little kids. One day we were walking in the neighborhood and passed a house with lots of kids. All the kids came running, shouting, "DOGGIE." Roy let himself be loved and petted."

Jeff added, "When Vera was a growing puppy, we had pork chops for dinner. The dirty dishes were on the counter. I stepped out of the room. When I returned, the bone was gone." I asked, "Vera, do you know who took that bone?" She responded with a loud burp!

Continued next page

Member Noticias

Member Spotlight & New Member Welcome



Carol and Jeff are both biologists. Jeff works in IT helping scientific societies improve their websites. He has worked from home for the past 23 years (Working from home helped with walks and playtime when the dogs were puppies). Carol teaches biology at University of North Carolina, Wilmington. Prior to moving to UNCW, Carol worked with Colleen Nolan at Shepherd University in West Virginia. Carol took Roy into work when classes were not in session. Roy was Colleen's introduction to Spanish Water Dogs. Colleen currently has Kai, Rain and Z!

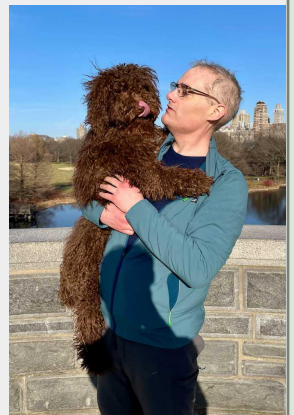


Jeff stated that "our strongest training strategy is consistency. Set a rule then always follow it. They're smart enough to know. There has to be an alpha. We only have a half dozen or so rules like no feeding from the table, don't go upstairs first. It's important they know who's in charge."

Jeff and Carol advise prospective Spanish Water Dog families to "make sure you know what you're getting into. It's incredibly rewarding if you put work in. These dogs are smart and like to have a purpose, activity. They don't sleep well if they don't get enough activity. They don't just lay around all day."

Welcome New Member Christopher Mejo, Manhattan

Christopher Mejo joins us from the Upper East Side of Manhattan, with his 10-month-old SWD Dudley. Christopher asks the same question we all do, at some point, "Why is Dudley never tired??"



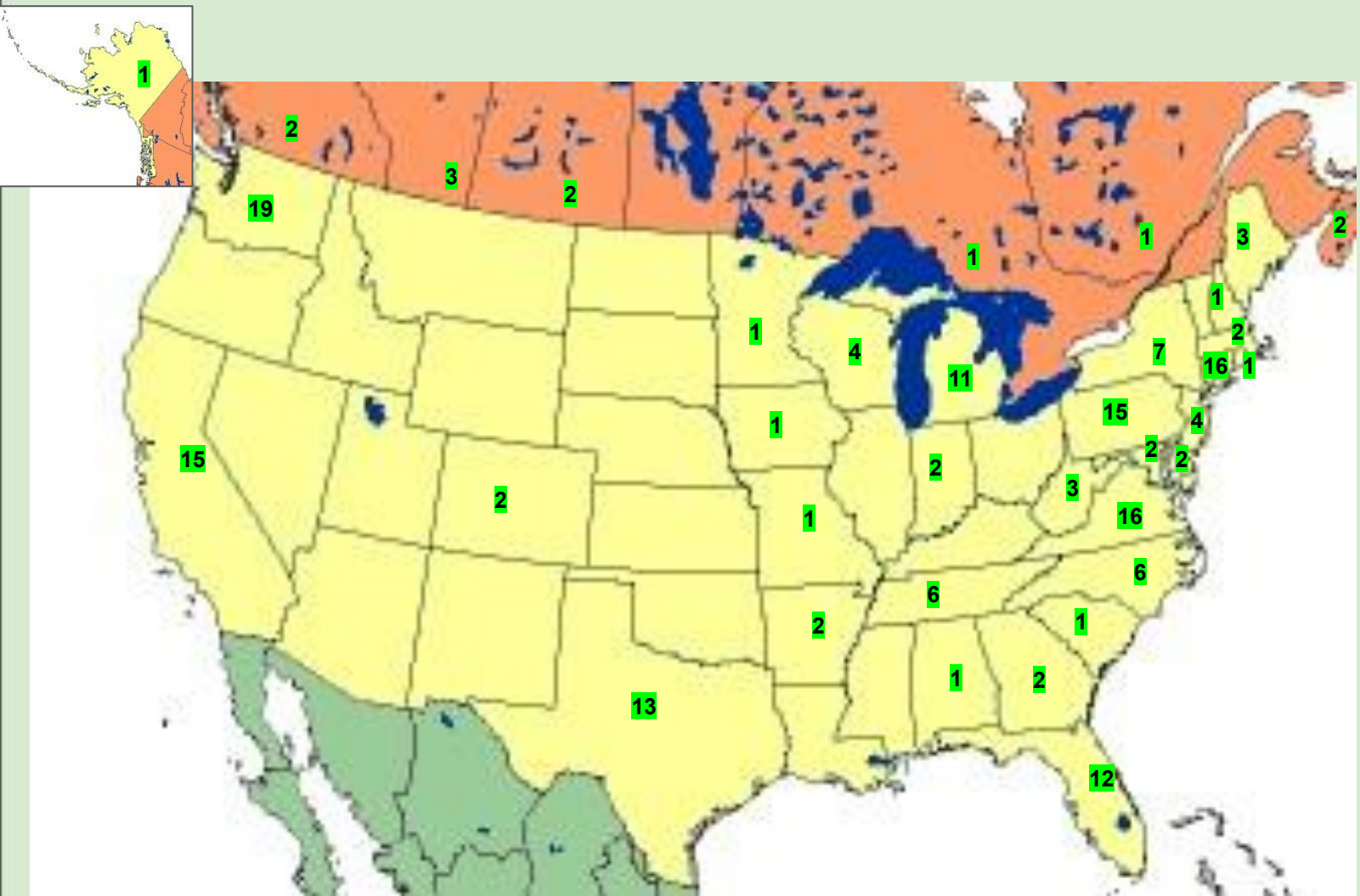
As a city dog, Dudley is fortunate to live in a multi-story brownstone with a private backyard and a tall fence for plenty of space and privacy. Meanwhile, he can step outside the front door to join the throngs of busy New Yorkers going somewhere and doing something. Perhaps they will go for walks around the city, or go for a swim in the ocean, or a dip in the Hudson River. Better yet, they can head out to the Adirondacks to take a break from the hectic pace of city life.

He tells us, "Dudley has exceeded my expectations regarding his temperament, his innate dog personality and how smart he is. Just when I think I have him figured out, he does something to surprise me! One thing I have had to get used to is Dudley loves being the center of attention. Each and every moment!"

We all know the importance of our dogs having a job to do. Christopher has a serious one in mind for his dog. He's training Dudley as a service dog to help him live a vibrant life despite an earlier spinal cord injury. Having already mastered two of his five service tasks, Dudley will soon attend service dog training camp to finish off his training by age two. Let's all wish him success!

Member Noticias

Membership Map



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

Spanish Water Dog Club of America Trivia Question:

Question: When was the Spanish Water Dog Club of America created?

Answer: The club was formed when two previous independent SWD organizations, the Spanish Water Dog Association of America (SWDAA) and the Spanish Water Dog Club (SWDC), were united into one organization: The Spanish Water Dog Club of America (SWDCA). SWDCA is the parent club for the breed in America as part of the American Kennel Club (AKC). It took another 5 years for the SWDCA to achieve having Spanish Water Dogs officially fully recognized by the AKC.

Belly Rub Roster

SWD Celebrations



Happy Woofday

Happy birthday to our SWDs born February - July!

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!

February

- 2/2/13** Baxter (Ariosa Fundy Bay Captain America)
- 2/2/13** Oso (Ariosa Fundy Bay Hermosa)
- 2/2/13** Z (Ariosa Fundy Bay It's A Wonderfullife)
- 2/4/17** Rizo (Coppers F Weeping Locks Rizo)
- 2/5/19** Lucia (Concurrido Too Good To Be True)
- 2/5/19** Savu (Concurrido Too Hot To Handle)
- 2/7/18** Pearl (Ran-Plan Lovefinlandia)
- 2/7/18** Sampo
- 2/16/19** Paco (Quantum de Ubbadat)
- 2/18/18** Banana (Goofy De J.Macelia)
- 2/18/18** Papaya (Pluti De J.Macelia)
- 2/19/16** Cocoa
- 2/23/09** Diego (Timber Oaks Leandro Of Lija)
- 2/25/15** Loli (Sierrasalva's Estrellita at FiveNinePlus)
- 2/26/19** Ramona (Maroma De Guadalteba)
- 2/27/16** Archie (De Lago's Archduke of Chestnut Pasture)
- 2/27/16** Bruno (De Lago's Bruno Vamos Azul)

March

- 3/1/17** Bella (UKC - Isabella de Chesapeake)
- 3/2/16** Mars/Marley (Rayaragua Black or White)
- 3/2/21** Valor (Waverly's Tails of Valor)



- 3/3/16** JJ (Jaco de Sierra Alhamilla)
- 3/7/16** Eva (UKC - Eva Del Sol y Luna)
- 3/7/14** Macho (Machado de Valneboeiro)
- 3/18/20** Blaze
- 3/22/18** Bo
- 3/22/18** Sonny (Highview's Rey de la Noche)
- 3/23/16** Jango (Timber Oaks Riverrun Jango)
- 3/23/19** Wookie Woo (Lija's Magic By Design)
- 3/26/17** Bella (Bella de Rio Columbia)
- 3/26/17** Sofia (Sofia de Rio Columbia)
- 3/31/21** Amaya (Angel's Miss Marple De Prederia)

April

- 4/1/19** Mia (UKC - Mia Gariela Klein)
- 4/4/17** Penny (Highview's A Penny for Your Thoughts)
- 4/6/15** Picoi (Picaro de las Brisas del Mar)
- 4/6/15** Sterling (Poeta del Rabadan)
- 4/11/14** Fasu (Bernardo De Sinkovic)
- 4/11/11** Vera
- 4/12/14** Kapa (Kepa De Cobre)
- 4/13/18** Bernie (Copper's O'Yeah Der Hey)
- 4/15/16** Meg (Zorrazza Back With A Bang)
- 4/16/19** Ivy (Ariosa Boston' Avefaro Ivy League De Fiesta NB)
- 4/16/19** Lexi (Ariosa Finlandia Northern Lights De Fiesta Nb)
- 4/22/18** Rayo
- 4/24/18** Dexter (Copper's Quick Draw Dexter)
- 4/25/09** Atun (Atros De Anarres)
- 4/27/11** Zolda (Xolda de Valneboeiro)
- 4/28/13** Iggy (Ignacio De Boston)
- 4/30/15** Bella (Isabella Lugosi de Lago Grumbles)

Continued next page

Belly Rub Roster (cont.)



May

5/2/15 Benny (LIJA-Highview's It's Showtime)
5/4/19 Tallie (LIJA-Highview's Patent Pending)
5/5/09 Isar (Isadora del Pipa Casita)
5/9/19 Tilly (Katia De Fillobull)
5/10/21 Koda (Copper's Lake Lover Koda)
5/10/09 Mona (Casa de Rancho's Mona)
5/11/19 Kobe (O'Reilly's Kobe Bryant of Bothell)
5/13/07 Roy
5/16/16 Bo (Bo de Chesapeake)
5/16/16 Bhumi (UKC - Bhumi de Chesapeake)
5/16/21 Teodoro (Praderia Y Ariosa Mazanita Sunset Surf)
5/21/17 Laala (Copper's H Leela Pania Mills)
5/26/21 Kygo
5/28/15 Chacha (Txakoli del Rabadan)
5/29/21 JuJu (JuJu de Rio Columbia)

June

6/5/14 Roxie
6/6/12 Bisbee
6/6/12 Quito
6/7/18 Halle (Praderia's Hallelujah)
6/7/18 Indi (Praderia's Busy Bein' Blue)
6/7/18 Lonny (Praderia Bird on a Wire)
6/7/16 River (Senna Serenita Del Corazoncito)
6/8/20 Burton (Praderia's Scandal and Concern)
6/8/20 Glory (Praderia's Sandpiper)
6/8/20 Tano (Amigo Gitano Dorado de Vinjay)
6/11/20 Mora (Andana de los llanos del valle)
6/14/17 Reese (Lots of Zorazzo Vom Lissfeld)
6/17/16 Bailey (Xative De Fraguel's)
6/18/15 Spankie (Dune de Sierra Alhamilla)
6/25/14 Palo (Luna de Miel's Palo of Casa de Rancho)



6/26/16 Choco (Praderia el Futuro de Zorrado)

6/28/20 Kaeli (Praderia's Kaleidoscope)

6/28/21 Sofie (Sofia Ahsoka Granero Rojo)

6/29/11 Nocci (Nocciola De Los Duendes)

6/29/11 Toby (Tobias De Los Duendes)

6/29/11 Tomas (Tomas de los Duendes)

July

7/4/16 Betsy (Angel's Miss American Pied)

7/4/16 Poppy (Angel's Lucky Liberty)

7/6/08 Luca Brasi (Ashley Four Koke de Montana)

7/13/18 Pili (FiveNinePlus Azpilicueta)

7/17/15 Nina

7/18/15 Hilda (Fundy Bay's Harmony Hill)

7/18/14 Kai (Angel Kiss the S'Kai de Ariosa)

7/18/14 Maggie (Our Little Angels Maggie Mae)

7/18/14 Murray (Angel Mauricio El Chistoso)

7/18/14 Willow (Will O' The Angels)

7/19/11 Lucy (UKC - Lucy de Chesapeake)

7/22/16 Rain (Ariosa Concurrado Chasin Fiesta's Midnight Rain)

7/22/16 Roy (Ariosa Concurrado Ewe Got it at Fundy Bay)

7/23/09 Rosie (Spanish Rose of the Angels)

7/25/16 Gunner (Lijas by design showgun sir gunner of the island)

7/25/16 Libby (Lija's It Takes A Village!)

7/26/16 Luna (Ariosa Concurrado Chasin' the Moon)

7/27/12 Brody (Timber Oaks Brody)

7/27/12 Nina (Timber Oaks Nina Angelica)

7/27/12 Ocho (Timber Oaks Lady Ocho)

7/30/08 Mickey (Perfetti Punkin Patch Basilio)



Loulie: The Story of a Foster Dog

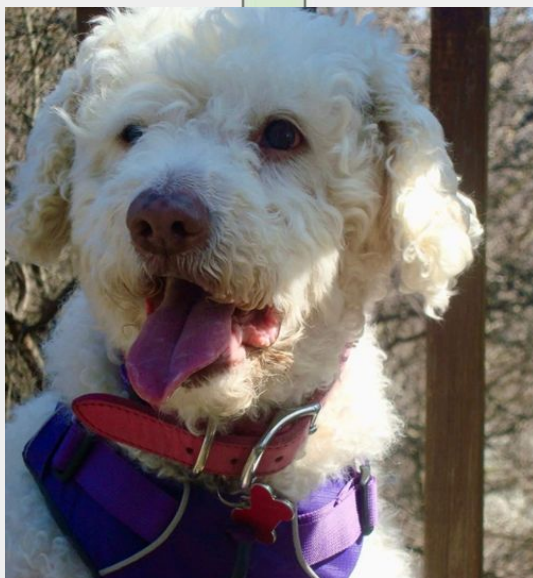
written by Cathy Moyer and edited by Denise Velasquez

Loulie came to foster care via Mid-Atlantic English Springer Spaniel Rescue (MAESSR) in March 2021 when her elderly Pennsylvania owner was unable to take her outside regularly due to the owner's physical impairments. She reluctantly gave up her companion of almost fourteen years, so that Loulie could get the care she needed.

Loulie shared her foster home with two other resident Spanish Water Dogs, her nephew and great niece, who are in the lower range of senior status. At her advanced age, she was a low-energy, arthritic gal who was somewhat leery of these two whippersnappers into whose company she had been thrust. The resident dogs made sure that they got in some good sniffs, and Loulie started to feel more comfortable sniffing them and getting closer. Eventually, they all peacefully coexisted.

On her first night in foster care, Loulie had an accident on the dog bed, so foster mom, Cathy Moyer, purchased pull-ups for her to wear overnight. This was extremely helpful while Loulie recovered from the UTI that she had arrived with.

Loulie had been living in a first-floor apartment, so she had not had to deal with stairs for quite a long time. She had difficulties navigating stairs due to her weakened back legs and balance issues when she changed direction on the stairs. Cathy



placed a dog bed at the bottom of the steps which helped when she got a little teetery on the way down. She took it like a trooper when she fell into the dog pillow. What a gal!

On the first couple nights, Loulie was restless and had a difficult time calming down -- howling, barking, and walking around for part of the night.

After a while, there was not a peep out of her during the night or even during the day for that matter. Loulie enjoyed belly rubs and being out in the yard and sniffing around to see who or what may have been in the yard. After the first couple days, Loulie started showing some joy, wagging her little stub as Cathy would interact with her and coming when called for meals or going outside. She was just a sweet ol' gal and even gave foster mom Cathy a kiss one day, which surprised her breeder as she said Loulie had never been really affectionate.

Update from May 11, 2021 "She is spending much more 'family time' now rather than her 'alone time' which initially was most of her day." Eventually, Loulie became a permanent foster, in part to prevent the need to transition to yet another home since her initial transition was difficult at her advanced age. There was also the possibility of continued health issues as evidenced by another UTI.

Although generally laid back and quiet, Loulie became more animated at times, especially when she was outdoors. She really enjoyed going for walks although a half-mile was about her limit.

Continued next page



Update from May 30, 2021 “The good news is that Loulie appears to be feeling well at this time.”

Loulie had her three-month checkup for her kidney failure, and, unfortunately, the numbers didn't look good. The condition was progressing with anemia, as well as another UTI. The biggest concern became her loss of appetite. Despite Cathy's best efforts to encourage her to eat, Loulie sometimes refused meals or ate very little. A check on the scales at the vet's office found that she had lost significant weight since her arrival.

Update from September 1, 2021 “Loulie is such a little trooper that her mobility issues don't keep her from trying to manage the situation.”

Over the previous five months, sweet Loulie adjusted well to her new life circumstances and enjoyed life despite her health issues. Overall, she was a laid-back senior, but her little stub would wiggle a mile a minute when she got excited. Plopping down in the wading pool during trips outside was her third favorite activity, and she would do it multiple times a day. To Cathy's chagrin, Loulie often chose to lie down in the dyed mulch or dirt following a dip in the pool. C'mon, Loulie – you're a white dog!

At this point, Cathy was happy if Loulie was happy. Cathy put off bathing Loulie until the day before her vet visit to avoid her looking like a little dirt ball. Second on Loulie's list of favorite things was going for a short walk and sniffing along the route.

Walks were limited due to hot and rainy weather, so Loulie had to be content to engage in her very favorite activity in the whole world: going for car rides. She was deeply disappointed when Cathy went out and left her at home. If the car was parked in the driveway, Loulie huffed and puffed at the fence and kept looking at the car in

hopes that Cathy would load her up and they would hit the road.

Update from December 13, 2021 “Loulie just had a checkup for her kidney failure, and, fortunately, the numbers improved since she discontinued Proin for incontinence.”

Loulie had been in the foster home for nine months and was a happy girl, happiest when taken for a walk or, better yet, a car ride. She got a little demanding if she was out in the yard and foster mom put up the garage door. Loulie was convinced that it was an indication they are going to hit the road. If Loulie had her druthers, she preferred daily car rides at the least. Sorry, Loulie...

At this point, Loulie and the resident dogs were known to lie together on a dog bed. And for a gal who didn't make a peep for three months, Loulie started enthusiastically joining in with the resident dogs when they started barking their crazy heads off. She sometimes even initiated the chorus concert herself. Thanks a lot, Loulie!

Loulie continued to be a joy, a real sweetheart, and a pleasure to foster.

Update February 5, 2022: “Run fast and free, Loulie – you were loved!”

And just like that, Loulie became a precious memory. Her battle with kidney disease, valiantly fought, is done. No more indignity of wearing a doggie diaper overnight, no more subcutaneous fluids, no more pills.

Loulie was a sweet and resilient ol' gal, and it was hoped she would survive longer, but after another UTI, her quality of life began to go downhill. Even though she was a trooper and didn't let anything get her down, the humane response was to

Continued next page

Turko Times



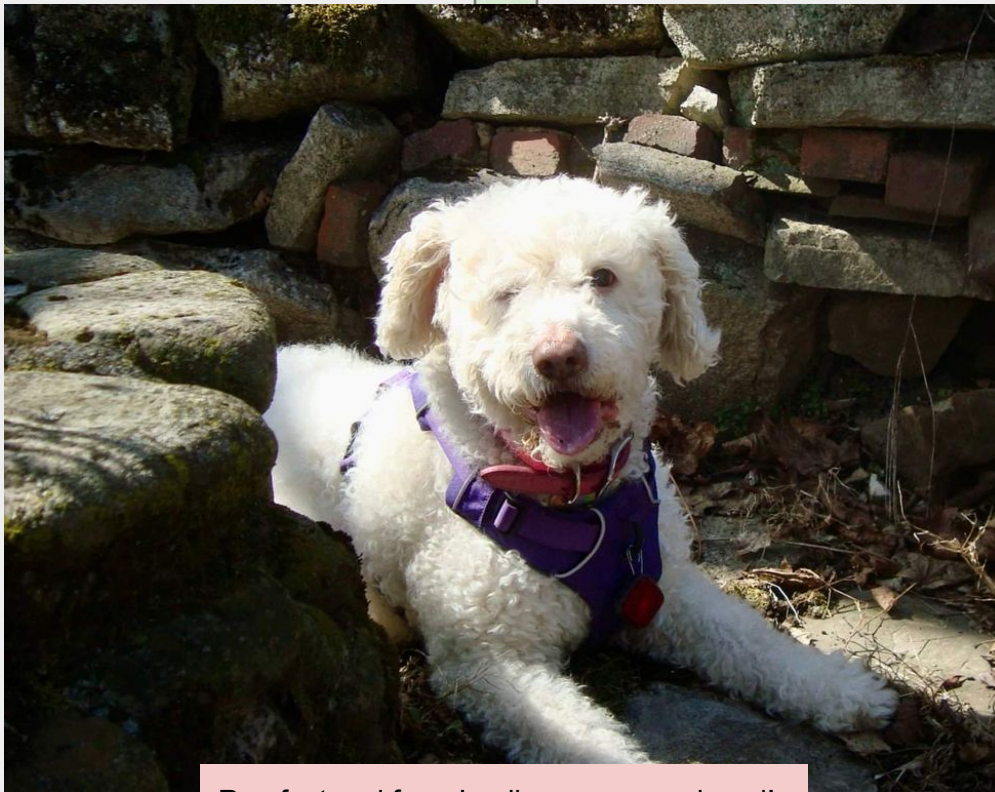
let her go so she could run free.

Even though she could hardly walk, Loulie was up and rarin' to go when she observed the cues that a car ride was planned. Oh, how that girl loved her car rides! Little did she know this would be her last. Loulie made her final visit to the vet's office and peacefully made her way to Rainbow Bridge with her foster mom by her side.

Her foster mom is thankful for the opportunity to support Loulie in her final ten months. This sweet pup was happy and loved. Her foster home already feels empty without her presence.

*You came into my heart one day,
So beautiful and smart.
My dear and sweet companion,
I loved you from the start.
And though I knew the time would come
When we would have to part,
You'll never be forgotten.
You left pawprints on my heart.*

author unknown



Run fast and free, Loulie – you were loved!

Cords & Capers

Photo Gallery



Cords & Capers

Photo Gallery



Our Staff and Contributors

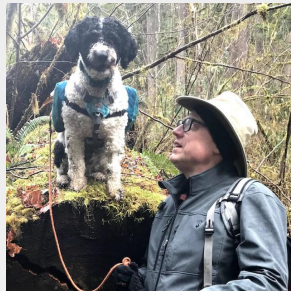
Trish Byron, Columnist

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 Coliz, Columnist

James Coliz 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.



Cathy Moyer, Contributor

Cathy Moyer lives in south central PA with her two rescues, half-siblings Roxie and Teddy. She has volunteered with Mid-Atlantic Springer Spaniel Rescue (MAESSR) since 2011, having fostered 31 dogs. MAESSR was instrumental in rescuing a number of SWDs from a breeder who was shut down by local authorities. Puppy Roxie and later adult Teddy are both foster-failures. Being rescues, both dogs have their individual behavioral issues but are dearly loved despite the frustrations of dealing with their quirks.



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.

Mary Beth Hughes, Columnist



Mary Beth Hughes is a former chef that lives in Richmond & Deltaville Virginia and works in oncology molecular diagnostic sales and marketing. She and her SWD, Bocephus George, spend on the Chesapeake Bay, do a little agility, learning dock diving and working on therapy certification so Bo can follow in

the footsteps of the 17 corgis before him working alongside Mary Beth in cancer centers around Virginia.

Chris Evans, Columnist

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



Continued next page

Our Staff and Contributors

Meg Normand, Proofer

After years in theatrical costuming, Meg Normand loves to critique ring outfits while watching dog shows.

Donna Perone, Editor, Columnist

Donna Perone and her only 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 whereabouts of Donna at all times, but he is game for trying anything that looks fun, especially if there might be a treat involved.



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.



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.



Denise Velasquez, Columnist

Long time SWD lover, Denise Velasquez is responsible for the SWD Club Sunshine Committee and doing her best to recognize and memorialize the loss of beloved pups. She also leads the PR/Marketing team working to enhance SWD social media presence and provide custom merchandise for the club.



Heather Wills, Columnist

Heather and Morgan Wills live in Nashville TN. When she's not working as a Hospice Nurse, she and Pancho can be found running the trails or at the post office mailing something somewhere to three college-aged kids.



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	Lisa Harper
Corresponding Secretary	Donna Perone
Recording Secretary	Andrea Paskiewicz
Treasurer	Nancy Valley
Director East	David Milstein
Director West	Annette Martin
AKC Liaison	Colleen Nolan

Committees chairs:

Bylaws	Vickie Miller
Events	Nancy Valley
Health and Wellness	Lisa Harper
Mentorship	open
Rescue	Annette Martin and David Milstein
Standard	Lisa Harper
Judges Education	Lisa Harper
Membership	Donna Perone
Sunshine	Denise Velasquez
Versatility	open
Website	Lisa Harper



Club Website: swdclub.org

[Become a member](#)

Spanish Water Dog
AKC Breed Standard

Committee Spotlight:

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee serves for a limited period of time each year for the purpose of generating a slate of valid candidates for all SWDCA Board positions coming up for election in that year. The Board positions rotate on two-year cycles so half of the positions are up for election each year.

The Committee is selected by the Board by June 1st each year. The Board names 3 members who represent 3 different areas of the US and selects the Chair for the Committee. Two alternates are also selected in the event they are needed to complete the nominating process. Only one of the members may be a current Board member but no Board members are required to be on the Committee.

The Committee selects one candidate for each expiring board position, obtaining the nominees' acceptance, and submits that slate to the Corresponding Secretary by July 1. The Corresponding Secretary submits the slate to the Board and membership. At this point, the Committee has completed their charge. However, written petitions for additional nominations which must include 5 other member signatures may be submitted to the Corresponding Secretary by July 15. If no additional nominations are received, the slate of candidates are declared elected.

If additional nominations are received beyond those selected by the Committee, a ballot must be sent to all voting members in good standing by August 1 and votes returned by September 1. New terms for each Board position begin on October 1 and last two years.

Spanish Water Dog Club of America

SWDCA 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)