



United Sunshine States Portuguese Water Dog Club, Inc

1101 Banks Rose Court
Celebration, Fl. 34747

Board of Directors Meeting
Date: 04/17/2023

In Attendance

Lizette Wagoner called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm. In attendance were John Brock, Karen Childers, Zac Crump, Amanda Ellery, Marie Forgach, Pam Oberst, Lori Torriero. John Rodenburg was absent.

President Report – Lizette Wagoner

Lizette requested everyone update the 2023 Club Schedule spreadsheet that is on the Google drive, paying particular attention to items which are highlighted.

Vice President Report – Lori Torriero

No report.

Secretary Report – Karen Childers

2023 E-mail Votes after January 30 Board Meeting

February 1 – Approval of January 30 Board Meeting minutes. Approved. Pam did not vote.

February 5 - Approval of an additional \$1,000 advance payment to the Jamboree for water judges' travel expenses and to maintain a \$500 balance in the bank account. Movers & Shakers will also advance \$1,000. Unanimously approved.

The original Jamboree advance of \$2,000 (\$1,000 from each club) was spent as follows: check supplies \$60.06, Jamboree logo artwork \$315.00, rowing clinic awards \$42.96, rental of High Falls recreation building \$975.00, deposit for banquet \$500.00, Total \$1,893.02. Tom Leather will provide a Jamboree budget once the many events that make up the Jamboree are finalized.

February 12 – Approval for USSPWD Club to sponsor ACT1, ACT2, ACT1J and ACT2J at Leather's Field - Colbert, GA, April 22, 2023, Judge - Lori Leonhardt, Trial Secretary - Marilu Novy. Unanimously approved.

Marilu stated this is usually a break-even event. Entry fees cover judge, AKC fees, and \$100 for use of the agility field. Each USSPWDC member entered will receive an agility jump photo frame (\$10 each). All competitors will receive a small bag of 4MyPWDs focus treats. (\$24 and

we will have leftovers for another event.) A sticker of our logo will be tied to the bag. Bags and stickers will be donated. Lunch will be handled between competitors/visitors and Judy Leather, USSPWDC not involved.

March 4 – Approval to offer a Junior Water Dog Trophy, estimated to cost \$25, at the June 4 Junior/Apprentice Water Trial. Unanimously approved.

The Premium will read - **Junior Water Dog Trophy:** This trophy, offered exclusively at Junior / Apprentice ONLY Water Trials, will be given at the Sunday trial to the Member’s Junior Water Dog who, in a qualifying run, completes the 4 exercises in the fastest total time. FEO entries are not eligible.

Treasurer Report – Pam Oberst

January - March 2023		
Membership/Admin		1,190.18
Water Trials		-\$ 951.98
Water Training		\$ 2,828.36
Boat/Utility Trailer		-775.17
Supported Entry		
Merchandise		116.16
Fun Days		
Achievement Awards		-646.00
Donation		
Net Income		1,761.55

Karen reminded all that income from water camps will be far less this year than in prior years as we have fewer camps, we increased the site usage fee paid to the DeFore’s and we are renting a porta potty for each camp. Pam commented that we should have an offset with additional revenue from the Jamboree.

Membership – Lori Torriero

As of April 1, 2023, we have 142 members. 13 are new members and of those, 3 are Qualified Complimentary (QC) members (either with their 1st puppy from a breeder or their 1st PWD coming from PWDCA Rescue) leaving 129 renewal memberships.

This represents a significant decrease in membership with 29 people not renewing for 2023. Of the non-renewals 10 were new members in 2022 who did not renew in for 2023. That is a rather high number (34.5%) and indicates to me that we are somehow not meeting our new member's needs and/or expectations.

During both the fall renewal period and the 3-month grace period, there were at least monthly reminders via both the FB page and CC. I sent out individual e-mails to everyone who had not renewed on Feb. 15, March 1, and March 17. A few people responded that they had moved out of the area or that their PWD's had either passed away or were getting older and they no longer were able to participate in group activities.

Lori stated she did not like the non-renewal trend, particularly related to the 10 new 2022 members who did not renew in 2023. She stated they were not QC members, and they were not from the same geographical area. Discussion followed concerning what more we can do for our members, particularly outside of water activities. Further discussion was deferred to New Business.

Water Training – Karen Childers

Dry Land Training:

New Smyrna Beach February 11th – 15 dogs registered but only 10 attended due to poor weather. Financially we broke even. I think this date may have been too early in the year to draw more participants.

Sarasota February 25th – We originally had this planned as a two-day event with beginner training on Saturday and more advanced on Sunday. However, based on registration of 9 dogs, we consolidated the training to one day on Saturday. We broke even financially.

Water Camps:

NSB March 18th – 19 dogs registered. Profit \$93

NSB April 22nd and 23rd – 23 dogs registered Saturday and 21 Sunday. This is about our limit on the number of dogs we can handle at a camp.

I expect all the NSB camps to fill to around 20 dogs each day.

Villa Rica May 12th and 13th – 13 dogs registered Friday and 15 Saturday. Planning a group dinner Friday night at Uncorked on Main in Villa Rica.

Dip Into Splash Away Junior / Apprentice Water Trial:

April 24 - Water Trial and Workshop ENTRIES OPEN at Perfdog.com

May 16 - Water Trial ENTRIES CLOSE - 5 PM EDT

June 3 – Workshop including Practice Run

June 4 - Water Trial

This will be our first trial using PerfDog. However, as the trial is one day and should be small, we can use it as a learning experience. We are also offering day of trial move-ups and day of trial entries.

As a participation gift to workshop participants John offered to supply each with a thumb drive containing all the water trial exercise videos. Offer unanimously accepted.

Water Activities Committee – Vickie Baker

- Submitted advertisement for USSPWDC 2023 Water Trials included in Winter Edition of Courier
- Spent a significant amount of time learning Perfdog and random draws. Karen Pratt has written a document and posted it on the PWDCA website that has all of the information on how clubs can use Perfdog for our water trials, in case anyone wants to review it.
- Water Trial Applications submitted and Premiums completed and posted on Perfdog and USSPWDC.org for June 3 NSB and June 24-25 LaGrange Water Trials.
- Lori Torriero and John Brock evaluated a new water site location at Orange Springs in Florida. The WAC will explore the potential to hold a one-day camp sometime in Sept.
- Purchased replacement lights for the back of the Boat Trailer
- Purchased replacement items for First Aid Kit which is located in the Utility Trailer for Water Trials.
- WAC voted to purchase Tervis Tumblers with Lids, but Tervis said the price was the same if we ordered half mugs and half Tumblers with lids, so we did that and people can choose which they want.
- WAC voted to offer mini-fenders for MWD 2,3,4, ongoing. The large fenders will be awarded for MWD1 - after 5 Q legs.
- Important note: Lydia Moyer will no longer be handling (ordering, tracking, hauling, storing, lettering, etc.) awards as of December 2023. The Board needs to find a replacement to transition with her, the sooner the better. I sent an email to both the WAC and USSPWDC Board asking for anyone interested and got no response.
- Jamboree Water Trial - dates are Oct 20-23. USSPWDC Trials are Sat Oct 21 and Monday Oct 23. I am coordinating with Colleen Bragg (WT Secretary) and Jeremy Bragg (WT Chair) on the Application information which will be submitted soon.

Discussion on replacement for Lydia Moyer who handles water trial awards. Discussion ensued about whether the awards could be stored in the utility trailer. There was agreement that while we may not want to store awards in the trailer long-term, they could be stored a few weeks prior to trials and thus eliminate the requirement for the awards coordinator to transport everything to a trial.

Karen will work with Vickie to try to simplify awards coordinator responsibilities and draft a CC asking for a volunteer from Club membership.

Pam questioned why the random draw period was so long for the LaGrange trial. She stated that in NACSW scent work trials the random draw period is two days, after which you know if you are in the trial or not. Discussed shortening the draw period based on experience for upcoming trials but LaGrange cannot be changed as the dates are in the Premium and Perfdog.

Club Historian – Karen Childers

Transcribing detailed Board minutes for a better record of Club business. Club timeline in development.

Website – Vickie Baker

- Updated Policy #9 on Website.
- Downloaded and provided 2022 Performance Award Information to Pam Oberst.
- Posted 2023 Water Camp information for New Smyrna Beach and Villa Rica on the Website

- Updated both June Water Trial information on the Website (logos, dates, perfdog info, hotel info etc.)
- The Premiums for both June Water Trials are posted in PERFDOG and the USSPWDC.org Website.
- Updated the Jotforms for both June water trials including meals and T-Shirts, volunteers and practice days as applicable.
- Provided Water Camp and Membership reports from Jotform for the months of Jan, Feb and March.

Lizette stated that she, Marie, and Pam all signed up for the Fenzi Sports Academy course on website building but have not had much time to study yet. **Lizette, Pam, and Marie to touch base after all have reviewed the course material.**

Communications – Zac Crump

- Merchandise – April 13th
- Junior/Apprentice Water Trial – Reminders & Dates – April 12th
- Villa Rica Water Camp (Reminder) – April 10th
- USSPWDC Dues Increase 2023 – April 1st – March 26th
- PWDCA Board of Directors Meeting – March 24th
- Junior/Apprentice Water Trial – Premium List – March 10th
- WAC Communication for Members – March 8th
- AKC Act 1, 2 & Jumpers – Feb 27th
- Achievement Awards (Review) – Feb 14th
- Merchandise – Feb 12th
- Dry Land & Water Camps (Reminder) – Feb 11th
- Dry Land & Water Camps (Reminder) – Feb 5th
- Jamboree Save the Date – Feb 2nd
- Hotel & RV Information: June 2023 LaGrange Water Trial – Feb 1st
- Dry Land & Water Camps – Jan 31st

April 12th, 2023 – Constant Contact Reconciled with 2023 Membership List

Supported Entry – Zac Crump / John Brock

March 2023: Approval sent, received confirmed from PWDCA & Pat Boyd – Show Chair for Central Florida Working Group Association

April 2023:

Angie Robinson - Contacted to receive quote for Awards.

Cyndy Steiner – Contacted to receive quote for Rosettes.

Bahama Breeze – Contacted to receive quote for Friday evening USSPWDC Evening Social

Communication to go out by week of April 17th for Supported Entry Announcement

Once quotes are received for Awards and Rosettes, communication needs to go out – Mid April to membership for Sponsorship to conclude by Friday, April 28th to have information ready for Premium.

Tom Leather prepared a budget for the Jamboree noting that as there are still a number of unknowns the budget is extremely conservative. The major areas of question are the AKC events where we collect \$5 per entry or per run depending on the event as well as the proceeds from Raffle/Auction at the banquet. Expenses are higher than in past years, particularly the water trial judging expenses. Finally, how much the economy will affect turnout is yet to be determined but assuming our web site is up and running by early August we should get an early indicator in that area. In 2019 the Jamboree made a donation to The Foundation (Shine on Project) before the final net proceeds were distributed to the Clubs. A donation is not included in the budget, but I believe the Jamboree should still make a comparable but smaller donation this time.

Projected Financial Results (net of advanced seed monies)

Revenue: \$13,075

Expenses: \$3,565

Net Income: \$9,510

Net income to be split between the two clubs, after charitable donation.

AKC Rally Trial for Jamboree – Vickie Baker is a member of the Clemson Kennel Club and asked them to sponsor a 2-day AKC Sanctioned Rally Trial Oct 21 and 22 during the Jamboree. They agreed. Vickie conducted a site evaluation, submitted the application, which was approved by the AKC, chose a judge, and is now working on the premium and ribbons, preparing a list of needed items and getting volunteers to support the event.

AKC Fast Cat for Jamboree – Amanda is waiting to hear back from Clemson Kennel Club on whether they will hold the event.

Marie asked if AKC Scent Trials would be offered, and Amanda responded that we could not find an AKC Club to sponsor the scent trials.

However, we will offer a North American Sports Dog Association (NASDA) seminar and scent trial led by Jules Asbed. Both Pam and Amanda attended a NASDA seminar and trial recently and said it was fun and the dogs loved it.

Events – Amanda Ellery

4/22/2023 - ACT Trial is all set

Pam Leshner to schedule Scent Work and Dock Diving seminar in her area - dates TBD

Looking for event volunteers in other areas of FL

10/28/2023 - GA Fun Day “Boo’s, Barks and BBQ”

‘Sports Day’ at Canine Ranch - Dock Diving, Lure Coursing, Agility Fun Schedule on a Sunday - Date TBD

Seeking volunteers to do the same in FL

Located 3 DD pools in metro Atlanta that will open for rentals in the near future.

Fall offer CGCU in multiple areas

Lori is working on a plan to offer a couple of regional activities or get together and would welcome your input and suggestions.

Meg DeFore confirmed date of the Christmas Party as Saturday December 2.

Much discussion followed about how to identify and host more non-water activities for our members.

- John questioned whether a Fun Day could be held in conjunction with the December Orlando shows. Zac talked about having a Meet the Breed type booth. **Zac to explore.**
- After discussion about difficulties of finding venues for impromptu gatherings, John suggested periodic Zoom meetings to cover specific topics that would appeal to members who want to learn more about the breed such as: which types / brands of food to feed, how to navigate multiple dog households, basic behavior issues and solutions, how to start your dog in performance sports, etc. **Lori to make a proposal on Zoom meetings / topics.**
- Amanda suggested posting AKC events that don't require a lot of training, such as Farm Dog testing on our FB page. She also mentioned doing something in conjunction with AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day. **Amanda to follow-up**

PWD Rescue – Amanda Ellery

REPORT OF THE PWDCA NATIONAL EAST COORDINATOR: PWDCA Rescue, Inc. 2023

1ST QTR STATS:

OF APPLICATIONS RECEIVED 19

DOGS SURRENDERED TO RESCUE 1

DOGS ADOPTED 0

INQUIRIES VIA TOLL FREE LINE - Regarding adoption 1 - Regarding surrender 3

INQUIRIES REGARDING AGGRESSIVE DOGS 4

PWDs ID'ed on SOCIAL MEDIA OR OTHER RESCUE ORGANIZATIONS 13

BREEDER/OWNER ASSIST 3

RESCUE ORG. ASSIST 0

CURRENT DOGS IN FOSTER CARE 1

PWDCA Board working diligently on promoting responsible breeders. New push to educate the general public on reputable breeders. Check out the home page of PWDCA, "Puppy Buyers Beware".

Merchandise – John Rodenburg

It has been a slow quarter for merchandise sales. I did get a hat on the website.

Amanda stated that she wants to sell the June water trial t-shirts to those outside of the water trial due to the super cute graphic design. Discussion followed. Recommendation to include an option on the jotform for people who will not be at the trial to purchase shirts at an increased price that would include postage. Amanda would fulfill orders. **Amanda to work with Vickie on setting it up. Zac to advertise via CC.**

Achievement Awards – Marie Forgach

Marie stated that she has not found a way to mail the crate tag awards that is less than \$5 per package for USPS because the package is rigid. Discussion followed on other mailing options as well as sending the awards to people for distribution at water camps and events. **Motion made by Pam to approve mailing the awards for an unbudgeted expense of around \$250. Unanimously approved.**

Old Business

None

New Business

PWDCA Sanctioning

Pam stated she had completed the required PWDCA sanctioning documents and forwarded them to Jane Freeman.

Proposed Club 2023 Goals

- Host June water trials at two locations: Junior / Apprentice Only workshop and trial in New Smyrna Beach, FL and all level trial in LaGrange, GA.
- Host water trials and multiple events at the PWD Jamboree in Seneca, SC in October.
- Host a supported entry in December at the Central Florida Working Group Association show in Orland, FL
- Provide multiple water training opportunities in Florida and Georgia.
- Identify and host non-water events throughout the year, including topic specific Zoom meetings.
- Continue to grow membership.
- Begin the planning process for 2024 to host a Supported Entry, with both confirmation and performance events, at the Peach Blossom Cluster in Perry, GA.
- Develop a transition plan for 2024 Board Officers (President, Secretary) and Committee Chairs (e.g., website, water camps, water trial awards)

Bylaws Review Discussion

Lori reviewed Article II of our Bylaws and recommended codifying our current procedure of conducting Board discussions, motions, and voting via e-mail under Section 4 Special Board Meetings.

Discussion followed about the difficulty of amending our Bylaws due to the requirement that a change be approved by 2/3 of voting members.

Lori agreed to finish the Bylaws review and present a recommended change proposal to the Board who will decide whether to proceed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25