

To: Matt Stander, Dog News

Portuguese Water Club of America
19th PWDCA National Speciality
San Luis Obispo, CA October 4-8, 2010

By Michael Dugan

Almost half-way between San Francisco and Los Angeles, San Luis Obispo, California is nestled between the Santa Lucia Mountains on the east and the Pacific Ocean, only eight miles to the west. Its location has blessed the area with beautiful temperament weather, making it an ideal location for a PWDCA National Specialty. An old city, SLOtown, as the locals refer to it, was founded in 1772 as one of the early Catholic Missions founded in old California and the Mission San Luis Obispo still stands. Today, the city hosts Cal Poly State University, one of the nation's finest engineering schools, and the Madonna Inn, one of the world's most eccentric hotels, awash in bright pink and miles of naugahide. The Inn does have a great restaurant in addition to its quaint fame.

Hosted at the Embassy Suites, the "SLO-Commotion at the Ocean" began with Water Trials, Tracking and Agility before the Conformation events began on Monday. Located at nearby Laguna Lake Park, the event was arranged in a beautiful show setting between the shores of the narrow lake and rocky low mountains, creating a natural wind tunnel from the Pacific. The first two days brought high winds and rain, but by Wednesday, the promised ideal weather appeared for good.

Show Chair Sherry Hanen and her Leadership Team of Judy Archambeau, Gail Browne-McDonald, Susan Cucura, Kathy Esslinger, Linda Kelly, Don Neimann and Cheryl Smith worked with over fifty sub-committees and 100 volunteers to make the event memorable and fun. Sherry worked with her team for two years with weekly conference calls and meetings and her attention to detail was evident for the event. Starting with a Portuguese Festa to kick off the week of conformation events, PWD owners and breeders enjoyed two banquets, wine tasting from the area's world-class vineyards, a SLO farmer's market, a boutique, health seminar and breeder's education and multiple opportunities to enjoy local wineries, bistros and shops. A highlight of the week was the celebration of Kitty Braun's 90th birthday, honoring her decades of dedication to the breed.

Judge Karen Arends judged the Best of Breed competition on Friday and selected "Ladybug" Aviator's Luck Be A Lady for the top award. Said Arends, "My BOB was an outstanding example of proper balance between correct Portuguese Water Dog type, strength, femininity, athleticism and grace – all of these traits blending beautifully with a true 'Here I am' PWD attitude".

The PWDCA has long been committed to rigorous health testing for its breed to continue to make the breed one of the healthiest in the AKC family. In addition to GCG/TDI Testing, a Health Clinic was operated on Thursday for the entire day. Nearly 100 tests were administered in addition to 40 pre-tests done for Optigen Prcd-PRA, GM-1 Storage

Disease and JDCM Juvenile Dilated Cardiomyopathy. Tests and AKC Registrations were added on-site to the PWD Data Base developed and administered by Karen Berggren that has health records of thousands of PWDs.

Futurity classes were judged by Ms. Brytt Hasslinger. Of the 41 entries, the winners were:

Best Senior Puppy in Futurity – Del Sur’s Pepsea Please
Breeders: Lana & Chay Woodburn
Owners: Lana & Chay Woodburn

Best Junior Puppy in Futurity – Aviator’s Comic Relief
Breeders: Cathy Dugan & C. & G. Hamilton
Owner: Anne Ausich & Cathy Dugan

Sweepstakes with 115 entries was judged by Dr. Lou Guthrie. Winners were:

Best in Sweepstakes: Cutwater Jagger’s Platinum Record
Breeders: Jane Harding
Owners: Bullis Jenna

Best of Opposite Sex to Best in Sweepstakes: Aviator’s Comic Relief
Breeders: Cathy Dugan & C. & G. Hamilton
Owner: Anne Ausich & Cathy Dugan

Regular classes brought 309 entries to the ring, including 71 Best of Breed entries. Judge Karen Arends judged the entry and produced the following winners:

Best in Specialty Show – GCH Aviator’s Luck Be A Lady “Ladybug”
Breeder-Owner: Cathy Dugan & S. & C. Kuehn, Owner: Cathy & Mike Dugan,
Victor Malzoni, Jr & Jerson Valle

Best of Winners – Akire How Deep is Your Love Del Sur
Breeder: Ebba Patrick & Erica Griesbach
Owner: Lana Woodburn

Best of Opposite Sex – CH Spyglass Legend of Bahia
Breeder: Scott and Barbara Henley
Owner: Margaret Rembleske

Select Dog – CH Del Sur’s Keno of Cascade
Breeder: Cynthia Thorson & Lana Woodburn
Owner: Cynthia Thorson

Select Bitch – CH Roseknoll’s Emerald Sea

Breeder: Charles & Susan Teasley & Lynn & Bill Maas
Owner: Paula & Maskey Heath & Charles & Susan Teasley

Winner's Dog – Cascade Cee Deegee
Breeder: Cynthia Thorson
Owner: Cynthia Thorson & Eric Schurman

Best Veteran – CH Cortereal Seakiss of Starview VCD1 RE OAP AJP
Breeder: Bobbe Kurtz
Owner: Judy & Torin Knorr

Best Junior – Katie Maxurowski
CH Del Sur's Bold Moves

Awards of Merit –

CH Armada's Lady of the Lake
Breeder: Lana Langley
Owner: Lana Langley

CH Aviator's Asta Primadona
Breeder: Mike & Cathy Dugan
Owner: Matthew Davis & Bill Waters, Mike & Cathy Dugan

CH Cortereal Seakiss of Starview VCD1 RE OAP AJP
Breeder: Bobbe Kurtz
Owner: Judy & Torin Knorr

CH Del Sur Keno of Cascade
Breeder: Cynthia Thorson & Lana Woodburn
Owner: Cynthia Thorson

CH Downeast Elf About Town CWDX RN CD
Breeder: Steve & Christine Dostie
Owner: Steven & Christine Dostie

CH Elk Run Lancelots Du Lac AX AXJ
Breeder: J'nevelyn Martin & Joanne Forsythe
Owner: Susan Neal & J'nevelyn Martin

CH Roseknoll's Emerald Sea
Breeder: Charles & Susan Teasley & Lynn & Bill Maas
Owner: Paula & Maskey Heath & Charles & Susan Teasley

CH Questar's Thunder and Lightening
Breeder: Marilyn Rimmer
Owner: Marilyn Rimmer

Stud Dog – CH Del Surs' Keno of Cascade
Breeder: Cynthia Thorson & Lana Woodburn
Owner: Cynthia Thorson

Brood Bitch – CH Baymist Capricious Breeze
Breeder: Jean & Bob Combs

Owner: Judy & Paul Archambeau

Brace 1st – CH Rustyco Nod to the Working Man and CH Rustyco Leonor

Breeder: Julie & Ty Rust

Owner: Janet Voss & Julie & Ty Rust

Owner: Lynda & Charles McCallum, Julie & Ty Rust

Best Puppy – Questar Rounding the Windruff Mark

Breeder: Marilyn Rimmer

Owner: Carol Mattingly & Marilyn Rimmer & Ann Bowley

Best Bred-By-Exhibitor – Sapphires Cooleo

Breeder: Carol & Roger Arbuthnot & Dottie Dalegowski

Owner: Carol & Roger Arbuthnot