

**MINUTES OF THE 2007 PWDCA ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**Wednesday, October 3, 2007**  
**Marriott Ventura Beach - Ventura, California**

The 2007 PWDCA Annual Meeting was called to order at 3:55pm PST by Karen Arends, President.

**Roll Call** – Karen Arends announced that a quorum had been reached for this meeting. Karen introduced the Board and reviewed the Standing Rules for the Annual Meeting. MOTION to approve the Standing Rules for the Annual Meeting. Steve Dostie. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Barbara Cawley. APPROVED.

**Announcements** – Susan Cucura announced dogs are not allowed on the beach near the National Specialty site.

**Minutes of Last Annual Meeting** – Karen Arends announced that the minutes of the 2006 PWDCA Annual Meeting held on October 17, 2006, were approved by the 2006 PWDCA Board and were published in the November/December 2006 Courier.

**Report of President** – Karen Arends reminded attendees to pick up copies of the PWDCA Annual Report and noted that copies would be available to members not in attendance by contacting Suzanne Bohan. Karen announced that there were many volunteer opportunities available for members, including positions on the following committees: Bylaws; Allergy, Dermatitis and Hairloss; Membership; Legislative; Deyanne Miller Scholarship Fund; Orthopedic; and Epilepsy and Seizures. Volunteer application forms and additional volunteer opportunity information are available on PWDCA's website.

**Report of Vice President** - Rita Araujo announced the recipients of the 2007 Board Appreciation Awards and presented each recipient with a statue of a rooster, the Portuguese symbol of good luck. Recipients of the award were: Janet Boyd, Belinda Harvey, Cathy Kalb, Kathryn Monroe, Maryanne Murray, and Betty Trainor.

Janet Boyd has been a member since 1998. She is a former Board member and served as Recording Secretary. Janet was the 2004 National Specialty Chairperson and is presently the SEAT Chairperson. In addition, Janet serves as our Archives and Historian Chairperson and has been gathering memorabilia and sending it to the AKC Archives.

Belinda Harvey has been an associate member since 2004. Belinda's computer expertise has led her to become our Web Master. With the help of Board members Jean Hasebroek and Phyllis Zusman, Belinda has revamped our web site so that it is very user friendly and easy to navigate.

Cathy Kalb has been a member since 1980 and has worn many hats since then. She is a former Board member and served as Corresponding Secretary. She and Mary Anne Murray were co-editors of the Courier. In 1992, Cathy served as the National Health Coordinator. She was the chairperson of the Joint Chiefs Committee, and served on both the Illustrated Breed Standard Committee and the Orthopedic Committee. Recently Cathy completed serving as the Remembrance Fund Committee Coordinator.

Kathy Monroe has been a member since 1985. She currently serves on the Board. Kathy is a past chairperson of the Epilepsy/Seizure Committee, National Membership Chairperson and Area Rep.

Kathy currently is the Policy and Procedure Chairperson, and Outstanding Breeder Achievement Award Chairperson. Kathy's current project is Understanding Our Dogs, but she is most proud of her role leading to the development of the National Water Trials.

Maryanne Murray is the "Grand Dame" in years of service to the club. A member since 1979, she has served on the Board and several of those terms as President. In the days of hand typing, copying, stapling, labeling and hand stamping she was the Courier Editor. She is a member of the Eye Committee and along with Carol Mattingly co-chairperson of the Heart committee, chairperson of the Breed Standard and Chairperson of the Courier Advisory Committee. Finally, we can all thank her for planning, organizing and acting as mistress of ceremonies for the 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party.

Dr Betty Trainor has been a member since 1990. She has been involved with the breed many years before that with her beloved husband, Bill. As the Judges' Education Committee Chairperson, Betty has led the Committee to develop an outstanding program and presentation for perspective judges. Judges and prospective judges have remarked that the presentation and program is one of the best ones they have attended. Betty and her committee should be proud of the job they have done.

**Report of Recording Secretary** – Suzanne Bohan introduced the Nominating Committee's slate selected to serve on the PWDCA Board of Directors for the 2008-2009 term: Joan Bendure, Mary Eadie, Martha "Martie" Martin, Paula Stevens, and Chuck Teasley. Suzanne noted that no write-in nominee received the requisite number of nominations to be considered an eligible candidate for the Board. Therefore, pursuant to the by-laws, the Nominating Committee's nominees shall be declared elected by acclamation and no election ballot shall be mailed to the membership.

**Report of Corresponding Secretary** – None.

**Report of Treasurer** – None. See Annual Report

**Report of the AKC Delegate** - Karen Arends presented the AKC Outstanding Sportsmanship Award to Verne Foster. Karen noted that this is a new program developed by The American Kennel Club to honor individuals who have made a difference in the world of purebred dogs. The award was sent to Member Club Delegates for presentation. Karen stated:

Within the PWDCA there are many instances of Good Sportsmanship seen throughout the year – and I've witnessed several great examples so far this week.

I have known this year's Sportsmanship Award recipient for many years – and she's always looking for ways to assist newcomers to the sport of dogs, as well as those she already helps in so many ways. I have never seen her act in any manner where she wouldn't be considered a good sport. If everyone in the Dog Fancy was as good natured and cooperative as this PWDCA member, a lot more of us would wander around smiling all the time.

Here's to one of the most pleasant, talented, hard working and endearing people I know – Verne Foster.

## **Report of Committees**

*Nominating Committee* – Karen Arends introduced the Nominating Committee and thanked them for their hard work. The 2007 Nominating Committee members are: Mary Harkins, Rita Araujo, Debbie Gressle, Linda Kelly, Caren Murray, and alternate, Kit Murphy.

*Deyanne Miller Scholarship Fund* – Don Niemann reported that \$3,000 has been awarded from this fund to date. Don announced that this year the following 2 individuals are receiving awards from the fund: Kaitlynn Candies, a pre-vet animal science major at Louisiana State University, and Keegan Crowther, a college student who is attending the University of Wisconsin.

*Heart Committee* – On behalf of the Heart Committee, Karen Arends repeated last week's e-list announcement that a marker test for Juvenile Dilated Cardiomyopathy has been developed. PWDCA will be receiving information about logistics of the test soon.

## **Old Business**

*K9 Behavior Genetics Study* – Kathy Monroe reported that 200 dogs have signed up to participate in this study. Kathy read a letter from Dr. Steve Hamilton who is collecting information for this study at this year's Specialty. Dr. Hamilton commended the efforts of club members for the excellent participation rate in the study. Kathy asked that questionnaires be completed and mailed in as soon as possible. The time frame is nine months to a year from the date a sufficient number of questionnaires are received to have preliminary results from this study.

## **New Business**

*President's Awards* – Karen Arends presented The President's Award to Mary Harkins and Joe Schoenfelder

In acknowledging Mary Harkin's contributions, Karen stated:

“This year's recipient is known as a guardian of the breed and has been involved on a daily basis for many years – trying to assure the safety of all Portuguese Water Dogs, no matter where they started. Not only does she spend countless hours with the dogs, she spends hundreds of additional hours counseling dog owners in need of guidance and trying to coordinate with other PWDCA members who also have full calendars. She is patient to a fault. There is no more true love than someone who doesn't rest while there is a single dog in need of her help.

Please join me in acknowledging our awesome Rescue Coordinator, Mary Harkins.”

In acknowledging Joe Schoenfelder's contributions, Karen stated:

“Back in 2001 it was decided to computerize the PWDCA Litter & Health Registry. Little did anyone know what a project this would turn out to be. After more hours than anyone can count, more time on computers and telephones than anyone should have to spend – trying to input information and convincing people to give them the information they needed, the present Health & Litter Database Team has brought us forward into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

This leader of this team has taken us from thumbing through pages of records – to being able to punch a few keys to get the information needed to assist breeders in making important decisions concerning future generations of PWDs.

We're in the process of coordinating all the Club's computer systems, and this team has helped to make this possible.

I'm not sure if he's here today, but please join me in acknowledging the next President's Award recipient, Joe Schoenfelder.”

Karen also acknowledged the work of other volunteers on the Database Support Team – Stan Harding, Ginnie Santoli, Mary Eadie, Rita Hasel, Jane McEwen, and Anne Elliot Page.

Rally – ROM Consideration - Lloyd D'Augusta presented a motion that PWDCA accept into the Register of Merit Program the performance event of Rally Obedience. In support of his motion, Lloyd presented a petition signed by more than 50 members of PWDCA. The motion was seconded by Cheryl Smith.

Discussion – Don Niemann spoke in opposition to this motion. Don noted that the pass rate for Rally must be tightened to be commensurate with obedience and agility before it should be counted toward the ROM award. Jane Harding spoke in opposition to this motion. Jane supported Don Niemann's remarks and stated that rally does not equate with the other ROM titles. Phyllis Zusman also spoke in opposition to the motion. Phyllis stated that until AKC recognizes rally as part of its Versatility Award Program, it should not be counted toward the ROM award.

MOTION that PWDCA accept into the Register of Merit Program the performance event of Rally Obedience. Lloyd D'Augusta. 2<sup>nd</sup> – Cheryl Smith. In Favor: 20 full members; Opposed: Most of remaining Full Members in attendance. FAILED.

MOTION to Adjourn - George Ziemba, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Allie Voorhees. APPROVED.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne J. Bohan  
PWDCA Recording Secretary