



The Splash is the official newsletter of the [United Sunshine States Portuguese Water Dog Club](#). The USSPWD Club is a Southeastern Regional Club sanctioned by the [Portuguese Water Dog Club of America](#). It is made up of members interested in the breed as pet owners who wish to participate in social events, as well as performance and conformation competitors. The Club's mission is to share with its members the fun of the breed while educating owners and promoting and promote quality in purebred Portuguese Water Dogs. Breeders and owners do all that is possible to bring out the PWD's best natural qualities. Our Directors and Officers live throughout the region and are always available to assist owners and breeders.

The USSPWDC has a strong rescue mission backed by the PWDCA Rescue Program. If you know of a PWD in need of rescue or re-homing, please contact our southern rescue coordinator, Meg DeFore ([megd4@aol.com](mailto:megd4@aol.com)).

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**Congratulations to the [USSPWD Club](#) for being awarded the 2011 National Specialty to be held at [Callaway Gardens, Georgia](#) on September 17-23, 2011! This prestigious national event brings together the best of the breed in conformation events, water trials, agility, tracking, obedience, clinics and other exciting activities. If you have a PWD, even if you are not on the "show circuit," there is so much to do and see. We hope you consider attending this year's Specialty in Georgia. Our own Roy Cawley is the event chairman. [See pages 8-9](#) for more information.**

### USSPWDC Summer/Fall 2011 Events Calendar

Date	Event	Location
Aug. 4-7	Mock Water Trial #1	Richard B. Russell State Park, Elberton, GA
Aug. 19-21	Third Annual "Splash Away at Callaway" Water Trials	Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA
Sept. 8-10	Mock Water Trial #2	Richard B. Russell State Park, Elberton, GA
Sept. 17-23	PWDCA 2011 National Specialty	Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA
Oct. 29	Fall Fun Day at the Beach & USSPWDC Annual Meeting	Walton Rocks Beach, S. Hutchinson Island, Ft. Pierce, FL

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTIONS



The USSPWD will hold its annual meeting on October 29, during the Fun Day Event at Walton Rocks Beach. Two Officer positions will become available as well as three positions on the Board of Directors. The Club is looking for members interested in serving in either capacity.

Please contact Meg DeFore [megd4@aol.com](mailto:megd4@aol.com) if you would like more information and to be considered for one of these important positions. We appreciate your continued support!

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### President's Message

#### From Meg DeFore

It is a pleasure to complete my years as President of the USSPWDC with an exciting event. It is the 20th anniversary of Portuguese Water Dog National Specialties! We are proud to be the host Club of this historic event. Great thanks to our members and many people across the country that are helping to make this event happen. I hope everyone will join in the fun and our dogs will celebrate an entire week in style with all the events held at the beautiful Callaway Gardens resort in Pine Mountain, Georgia. It is very exciting to have all the events adjacent to each other at Lake Robin inside the gates to Callaway Gardens.

The Specialty Store can be located at [www.pwdcaspecialty.org](http://www.pwdcaspecialty.org) Specialty merchandise and event reservations can be made at the store. Entries can be made for many of the events at <http://www.onofrio.com/> Tracking and the Water trial have independent secretaries; information is on the Specialty site. Please think of offering a basket for the raffle or an item for the auction. Trophy donations are encouraged. Your support of the event is greatly needed. Volunteers are always welcome and needed. You don't have to have experience to volunteer. The Garden Party is ready to welcome one and all. We are looking forward to showing everyone our wonderful Southern hospitality!

Reminder to Members that two Officer positions and three positions on the Board of Directors will be open this fall. The Club is looking for members interested in serving in either capacity. Please contact me [megd4@aol.com](mailto:megd4@aol.com) if you would like more information or to be considered for one of these important positions. We appreciate your continued support!

### Treasurer's Report

#### By Mike McLelland

Account Balance as of June 30, 2011, \$11,009.76. Membership stands at 76 total family and individual memberships. Update from our last newsletter indicates that the winter Membership drive was a complete success, with an additional 32 new and returning members added for 2011. Membership Applications are available on the USSPWD.ORG website at this link: [http://usspwd.org/files/2010\\_app.pdf](http://usspwd.org/files/2010_app.pdf)

Members of the board have suggested that we solicit feedback from the membership for some ideas of what you would like to use your funds for. We do have certain annual obligations such as carrying a minimum account balance and liability insurance premiums, but a portion should be allocated to use as the membership wants. Ideas can be emailed or mailed to the Board for consideration.

If you're attending the PWDCA National Specialty at Callaway Gardens, we look forward to seeing you there, or perhaps at a future Fun Day or Water Trial!

### New Member News

The USSPWD welcomes new and returning members. If you know a PWD owner who might be interested in learning more about our club, please contact Meg DeFore [megd4@aol.com](mailto:megd4@aol.com) for information and an application. Applications are also available at [www.usspwd.org](http://www.usspwd.org). The very modest dues (\$25 annually for single and \$35 for family membership) helps defray the cost of the Splash newsletter and local fun day events. **Welcome New Members** added since February 2011:

Randy & Kay Earle, 219 E Bay Cedar Cir, Jupiter, FL 33458  
Rhonda Delmater, 507 Barrello Ln, Cocoa Beach, FL 32931  
Gary & Karen Childers, 13655 Marsh Harbor Dr N, Jacksonville, FL 32225  
Susan & Mark Horwitz, 103 Sweetwater Club Blvd, Longwood, FL 32779  
Tom & Jo Anne Calahan, 1194 24th Ave N, St Petersburg, FL 33704  
Pamela & Harry Fendt, 500 Sapphire Dr, Sarasota, FL 34234

A NEW [Club Roster](#) is included in this issue, sorted by State. [See Page 12.](#)

### Thanks Mike Gallagher!

Thanks go to Mike Gallagher for fostering Teddy, an elderly PWD found in an Orlando shelter in need of rescue. Read more about Mike and Teddy in the Courier, the official magazine of the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America. The next issue features PWD Rescue and New Champions. The article chronicles Mike's rescue and foster of 13 yr old PWD Teddy and Teddy's happy but short time with Mike's PWD family. Mike owns two other dogs Tiki and T. J. that have been re-homed by the breeder as adult dogs.

If anyone wishes to read a copy of Mike's earlier article "*Waiting on a Friend*" which was published in our last edition of the Splash Newsletter, write me at [editor@usspwd.com](mailto:editor@usspwd.com) and I'll email a copy to you.

### Members' Brag Book

**Coal** — Congratulations to GCH CH Torrid Zone Wildcats All I Want for Christmas ("Coal") on achieving both his AKC Champion and Grand Champion status — and at only 18 months old! Coal is co-owned by Beth Mercier and Meg DeFore. Coal acquired three 5-point majors at Brooksville earlier this year to earn his Champion title, then went on to earn his Grand Champion title in Orlando in June. Beth and Meg are grateful to CJ Favre and the Canine Specialists team for helping make this happen. This is an outstanding achievement. Way to go, ladies!



**Max and Miss Margaret** — Tom and Judy Leather's Max-A-Million of Deer Chase CD RE THD OA AXJ CWDS SROM and Ol' Salt Classic Miss Margaret CD RA THD OA NAJ CWD both received the AKC new title for Therapy Dogs THD. Congratulations Tom & Judy!

**Terry** — Roy and Barbara Cawley's boy BIS CH Camlinseadancer Makitso Secretariat ("Terry") received a Group 2 at the very first Working Dog show held in Orlando on June 23. Terry just went out to get some ring practice for the Specialty and came away with this prestigious win.

**Sergio and Gaby** — Jan Shipley's dogs Sergio and Gaby BOTH earned their Courier titles at Raleigh, VA in July. Another amazing feat for our fearless PWDs.

### PWDs We'll Miss

**Xena** — Our heartfelt condolences to Barbara and Roy Cawley on the loss of her beloved Xena, who left us at the age of 13 this spring. CH Pinehaven Until the Night CGC, NA, OAJ ("Xena") was a wonderful senior girl who lived life to the fullest and was a loyal and loving companion. She was a foundation bitch for the Cawleys with a long string of accomplishments. The Makeitso farm is just not the same without Xena. The USSPWDC thanks Barbara Cawley for her heartwarming article on Xena, published in this edition of the Splash newsletter (see [Xena's Story on page 10](#)).

**Torre** — We extend our sympathies to our President, Meg DeFore, on the passing of her wonderful girl, Torre, CH Stargazers Torrid Zone CGC, CDX, RE. Meg misses her deeply and sent us Torre's last photo (shown here). What a beautiful girl and a wonderful memory. True to her working spirit, Torre's last gift was to be participant in the Georgie Project to benefit medical research. We wish Torre lots of sun and surf at that beach in the sky



### Member Goodbyes

The USSPWD sends its sympathies to members who recently suffered family losses. Bonnie Crabtree lost her husband, David (long-time USSPWD Member), recently after a long illness. Bonnie and David have two PWDs, Vino and Rose. USSPWD Member Marilou Novy lost her mother. Our thoughts are with you.

# Recent Events

## USSPWD Fun Days

The USSPWD Club was busy this spring and summer with a number of social events. These PWD get-togethers are a great way for our PWDs to socialize and we get to meet some nice people (we eat pretty well, too).

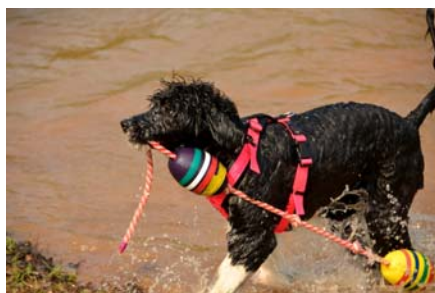
A Fun Day was held in the yard of Ebba Patrick on April 23rd in Englewood on the West Coast of FL, members enjoyed lunch and a dip in the pool.

June 4th morning members met at New Smyrna's dog friendly Beach followed by a get together in the DeFore's yard. There was a good turn out. Bob and Ann Schmidt had a family member caterer send several racks of delicious ribs. Everyone enjoyed a pot-luck meal, even some dogs:) Members got a chance to see stained glass trophies for the Specialty. Thanks to Bob and Ann Schmidt and Beth Mercier for helping Ebba Patrick and Meg DeFore with a morning of crafting.



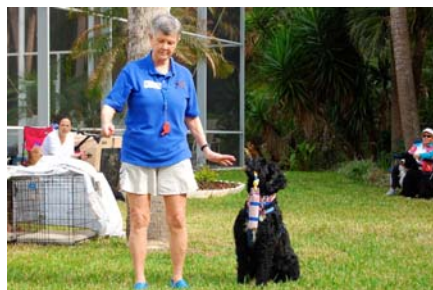
## Water Work Training Camp - Lake Russell, GA

Jan Shipley is training Sergio with the Leathers on the upper left at the May Water Work Training Camp at Lake Russell, GA. The training certainly paid off. Sergio and Jan's other dog Gaby both received Courier Titles at Raleigh in July.



## Dry Land Training - Ocala, FL

Dry Land Training was held by Tom & Judy Leather at the beautiful home of Pam Lesher and Hope Spangler. Judy and Tom did their usual magic working with notice as well as experienced PWDs on water work skills.



### UPDATE: One Big Step Closer to a Dog-Friendly Beach in Brevard County

By: Trish McLelland

Dogs are supposed to be man's best friend unless they live in Brevard County, FL where no dogs are allowed on any of its 75 miles of beaches. As reported in the Splash Winter 2010 newsletter, a grass roots group called "Sandy Paws" circulated a petition to promote a dog friendly beach, gathering over 2,500 names and needing 3,000 to get this in front of the County Commissioners. By the May 24, the date of the meeting, the group had amassed over 4,000 signatures. However, everyone knew this would be a tough sell as this was not the first the Commissioners had been to this rodeo.

The topic was on the morning agenda but advocates had to cool their heels for 6 hours while the Commission listened to speaker after speaker bemoaning the economy in Brevard and arguing the pros/cons of extending and "enterprise zones" vehicle to promote business development and jobs. By 4:00 the Commissioners were exhausted and pretty beat up, so the dog friendly beach item was likely viewed as a nuisance. However, the wait time was positive as we had found our focus.

Sandy Paws' Barbara Arnold and team did a great job, presenting a compelling case with solid research and a professional slide show. One by one, other proponents addressed the Commission. I made the case that creating a dog beach is just good business and help could help promote Brevard tourism. I had listened all day to people wringing their hands about the economy and closing down of the Shuttle program. Here was an idea that would cost very little and could immediately benefit some local businesses. I told the Commission that we regularly our two dogs to Hutchinson Island in St. Lucie County and as far as St. Pete

Beach (which has a wonderful off-leash beach and park operated by Pinellas County), three hours by car.. "Guess where we spend our money?" Their ears perked up at that, and another petitioner added that there are over 50 local hotels promoting themselves as pet friendly, yet they must tell guests that their dog is not welcome on the beach. Fido must remain in his room while the rest of the family frolics in the surf. That doesn't make sense on any level. The tired old arguments about "liability" and "dangerous dogs running wild on the beach" are red herrings and just plain wrong.

One Commissioner wearily admitted that "This issue has been in thorn in my side for years." With a little humor he added "I had hoped it would just go away." Commissioner Anderson noted that the no-dog-on-beach ordinance is "the most unenforced law on the books." He lives beachside and said it is very common to see dogs (illegally) on the beach and that neither the sheriff nor animal control have the resources to enforce it. He mused that it may finally be time to designate an area where these dog owners can congregate legally, in one geographic area. He also said that this wheel has already been invented" Commissioner Infantani was also supportive, making constructive suggestions about available resources and possible locations.

So, in the end, it was not the love of man's best friend that allowed this to fight to advance to the next round, but the smell of business stimulus money. The Commissioners agreed to perform some due diligence and address this again in August, to consider the next steps and a pilot program. The Commission was quite clear that a strong and loyal group of volunteers would be instrumental to gaining support. Volun-

teers would patrol the beach and maintain order and cleanliness.

Sandy Paws' champion Barbara Arnold is ramping up her efforts and, together with her volunteers, has put together a database of Florida beaches with successful programs. This information will be presented to the Commissioners at the next meeting as they try to move this forward.

So what is different about this recent initiative and why might it succeed when other past efforts have failed? 1) the dedication and organizational skills of its grass-roots leaders, 2) solid data harvesting that proves this concept does work in other jurisdictions, 3) a strong selling proposition (it helps the local economy vs. simple "whining" that no one loves dogs), 4) support from local businesses, and 5) passionate volunteers.

Sandy Paws is seeking volunteers willing to help with beach patrols and other duties to ensure this is a successful and long-lived program. For more information, check out the Sandy Paws Facebook page and tell Barbara Arnold you'd like to volunteer. If you don't have time to commit, you can still help tremendously by signing the on-line petition. More signatures are welcome and please encourage others to sign.

I would like nothing more than report in the next Splash newsletter that we'll be sponsoring a Fun Day at the Beach in BREVARD COUNTY!

Thanks for your support.  
Trish McLelland  
Brevard Co. Resident (and Taxpayer)

**CAUTION:** Notwithstanding the Commissioner's comment about lack of enforcement, until the law changes it is still illegal to take your dog on a Brevard County Beach and you CAN be fined.

### Mock Water Trial Camp #1 — August 4-7 (Richard B. Russell State Park, Elberton, GA)

Judy and Tom Leather are planning a camp complete with a mock water trial at Richard B. Russell State Park, Elberton, GA on August 4-7 to get ready for "Splash Away at Callaway." Contact Tom & Judy [tjleather@windstream.net](mailto:tjleather@windstream.net) for more information and registration. This is a great way to get your dog ready for the August USSPWDC Water Trial and/or the National Specialty Water Trail! Event begins at 8:30 T-F and 8:00 S. \$15 for 1-2 dogs; \$5 for each additional. Lunch is \$5.

### Third Annual Splash Away at Callaway USSPWD Water Trials — August 19-21 (Callaway Gardens., Pine Mountain, GA)

This is a big year for the USSPWDC and Water Work. Your Club will be hosting the Third Annual "Splash Away at Callaway" — USSPWD Water Trials at beautiful Callaway Gardens located in Pine Mountain, GA on August 20 - 21st, with Friday August 19th as a practice day. In addition the USSPWD Club is hosting the 2011 PWDCA National Specialty at Callaway Gardens, which includes a Water Trial on September 17th-18th, 2011. If anyone has any "water" questions please ask them to contact Judy Leather ([tjleather@windstream.net](mailto:tjleather@windstream.net)). Novices through seasoned water dogs are welcome. This is a great way to start your PWD's water training. Best case scenario? Your PWD will prance away with a water title. Worst case? You and your PWD will have lots of laughs and get to hang out with friends. **REGISTER NOW. SPACE IS LIMITED.** See attached flyer ([page 11](#)) for full details. **DEADLINE: Entries close August 1, 2011 at 5:00 pm (or when trial limits are reached).**

[Access full Premium List](#) for all the details. Judges: Cindy McCullough (TX) and Sue Augat (MD). [Download entry form](#). If you received this email in paper format, go to [www.usspwd.org](http://www.usspwd.org) and click on the Events link. Applications should be mailed to 383 King Road, NW, Atlanta GA 30342-4007 (404-606-1776) or emailed to [griffinmc1@comcast.net](mailto:griffinmc1@comcast.net).

### Mock Water Trial Camp #2 — September 8-10 (Richard B. Russell State Park, Elberton, GA)

Judy & Tom Leather have another camp planned, complete with a mock water trial September 8-10. Thursday and Friday are practice, with opportunity to work on problems and conduct run-throughs. Saturday is a mock trial with regulation equipment and site—as close to the real thing as you can get. Contact Tom & Judy [tjleather@windstream.net](mailto:tjleather@windstream.net) for more information and registration. Event begins at 8:30 T-F and 8:00 S. \$15 for 1-2 dogs; \$5 for each additional. Lunch is \$5.

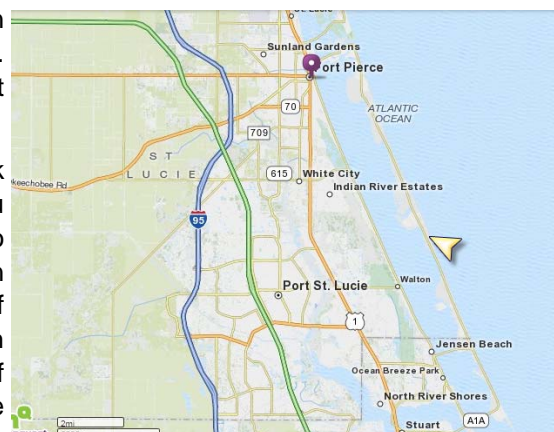
### PWDCA 2011 National Specialty — September 17-23 (Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, GA)

The USSPWD Club is hosting the 2011 PWDCA National Specialty at Callaway Gardens, GA. This prestigious national event runs September 17-23, with Water Trials the 17th-18th. This is an exciting and fun event in which everyone should participate. We expect to see about 500 PWDs involved in the Specialty. In addition to water training, there will be AKC conformation events, agility courses, health screenings, clinics, dinners (for us two legged creatures), great stuff for sale, and so much more. [See pages 8-9](#) for full details.

### Fall Fun Day at the Beach — October 29 (Walton Rocks Beach, South Hutchinson Island, near Ft. Pierce, FL)

Mark your calendar! USSPWDC is sponsoring a Fun Day and Picnic at Walton Rocks Beach on Saturday, Oct. 29. This OFF-LEASH beach is on A1A near Ft. Pierce, FL. Your PWD can run free in the surf and play on the beach. A great turnout is expected. A brief annual USSPWDC meeting will follow lunch.

The facilities have bathrooms (flush toilets) and fresh water. Lunch is Pot-Luck and the Club will reserve picnic tables and provide sandwiches. Suggest you bring towels, lawn chairs, dog water bowl, plastic water bottle (to carry water to beach) and bug spray. Beach umbrellas optional. Do NOT follow directions on park website, which are WRONG. Walton Rocks Beach is 8-10 mi. SOUTH of Ft. Pierce on the A1A beach highway approx. 5 mi. NORTH of Jensen Beach (see arrow on map). There is sign "Walton Rocks Beach" on the ocean side of the road just south of the Power Plant. Take bridge to A1A from Ft. Pierce (from the north) or one of the causeways at Jensen Beach or Stuart (from the south). RSVP Jane Nelson [jnelson848@bellsouth.net](mailto:jnelson848@bellsouth.net) (772) 584-9386. Watch for a detailed email flyer in September.



## 2011 National Specialty at Callaway Gardens, GA

We are excited that our USSPWD Club was awarded the privilege of hosting the 2011 National Specialty, to be held at [Callaway Gardens, Georgia](#) on September 17-23, 2011. This is quite an accomplishment for our Club and will be a major event. We will need many volunteers to fill a variety of positions. We hope you consider attending the Specialty and encourage all levels of participation. We expect to see about 500 Portuguese Water Dogs, participating in conformation, agility, water work, obedience, tracking and much more. There will be so much to do including dinners, clinics, shopping, silent auctions, and just hanging out with friends. See the very best PWDs in the country. Check our website [Specialty page](#) for details.

Volunteers are still needed so please contact Roy Cawley -- Chairman at [itsso@aol.com](mailto:itsso@aol.com) if you are interested in getting involved or have any questions. You can also visit our specialty page at the national PWD club site [www.pwdca.org](http://www.pwdca.org).

### PWDCA 2011 National Specialty - Chairs

Please contact Roy Cawley [itsso@aol.com](mailto:itsso@aol.com) if you are interested in getting involved in the National Specialty or have any questions. For a full list of Chair Volunteers check the [PWDCA 2011 National Specialty](#) Contacts page. Contact Barbara Cawley [itsso@aol.com](mailto:itsso@aol.com) to become a Facebook Friend of the 2011 National Specialty.

Specialty Event Chairman — Roy Cawley  
Hospitality & PWDCA Liaison — Marilu Novy  
Performance Chairman — Meg DeFore  
Conformation Chairman — Barbara Cawley  
Treasurer — Mike McLelland  
Registration Chairman — Paul Byrum

Agility Trials Chairman — Pam Leshner  
Obedience Trials Chairman — Lisa McClish  
Water Trials Chairman — Tom & Judy Leather  
Tracking Trials Chairman — Louise Moberry  
Sweepstakes & Parades Chairman — Chris Sargent & Cam Salvary

### Accommodations

Book your hotel accommodations as soon as possible. There are special rates available at Callaway Gardens for the 2011 National Specialty. Rooms at the Mountain Creek Inn accept dogs. The rate is \$132/night (one time fee of \$30 for up to 5 dogs per room). Jr suites are \$170, one bedroom suites are \$225 and two bedroom suites are \$325. There are other rooms available within the Gardens that will not accept dogs including the Villa one bedroom units at \$189, the 2 bedroom cottages at \$336 and Lodge & Spa units at \$229. These rates do not include the usual taxes.

### RVs and Box Van Parking

40 RV spaces with 50 amp service are conveniently located inside Callaway Gardens, at Robin Lake, near all the events. Fresh water and pump out service is available. Cost is \$490 for the entire week (Sept. 16-24). No daily rate or partial week. Box van parking is \$150 (see [www.usspwd.org](http://www.usspwd.org) website for [rules and restrictions](#)).

### Specialty Store

The Specialty store is now open. There is some great [PWD merchandise](#) available for purchase (clothing, pins, and other memorabilia). You can also register and pay for [dinners, seminars, cocktail parties, reserved seating](#) at special events,

### Trophy Fund

We are asking all members to consider making a donation to the [Trophy Fund](#). Donations start at \$10 (or you an "name your own amount." Every little bit helps to support your Club and our events.

### Catalogue Ads (Deadline: August 1)

1. Go to the National Specialty store via <http://store.pwdcaspecialty.org/catalogads.html>
2. Purchase your Ad (Specify Black and White, Color, Full or Half Page and number of photos)
3. Forward an email to Kathy Maguire (2011 National Specialty Catalog Advertising Chair) [kathy@patriotpwwds.com](mailto:kathy@patriotpwwds.com) with your receipt and include the copy you want in the ad, along with a photo or Club logo.
4. You will receive a mock-up to approve.

## What to Pack for a Trip to the National Specialty

**By: Meg DeFore**

The specialty is an exciting event every PWD enthusiast should experience at least once, if not every year. If your dog is a young pup it is a terrific socialization event. If you have been working with your dog, maybe you want to enter into the fun. My first time entering any event was at a National Specialty Obedience Trail. You may want to find a mentor and get a little more experience than I started with, but heck if you are training for an event, why not start big.

Callaway Gardens is a lovely place. Bring comfortable shoes and try the layered look. When I was there in August it was cool in the morning, sunny and warm in the afternoon. There are trees for shade but they may not be placed exactly next to the chair you bring, so a tent or shaded area for them will be handy.

Attending the dinners is a great way to join your friends and meet new people with a wealth of experience in the breed. Dress is pretty casual, but some dress nicely for the Awards Dinner on the final evening. Carry cash and Cards, you will see PWD items you have never seen before at the vendors, boutiques night and at the basket raffle, silent and live auctions. Have plenty of space to bring home your treasures!

I highly recommend attending the behavior seminar held Tuesday evening. In this lecture you will hear why dogs sometimes act aggressively, learn different types of aggressive behavior and learn how to prevent and modify these disturbing and dangerous behaviors. Even if you have a well behaved dog you may take a piece of information from this seminar that may help you or a friend with their handling skills.

Check out more exciting things to do at the Specialty and be prepared to have the time of your life in one of the most beautiful locations.

Sign up early for events, dinners and seminars.

CGC Evaluations — contact Jane Nelson [jnelson848@bellsouth.net](mailto:jnelson848@bellsouth.net).

Parade of Seniors and Title Holders Ribbon orders Close August 2 — contact Beth Mercier [beth.mercier@gmail.com](mailto:beth.mercier@gmail.com).

**Closing Date is August 31 for most events.**

### **Micro-chipping Clinic**

**Tuesday from 10:00-2:00**

**To be held in the health tent.**

**If your dog has not been micro-chipped, you are encouraged to sign up for this low cost opportunity. The cost for a pre-paid Micro-chip insertion is \$25.00 with limited chips available.**

**Contact Meg DeFore by email at [PWDCA4Rescue@aol.com](mailto:PWDCA4Rescue@aol.com)**

### Remembering Xena

CH Pinehaven's Until the Night, NA, OAJ, top ten, CGC

By: Barbara Cawley

One look at Xena's picture and we were hooked. She came to us almost 14 years ago in 1998 from Beverly Rafferty in Colorado. We were already owned by Picard, also from Beverly and wanted to get him a companion. We were avid boaters and wanted both dogs to be our crew on our trips to the Bahamas and all around Florida. Beverly had planned on keeping Xena as her show pick bitch from her last litter but needed to find homes for several of her dogs because of some major medical issues. We were just lucky to get this wonderful girl.

Our first experience with Picard had been idyllic. He was an old soul in a puppy's body and rarely did anything wrong. Xena was a different story. She was a mischief maker from day one. She was always exploring things, jumping up on things, and having fun. I needed an outlet for all this energy so decided to train both dogs for agility. Sure enough, in true form, Picard was dream to train while Xena challenged me at every turn. She seemed to look for ways to drive me crazy like the time we were running in Jacksonville and she had a beautiful clean run to the table, then refused to lay down until I ran out of time, and then had a clean run to the finish. Another time, at the Specialty in Monterey, she decided to pee in the ring. She also would sometimes jump out of the ring, go visit Roy and then jump back in to continue the run. I never knew that she might get in her mind to do.

As was our plan, we took Picard and Xena on many a trip in our trawler. Our favorite place was the Abaco Islands in the Bahamas. There we would anchor and swim with the dogs in the aqua blue water. Both were such great boat dogs. We traveled as far south as Georgetown and all over the islands in between. PWDs were a rare sight in the islands and the dogs never stopped being the subject of interest to both locals and other boaters. Xena, with her flashy white chest and socks, was especially interesting.

Since we were told that she was show quality by Beverly, we decided to try our hands at showing her. The first weekend out she took Best of Winners every day and earned 9 points. We were hooked! Our child is a beautiful genius!!!! After she finished her championship as the first PWD of the new millennium (January 2000) to get a championship, we decided to breed her. Her lovely litter of 8 pups were such a joy and two years later she was chosen Best Brood Bitch at the Memphis Specialty with her son Brice and daughter Gabrielle behind her. Since then she has had two more litters and a total of nine champions. She was a top ten brood bitch in 2003. Her son, Fleet was the number four PWD in the US and was awarded an Award of Merit at the Specialty in 2005. Her grandson, Terry, BIS CH Camlinseadancer Makitso Secretariat, was the number one male in the country in 2009, has a Best in Show and has two Awards of Merit from Specialties and one at Westminster. To cap it off, another grandson, Warrior, GCH Driftwood N Makitso Man O'War, is the Number 1 dog in the country this year. We are proud to say that Xena left her mark on the PWD breed.

When we lost Xena this spring we lost a piece of our hearts. She was still chasing balls swimming in the pool up to the end. She never missed a meal and loved to trot after our golf cart. She is now surrounded by her



## United Sunshine States Water Dog Club (Sanctioned by the PWDCA)



### Officers

President	Meg DeFore	New Smyrna Beach, FL	772-519-2585	<a href="mailto:Megd4@aol.com">Megd4@aol.com</a>
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Do you want to see your PWD's name in lights? Do you have some PWD news, editorials, articles or "brags" you want to share? Are you thinking of holding a PWD play date or picnic? Let us know. Please send all contributions to USSPWD Newsletter Editor ([editor@usspwd.org](mailto:editor@usspwd.org)). Member participation makes it more fun!

We would like to include more member-authored articles in the next newsletter. Do you have a funny story to tell? Did you invent an innovative solution for an annoying PWD behavior? Tell us about your experiences with trying out new things with your PWD such as agility, water trials or obedience. Don't let the "gee, I'm not such a good writer" hold you back. If you tell your story in your own words, we'd be happy to help edit and polish it for you.

Visit our website at [www.usspwd.org](http://www.usspwd.org).

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