www.mayflowerpwd.com

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Mayflower Portuguese Water Dog Club

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Message From Our President!

In late September I had the privilege, along with three other members of our club, to attend the PWDCA National at Callaway Gardens in GA. While it was a long trip and expensive, there is nothing quite like seeing some 400 porties gathered in one place at the same time. And regardless of what you enjoy doing with your dogs, there was something for everyone, from water work to agility to obedience and rally as well as conformation and breeder and health seminars. If you've never attended a National, it's worth the advance planning to get to one.

So, here we are in the last quarter of 2011. We had a very busy first quarter with our Manners Class and a seminar with Debbie Gross Saunders about dog structure and conditioning. The second quarter began with our first Dry Dock Workshop with Deborah Lee Miller Riley. We then slid into quieter times during the late spring and early summer with a couple of get-togethers at water locales. Sadly, our weekend long, end-of-summer water camp at a lovely lake in Leicester, MA had to be cancelled due to Hurricane Irene.

Our board met this month to plan for our 2012 events and we have another full schedule of activities planned throughout the year, including our annual meeting get together, a second Dry Dock Workshop, two Water Workshops, some water venue picnics, and a possible Tracking Clinic. Those events already scheduled will be noted in this newsletter and, as dates are confirmed for others throughout the year, you will be notified by email and can visit our website to stay in touch.

Speaking of the board, it is with regret that we say goodbye to Louanne James and her husband Mark who are relocating to PA. Louanne has been replaced by Whitney Fernandes who is joining the board effective immediately. Whitney has two porties, many skills

and loads of energy, so don't be surprised if you hear from her looking for help with upcoming projects. We will also be saying goodbye to Director Kathy Devlin who has chosen not to run again for the board in order to focus more closely on her business, which has received much acclaim this past year and is booming.

Which brings me to our newest project ... ***Portie Points***.

Portie Points is a new idea, suggested by Kari Lavalli, to garner help with our Mayflower events and at the same time increase member participation. We all enjoy hanging out with our dogs, but if that's all you're doing, you're missing a whole world of enjoyable activities to share with these incredible dogs. I don't know of any breed that is more versatile than ours; they excel at anything water, they're fast and quick to learn at agility, they're naturals at nosework and tracking, fabulous at obedience, and on top of it all, they're gorgeous in the ring. This is a personal invitation to expand your world with them and in doing so, enhance your relationship with your dog. The more you do, the more you'll be convinced there is nothing in the world more fulfilling than a relationship with a PWD. Do not feel as though that engaging in these activities will, in any way, mean that you have to compete with your dog; instead, you may find it is just an enjoyable way to engage with your dog on a completely different level that stimulates both of you.

And here's how you do it: volunteer to help with any Mayflower event. We all have skill at something and we need that skill to further our club. In the future, every volunteer effort will be rewarded with Portie Points. Volunteer efforts can be something as little as dropping off some kind of yummy goody for a workshop, helping to build a piece of equipment needed, or working the set up or clean up of an event. It can be a minor time commitment or a major time commitment -- whatever you can do and will enjoy doing. The number of points earned will be based on the magnitude of the job, but all points can be applied to offset the cost of Mayflower programs. A schedule of points earned will be forthcoming and no volunteer will ever be turned down. It will not only help pay your way to seminars and other events like water work, I will promise you new and lasting friendships built around our favorite topic...our Portuguese Water Dogs.

I look forward to seeing you in the coming months.

Paula Markiewicz
President

Festivus Celebration, January 22, 2011

Mayflower members gathered together at the home of club secretary's Chris Framson for a celebration of the new year and all of the accomplishments of the club over the last year-and-a-half. Everyone brought a delectable dish to eat, so we feasted and enjoyed each other's company for several hours. We even managed to pass the new version of our bylaws while stuffing our faces.

To top it all off, we all enjoyed a fantastic cake beautifully decorated with the logo of the club.

Manners Clinic for PWD Owners, February 12, 2011

In the dead of winter, but on a sunny, pleasant day, Phyllis Zusman, a long-time PWD owner and trainer, got together with a group of Mayflower members at the Pray Farm in Rehoboth, MA to help them teach their pushy porties some manners.

To get the participants ready to shape their dog's behavior, Phyllis first sat with them and asked what were the basic problem(s) they were having with their dogs that they wanted to solve. Most participants identified the following: jumping up on people, jumping while simultaneously doing that irritating fly-by nipping, barking when people come to the door, inattentiveness, and occasional and unpredictable aggressiveness with other dogs. She then explained the aspects that make for a good trainer: (1) Make the training session a worthwhile event to the dog. That means using very tasty treats that your dog likes a lot (not boring kibble) and that are easy to consume (little to no chewing involved). And don't be stingy with those treats – pay the dog well, especially when he or she comes very close to doing what you want. (2) You must pay intense attention to your dog – do not expect your dog to give you 100% of his or her attention, if you do not give him or her 100% of your attention. When you must talk to someone, put your dog in a down and release it from having to pay attention to what you are doing. (3) You must become more interesting than the environment the dog is in. So when training – especially when training a brand new behavior – remove all distractions that could be more interesting than you. For example, do not train COME in your backyard where squirrels are present; train it in your livingroom or basement or some other "boring" room. (4) Understand that dogs think in black and white, not shades of grey. So either it did the behavior or it didn't. That means you must PLAN and PICTURE in your mind what you want for behavior. (5) Behaviors that are rewarded are reinforced; those that are ignored (not rewarded) will eventually extinguish. (6) When you move to a new environment, the behavior you have trained, may need to be retrained. New environments add new distractions to the dog and you will have to retrain through those distractions. Do not assume that just because your dog behaves perfectly in your house, that he or she will do so in your yard or another person's house or a training facility. You will have to demand and retrain all "known" behaviors in these new contexts. The more you do this, the more quickly the dog will start to generalize behaviors in new locations.

Phyllis then had the students break out with their dogs and taught them the basics of clicker training. Before you can use the clicker as a tool for training, the dog must understand what a "click" means. A "click" is a marker, just as saying YES! or GOOD DOG! is a marker. It marks the moment that the dog did something right – something that you want. To give the clicker value to the dog and to get the dog to understand that when it hears a click, that means it did something well and will be rewarded, you must first "load the clicker." So Phyllis had the students simply hold the clicker, and press down on it to produce a click sound while, at the same time, feeding the dog a tasty treat. Participants worked for about 5 minutes "loading the clicker" to the point that when they clicked, the dog anticipated something good coming its way.

She then had the participants work on getting their dogs to watch them – something that is fundamental to any further training work. This can be accomplished in a variety of ways, but one of the faster ways is to show the dog a treat and move it up to your face/eyes. When the dog looks you in the eye, CLICK, and then treat. You can eventually shape this so that no treat is

Manners Clinic (cont.)

visible – but when the dog looks you in the eye, you CLICK and then get a treat from where ever you have placed them (some trainers have containers of treats all over their house for this purpose). You can also simply ask the dog to sit in front of you and whenever it looks at you, CLICK and treat. Eventually the dog will stare at you! A dog that looks at you is a dog that will follow your commands and cues.

Targeting was the next lesson. This involves teaching the dog that when your hand is presented, the dog should touch the hand with its nose. You shape this behavior by presenting your hand near the dog's face. If the dog approaches the hand or sniffs at it, CLICK and treat (best practice is to put the treat in the hand you want them to touch to keep their attention on that hand). The more you repeat this, the closer the dog will come to touching your hand with its nose. Once you have a nose touch, start moving your hand up, down, in all different positions, each time clicking and treating for a nose touch. Why is this behavior a useful one to train? First, it draws the dog's attention to you, which can be very important when you are trying to redirect their attention from something else. Let's say your dog is uncomfortable with having other dogs pass by. If you have a strong hand target, you can ask the dog repetitively to nose touch your hand while another dog passes by. By rewarding the dog for the nose touch and asking for repetitive nose touches, you lessen the dog's attention toward the passerby. You can also use a nose touch to keep a dog with you in the water or along a pathway where other distractions may be present. It's a very important distraction redirection command.

Participants then worked on WAIT (aka STAY). With this, you have to train increases in time for waiting separately from distance. This is where most people make their mistake as they try to lump the two things together. The easiest way to start is put your dog in a SIT and then step in front of the dog. Wait 10 seconds, CLICK and treat. Reposition the dog, ask for a SIT and repeat. Gradually increase the time between the dog staying in place and the CLICK. Once you have a longer time period (work up to 1 minute), then start to add distance. Put your dog in a SIT, step in front of it and take one step backwards. Wait for 10 seconds and CLICK and treat. Repeat until you get up to a minute. Then repeat everything and take two steps backwards from the dog, etc. until you have added a significant distance and are up to a minute waiting. It is important to realize that your moving away from the dog is a totally NEW picture to the dog, so you have to restart with a short time period between the WAIT/STAY and the CLICK and work up to a longer time period.

Loose leash walking was also discussed. Phyllis uses a method where whenever the leash is loose, you walk forward and as soon as the leash becomes taut, you stop and become a tree. Eventually the dog will learn that pulling is counterproductive. You have to show tremendous patience in this method and not talk to your dog. The dog will figure out what gets you to move and what does not. She also discussed the use of head halters and chest halters.

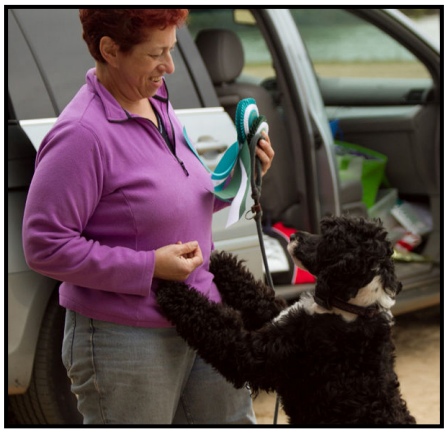
If you have a dog that barks when the postman arrives, when children pass by, or when someone comes to the door, training it to go to a mat can be a very useful trick. First you have to train the dog that being on the mat is rewarding. Again, this is done with a clicker and is best done with two kinds of a treats – a very tasty, high value treat, and a so-so, low value treat. Put a mat

Manner's Clinic (cont.)

on the floor. Your dog should investigate it – when he or she does, CLICK and fling the high value treat on the mat. Then fling a low value treat a little bit away from the mat. If the dog returns to the mat, CLICK and fling a high value treat on the mat. Repeat until the dog really wants to go to the mat. Then name the command (GO TO MAT or MAT) and continue to reward. Extend the distance away from the mat and send your dog to the mat. Once you can send your dog from any room to the mat, then add distractions in – have a friend come to the door and see if you can send your dog to the mat.

Jumping, one of the more annoying traits that porties display, is typically a behavior that we try to manage by redirecting. When you arrive home, or when a stranger comes in, the dog wants attention and essentially requests/demands that attention by jumping on you or your guest. If you give them what they want – attention – then you reward jumping behavior. So the key here is to not give the dog what it wants until it gives you what you want (control). There are two ways to deal with this: (1) redirect the behavior with another command (like SIT or DOWN, as jumping cannot simultaneously occur with either) and then reward by giving treats/attention when the dog offers the behavior commanded, or (2) remain absolutely still like a tree until the dog settles down and offers some other, more acceptable behavior – then give the dog the attention it wants. To retrain this behavior, it will take multiple sessions first with you and then with other people coming to visit.

LEAVE IT was the final command taught. This can be useful if you have a dog who will snitch any food off tables, or anything that falls on the floor, or will pick up things outdoors. To teach this command, start with food in your hand. Your dog will lunge for that food and when it does, close your fist around the food. The dog will probably lick and nose your fist. When the dog backs off, open your fist and show the dog the food. Again, expect your dog to lunge for the food, so be ready to close your fist. Repeat this until your dog can control him- or herself when food is in sight. You can continue to work this by having the dog down on the ground and putting food around its paws. Label the behavior with the command LEAVE it.



Remember, you should train in sessions not longer than 5 minutes at a time. Train one behavior at a time in that 5 min period and reinforce it over a period of weeks. Practice regularly with your dog to maintain the behavior over the long term. And finally remember that your dog enjoys these sessions as you are giving them 100% of your attention and ultimately improving your relationship with him or her.

Phyllis got her first PWD in 1994 and in 1996 founded 4myPWDs.com and the 4myDogs Training Center in southern California. She currently teaches manners and obedience at the Concord Dog Training Club, and trains agility and water work for her current dog, Cricket, CH Miraval's Shutterbug, AWD, WWD.

Dog Structure and Conditioning Seminar

A "Get on the Ball" Workshop with Debbie Gross Saunders, March 26, 2011

Whether you are a breeder trying to improve structure in your line or a performance competitor trying to train your dog for different performance events, attending one of Debbie Gross Saunders' seminars on dog structure and conditioning is a must. We were lucky to have her come to the Pray Farm in Rehoboth to give her seminar about dog structure and common injuries, to use participants' dogs to provide examples of what she had described about structure, and then to work with seminar participants to show them how to use theraballs to strengthen their dogs, both to prevent injury and to overcome some structural issues.

First Debbie introduced participants to the concept that because different dog breeds were bred for specific purposes, the "Standard" of a breed should reflect the physical body the dog needs to have for the purpose for which it was created. Even for those who don't compete in conformation events, understanding the structure of your dog(s) is important for understanding what your dog may or may not be capable of in the performance ring. An extremely "drivey" dog will not be able to compete in water or agility, if its physical structure doesn't allow it to perform certain tasks. Trying to push a dog into a sport for which it is poorly structured will have serious consequences for the dog. So understanding how structure supports function is critically important. The more you expect from your dog, in terms of performance events, the more you need to know about structure and the more you need to evaluate your individual dog's structure.

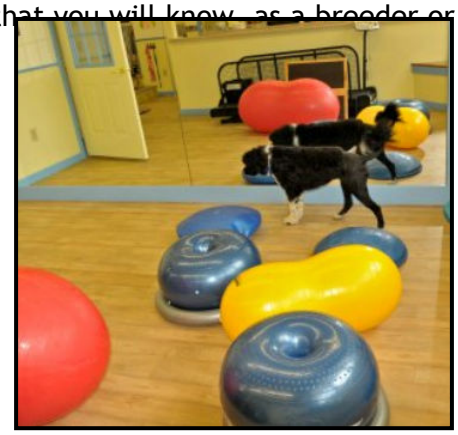
You also need to understand that if you want to do athletic things with your dog, you need to condition your dog for those activities. You would not think of running the Boston marathon without training for it for months (or years!) on end. Likewise, you should not think that your dog can go out and run agility courses or swim 60 to 100 ft without some kind of training to build its endurance and strength. A moderately structure, but highly fit dog, can easily outperform a beautifully structured, but unfit dog. For your dog to become fit, you have to train. Some people jog or run with their dogs; others bike with their dogs; others swim their dogs; and some use theraballs to build their dog's core strength. Building strength in a dog's core, as well as strength in their periphery, is critical to stabilizing their joints and their spinal cord. While you cannot fix your dog's structure, there is a lot you can do to improve how that structure will function. Proper conditioning, stretching, massage for some dogs, and use of veterinary chiropractors can all help in this regard.

You should remember that as you ask more and more of your dog physically, he or she will start to accumulate the effects of that physical activity, just as our bodies do. Age, physical stresses, and lifestyles all add up to functional limitations, and it is important that you recognize problems that your dog may have as a result. Certain activities – running A-frames or seesaws, for example, or biting in French Ring Sports – can put many stresses on the dog's shoulders, wrists, and neck, which can result in microtears of muscles and tendons. Over time, those can accumulate to create larger tears and, ultimately, a full-blown injury. When a dog was performing a task beautifully and suddenly refuses to perform that task, we too often chalk up that refusal to stubbornness, resistance, dominance, etc. rather than looking at the possibility that there is something physically wrong with our dogs. We then work the dog on

Debbie Gross Saunders (cont.)

that task and wonder, often in amazement, why our darling dog bit us when we push them too far. The FIRST thing you should ask, when your dog refuses to do a task that he or she has normally done repetitively for long periods of time, is if the dog has a physical problem. How is your dog holding its head/neck? How is it sitting (straight, butt tucked, or crookedly or on its hip)? When it runs, does it do so straight or tilted to one side? For any dog, athlete or couch potato, assessment of its physical condition is important and is your job as your dog's only advocate. Remember: a sound dog will age more gracefully, be less likely to break down from stress or injury, experience less fatigue, and stay healthier throughout its life.

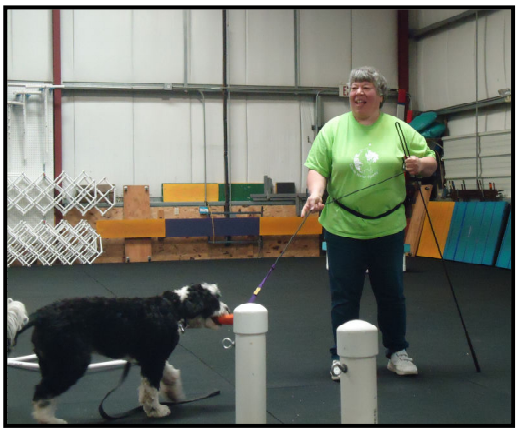
Once Debbie spoke about the importance of treating your "athlete" dog as you would any human athlete, she then embarked on a commentary about structure, by using various participant's dogs as examples. She spoke about the importance of the prosternum for sufficient muscle attachment and the significance of layback of the shoulders and how that will affect the angulation of the forelimbs and the dog's reach. She talked about the amount of spacing that should be between the shoulder blades and how that will affect the front stance of the dog and its ability to put its head on the ground (important for drinking/eating from bowls on the ground or for tracking). She spoke about how the neck affects the dog's ability to carry things in its mouth on land or in water, and how the length of the neck can affect the balance point of the dog. A shorter neck may mean that the dog has to lower its head to achieve lift when jumping and to extend reach – something that will result in greater energy expenditure and faster fatigue. A longer neck will result in higher lift, but at the expense of loss of energy in the reach of the forelimbs. Ewe-necks (overly backward-flexible necks) will impact the dog's ability to carry items over jumps or in water. Similarly, an undershot jaw prevents a strong grasp. She also spoke about the length of the loin and how that affects its ability to do certain tasks (imagine a dachshund attempting to follow a rodent to ground with a short loin that doesn't allow it to bend sideways) or how it will impact the topline. When looking at the rear assembly, the angulation is also important for synchronizing the gait with the front limbs and for efficiency and power in strides. Likewise, knowing if your dog has slipped hocks is important for determining if can turn on a dime (as in herding or agility) or jump repetitively (as in agility). Slipped hocks can also cause roached toplines and an inability to stack properly. She pointed out that all of these structural aspects of a dog can be assessed in an 8 week old puppy (give or take 3 days) so that you will know, as a breeder or a potential puppy owner, what the adult dog will look like.



After this discussion and a question period, Debbie introduced participants to how theraballs can be used to not only strengthen the core muscles of the dog, but to stretch and condition forelimb and hindlimb muscles. She demonstrated a number of exercises you can do with your dog to keep them in good shape and to prepare them for the rigors of different kinds of performance events.

Dry Dock Workshop, April 2-3, 2011

In what we, as a club, hope will become an annual event, we invited Deborah Lee Miller-Riley of Canine Water Sports in CT to Seekonk's Canine Mastery facility to put on a dry dock workshop. Ten participants enrolled as "beginners" and five as "advanced" and people can from as far away as New Jersey and New Hampshire. Deb's training philosophy – different from most competition level trainers – is that if you can encourage playfulness in your dog during your training sessions, you and your dog can forge a cooperative team that will lead to inspiring performances that are focused and full of energy.

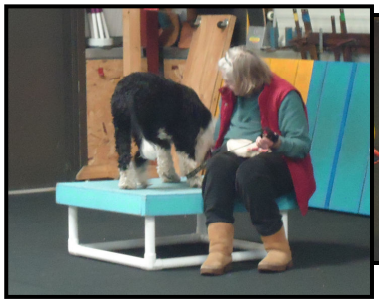
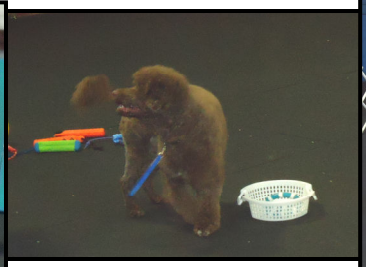
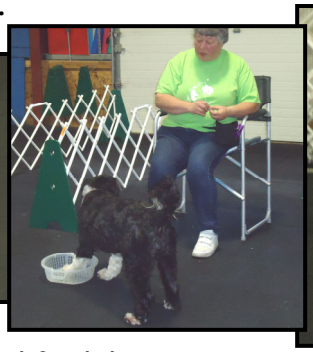
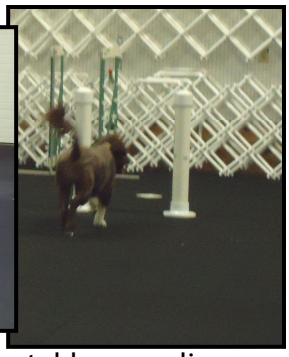


She initially spent some time talking about how, as trainers, we should work in short sessions of 5 minutes or less and set aside approximately 10 highly tasty treats (her favorite is boiled chicken breast cut up into bite sized pieces) to use during the session. When those treats are gone, stop training for a little while to give the dog time to assimilate what he or she has learned.

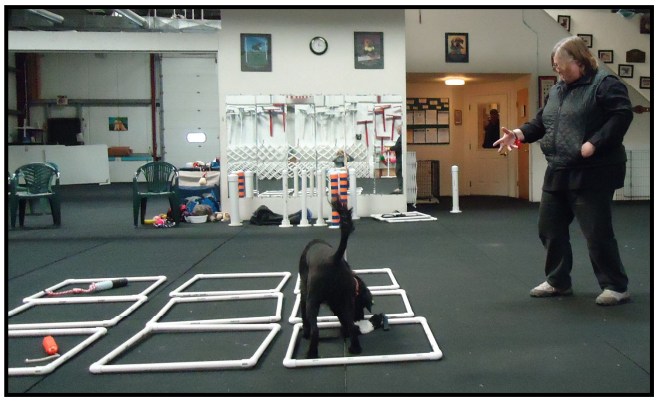
For the beginner's group, we worked on hand targeting, sending your dog to hand target someone else's hand (important later for courier level training when a pouch has to be delivered to another person), and targeting of other items (tiles, cones, water markers, baskets, etc.). We also worked on teaching the dog to target items using different body parts, generally the nose and paw.

Dry Dock Workshop (cont.)

When we had targeting down with our dogs, we then began to use that trick to send dogs off to various points in the room. For example, once the dog was targeting a tile, we could place the tile between water markers and send the dog between the markers to nose or paw touch the tile. Eventually we could extend this to getting the dog to go between the marker and up to a pause table (simulating a boat platform) to target the tile up on the table. By the second day, we could get the dog to retrieve an item and take it to a basket (where the basket had been taught as a target) and drop it in the basket. Then we started working on teaching the dog directional cues via hand targeting to get them to circle to the left or to the right or to go around a fence to the right or left.

The advanced group worked on sending dogs back and forth between pause tables, sending dogs further and further away, getting dogs to retrieve a variety of items and bring them to a basket where they would drop them. At the end, we all played a game of tic-tac-toe with our dogs against other dog/human teams. This game had several variations: sending your dog to a specific box and asking it to sit in that box; sending your dog to a specific box to retrieve one of their toys; sending your dog to a specific box to retrieve another dog's toy (actually a difficult task for some dogs). People showed their competitive side with this game and fun was had by all! The dogs seemed to enjoy themselves as well.



Splash-n-Fun Day, July 30, 2011

On what was one of the best days of the summer, a small group of Mayflower members met up in Barrington, RI at the McCoy's private residence overlooking the Warren River. This river is part of an estuarine system that is tidally influenced and which drains into Narragansett Bay. For many of the dogs, this was their first experience of swimming in salt water. Some dogs took to it right away and enjoyed themselves, while other dogs were fairly distinctive in their dislike of the saltwater taste.

Participants enjoyed good company, nice conversations, swapping training tips, and lovely weather.

Picnic & Splash Day, August 7, 2011

After spending much of the summer searching for excellent sites for water work, our club president finally located a beautiful location on the upper Cape – Camp Good News in Forestdale, a village of Sandwich. The camp is a 200-acre site with a half-acre wide open beach, bath houses for changing and facilities, plenty of shade, a fire pit, and a number of picnic tables. We then decided to try it out to see how it would work for water camps and water practice. Lo and behold, we picked the one weekend and the one day when the weather decided to give us a downpour all day long.

Nevertheless, a few diehards (6 of us and 6 dogs) came out figuring that if we were going to get wet anyway, what did it matter if we got wet from rain or from the lake? And we had two great hours of water work and splashing fun with the dogs.

We set up two 60-ft markers in the water and, because we lacked a boat, we placed an underwater island platform out at one of the markers. This island allows the dogs to board it and jump off of it, so that many tasks requiring jumping off the back of a boat platform can be practiced. It also provides dogs who are just building up their swimming stamina with a safe place to rest and think away from shore.

One of the more advanced dogs gave demonstrations of the Junior Water Dog exercises, after which all of the other dogs and their owners practiced. That same dog then gave demonstrations of the Apprentice Water Dog exercises with all dogs practicing the same afterwards. All dogs had a gallery composed of humans and dogs, so it was a good proofing exercise of their ability to focus on the task at hand with plenty of distractions nearby.

Because there were only 6 dogs present and because all 6 dogs were non-reactive, friendly types, the dogs got to spend the rest of the day romping the beach in a pack and playing games of tug, tag-you're-it, and keep away, and searching for rodents around the buildings. A couple of the dogs who were still trying to get comfortable in the water were able to use the closed off baby-beach area where they could practice shallow water swimming.

We then quickly set up a grill for hot dogs, spread out our various salad offerings (potato, pasta, and tuna/pasta salads), opened the chips bags, and had a quick lunch just as the wind picked up speed and ferocity. Afterwards, we packed up and got in our cars just before the downpours occurred. Our dogs went home wet, exercised, and happy. The only downside was trying to get off-Cape as everyone else decided to leave in the early afternoon too because of the weather.

Picnic and Splash Day (cont.)

This is a site that we will continue to use in the future as the water is warm, there are few fish to annoy us and distract the dogs, and the beach is huge and sandy. The beach also has a small, shallow, closed-off area appropriate for teaching dogs who are less comfortable with water to swim. We have already planned a water workshop there for next June and hope to hold a couple of additional water practice days there too. Since this location also has fields available, we are investigating whether we could hold matches there as well. Stay tuned as we expand our working relationship with this campsite.

Festivus Celebration, January 2012

Calling all members! Please join us for a member's celebration and our club's annual meeting at the ***Portuguese Club of Milford***, Massachusetts on Saturday, January 28th from 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. Come share delectable dishes, stories about your porties, training tips, training problems and solutions, and good company.

Bring a dish to share (last year we found out that there were many good cooks in the club!) – ovens and refrigerators are available at the club to warm up or chill down your offering. There will be a bartender and a cash bar available throughout the day.

As this is our annual meeting, we will also be voting in a new board of directors. If you would like to serve on the board, or if you would like to nominate someone to serve, please contact Nancy Meehan at **978-809-0126** or **fouti1@yahoo.com**.

The Portuguese Club of Milford is located behind Milford Regional Hospital at the bottom of Prospect Heights Road. If you are coming from the south, take I-495N to Exit 18. Turn left off the exit onto Rte 126/Hartford Avenue. Go past the Home Depot/Petsmart/Toys-R-Us mall. Continue through the light onto Hartford Avenue (Rte 126 will continue to the left). Take Hartford Avenue to Rte 140 (light). Turn right onto Rte 140/S Main Street and continue on this road past the Big Lots/Ace Hardware mall. Stay to the left at the fork past this mall (stay on Rte 140, but street is now Cape Road, as S Main Street continues on the right fork) and continue through the light at Rte 16 past the Milford Regional Hospital.

If you are coming from the north, take I-495S to Exit 20 for MA-85 toward Milford/Hopkinton. Turn right off the exit onto Cedar Street/MA-85. Follow Cedar Street past the Lowe's mall, the Gulf Station, the two cemeteries, and Rosenfeld Park and go to the end of the road at a T-intersection. Turn right onto MA-16W/East Main Street. Follow MA-16W through the center of Milford, past the Post Office and Police Department. At Milford Regional Hospital (intersection of MA-16W and MA-140), turn right onto Prospect Street.

Immediately after the hospital, you will see a street that forks off to the right – this is Prospect Heights Road. Turn right and travel down to the end of street (park is on your left); turn right to continue on Prospect Heights Road, then at the fork turn left and you will see flags ahead of you. Head towards the flags and you will see a large brick building, a small chapel, and a soccer field. Drive past the chapel and park at the bottom of the building across from the soccer field. The entrance to the Portuguese Club faces the soccer field.

This is not a dog training facility, so dogs are not allowed indoors. Please consider leaving your dogs at home and just coming for the human company of fellow portie owners.

Member Brags:

Karen Ash: Mariah (CH Saltydawg's Boogie Woogie Baby) earned her Novice Agility title in January 2011, both her Novice Agility Jumper and Novice Fast titles in February 2011, and her Open Agility title in July 2011. She earned her Beginner Novice title at the National Specialty in September 2011. Sunny (CH Saltydawgndriftwood Sun of Batman) earned his Rally Advanced title in February 2011. Sweet Tater (CH Driftwood's Song of the South) earned his Novice Agility Preferred title in February 2011 and his Novice Jumpers with Weaves Preferred title in March 2011, Princess Odette (CH Saltydawg Dreams Come True NAJ, NAP, NJP, NF) earned her Novice Fast Preferred Agility title in February 2011.

Ann Camp: Piper (CH Restora's Hornpipe On High C, NA, NAJ) earned his Rally Novice title in May 2011.

Anat Cunha: Eight (Karma CnSand The Beat Goes On) earned her Championship in July 2011.

Kathleen Devlin: Lily (Deewalcarmar Water Lily CGC, RN, AWD) earned her Rally Advanced title at the Greenwich Kennel Club trial in June 2011.

Jane Freeman: Spencer (CH Freestyle Ocean Breeze WWD, OA, AOM) earned his Open Agility Jumper title and his Novice Fast Agility title in April 2011, as well as an AOM at the National Specialty in September 2011.

Gail Maguire: Sienna (Lakeshore Burnt Sienna) earned her Championship in Feburary 2011.

Nancy & Michael Meehan: Velvet (Rockmere's Heaven Sent Black Velvet) earned her Apprentice Water Dog title at the PWDsNE trials in Scarborough, ME.

Kimberly DuCharme Nickerson: Katie (Finisterra N Freestyle Wickedgood CGC, RN, WWD, NJP) earned her Novice Agility in March, 2011, her Open Fast Agility title in May 2011, and her Open Agility Jumper title in July 2011. She was also featured on the cover of the Courier for March/April 2011.

Jane Harding: Pippin (CH Cutwater The Apple Of My Eye OA, OAJ, OF, RN, WWD) earned her Beginner Novice obedience title in February 2011, her Rally Advanced, her Excellent Fast, and her Excellent Agility Jumper titles in July 2011. She then earned her Agility Excellent title in October 2011.

Andy & Angela Kalmanash: Katie (Ruff-Wave's Concordia) earned her Championship in June 2011.

Kari Lavalli: Darwin (Sakonnet Seridor do Neptuno, BN, RN, JWD, NW1, CGC) earned his Beginner Novice obedience title in February 2011 and his Rally Novice title in June 2011. He also earned his Junior Water Dog certificate at the PWDsNE trial in Scarborough in August. He earned his Nosework 1 title in September from NACSW. Asta (Sakonnet Quatro Diamontes CD, RE, CD-C, CGC) earned her CDSP Novice Obedience title in November.

Paula Markiewicz: Indy (CH Pouch Cove's Darbydale Incognito CGC) earned her Grand Championship, made the cut at Westminster, and was invited to the Top 20 honoring the top scoring PWDs for 2010 at the National Specialty. She also earned her CGC.

Ellen Sard: Wilson (Freestyle Shelter from the Storm) earned his Championship in October 2011 at 9 months old. He also placed 3rd in Sweeps and 2nd in Futurity at the PWDCA National Specialty in September.

Vicky Morro & Bill Varr: Max (Dandelion's Maxwell's Silver Hammer) earned his championship in December 2011.

Congratulations to All! Send us your brags for future Newsletters!

Mayflower PWD Upcoming Events: Mark Your Calendars

January 28th, 2012: Festivus Celebration and Annual Meeting at the Milford Portuguese Club, 119 Prospect Heights, Milford, MA. Join fellow members for a potluck get together and vote in the board for 2012.

March 24th-25th, 2012: Dry Dock Workshop with Deborah Lee Miller-Riley at Waggin Tails, Westford, MA. [A 2-day workshop directed at teaching many foundation behaviors on land that can eventually be moved to the water environment or to any other competition environment. Two levels will be offered: dogs relatively new to targeting and following directional signals and dogs more advanced in these skills.]

June 23rd-24th, 2012: Weekend Water Workshop with Deborah Lee Miller-Riley at Camp Good News, Forestdale (Sandwich), MA. [A 2-day workshop directed at foundational work for training targeting, reliable retrieves and directional work in the water. Also appropriate for dogs, young and old, just learning to swim.]

July 21st-22nd, 2012: Weekend Water Workshop with Deborah Lee Miller-Riley at Camp Wind-in-the-Pines (YWCA), Leicester, MA. [A 2-day workshop directed at strengthening and/or teaching the tasks necessary for water competitions, including all PWDCA water titling levels.]

Mayflower Portuguese Water Dog Club

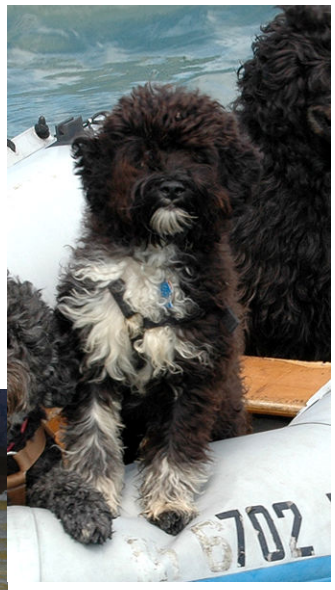
NOTE: *Our current board members' terms are coming to an end in 2011 and we are seeking nominations for the 2012 board. If anyone would like to serve on various committees or on the board, please contact Nancy Meehan at* **fouti1@yahoo.com**. *We'd love to hear from you!*

Newsletter submissions should be directed to our newsletter editor, Kari at klavalli@yahoo.com

In Memorium

Sakonnet Loba Linda (Ferrari),

--loved by Bev & Joe Migliore



Sakonnet Oceano Filhole (Pete),
--loved by Mimi & John Karlsson

Rui
--loved by the Framson family