



Keystone Portuguese Water Dog Club

# NEWS BUOY

Winter 2022

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**A**s I sit here writing this, it is COLD outside. The dogs don't seem to mind. But I do!!! It's hard to think about bundling up to walk them—which they love. And hard to go out and do any training. I sit here wishing for spring!!!

Spring will bring our eye clinic which I hope you will all consider attending. No matter if a pet or a breeding dog, caring for their eyes (just like ours) is crucial. An eye exam can detect any issues an owner might need to know about but most often confirms your dog's eyes are just fine and no need to worry.

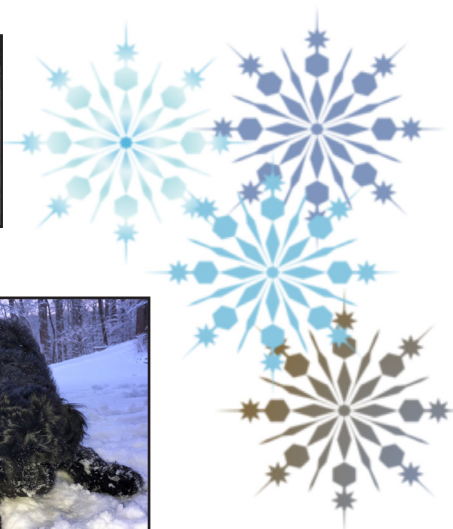
Spring will also bring our Supported Entry. Our Supported Entry will be at the Bucks County Kennel Club and there will be more detailed information on both the eye clinic and our Supported Entry in this issue. Our Supported Entry is usually a celebration of our beautiful and talented dogs and a good time is had by everyone. I hope you can come out and enjoy it with us all.

Stay safe, stay healthy, and stay warm!

—Judy Murray

## We CAER About Eyes

**C**anine eyes are a complex organ allowing perception of color, forms, and depth. Careful inspection and examination of the eyes can help diagnose local or systemic problems. Inherited and acquired eye diseases exist in all dog breeds, including Portuguese Water Dogs. The PWD breed is vulnerable to certain inherited eye diseases, which can lead to vision impairment or loss. Some eye issues are acquired and occur with aging (cataracts,



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## We CAER About Eyes

*continued from page 1*

dry eyes, glaucoma), injury (corneal abrasions), or environmental exposure (allergens). Eye issues can be caused by other health concerns, such as hypertension, diabetes, chronic dental disease, and cancer. Since dogs cannot communicate changes in vision, it is up to the owner to be proactive about eye health. Dogs may show red eyes, tearing, squinting, excessive blinking, thick eye discharge, rubbing of the eyes or head, or vision loss. These signs should alert the owner to an array of possible eye ailments. Careful observation and routine ophthalmology exams are crucial in maintaining healthy eyesight.

Types of eye conditions that have been documented in PWDs are:

- **Microphthalmia Syndrome (MOS-PWD):** also known as “Puppy Eye Syndrome.” This genetically transmitted (autosomal recessive) disease affects both eyes and is distinguished by a small globe and may be accompanied by persistent papillary membranes, glaucoma, retinal degeneration, cataracts, stunted growth, low platelet count, anemia, and possible behavioral issues. DNA testing is now available through PennGen.
- **Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA):** this disease is irreversible and progressive, causing photoreceptor cells to deteriorate, eventually leading to total blindness. Most PRA is autosomal recessive but other forms have been identified. Although PRA cannot be diagnosed by eye exam until the dog is around 3 to 6 years of age, genetic testing is available to determine which dogs are carriers.
- **Early Onset Progressive Retinal Atrophy (EOPRA):** an inherited, subtype of PRA causing early onset blindness. Visual deficits begin around 2 to 3 years of age. Genetic testing is available.
- **Cataracts:** opacity of lens; a common cause of visual impairment in the older dog.
- **Distichiasis:** eyelashes abnormally emerge from the eyelid margin and can cause chronic eye pain and corneal abrasions.
- **Retinal Dysplasia:** retinal folding (partial or complete), which may resolve with maturity.
- **Persistent Pupillary Membranes (PPM):** are remnants of blood vessels that do not properly regress during the newborn period.

### How to Ensure the Overall Health of Your Dog's Eyes? Bring Your Dog to the Eye Clinic!

The next clinic is on **Sunday, April 24, 2022** from 9 am to 4 pm at the Country Companion Animal Hospital in Morgantown, PA.

Registration is available on the KPWDC website (<https://www.kpwdc.org/event-4565150>).

Eye exams will be performed by Dr. Gustavo Aguirre, a vet ophthalmologist, who has spent over 40 years researching and identifying the genetic causes of blindness and developing screening and treatment approaches.

**What to expect at eye clinic:** Upon arrival, you will receive OFA paperwork to complete. A brief medical history of your dog will be obtained. The microchip will be checked and verified. Your dog's eyes will be dilated, and the eye exam will begin approximately 20 minutes after drops are instilled. A measure of tear production and intraocular pressure will be completed. Slit-lamp biomicroscopy (examination of the eyelids, cornea, and lens) and indirect ophthalmoscopy (using light mounted to a headset with handheld lens to allow examination of the retina and optic nerve) will be done. The exam is painless and should take less than 10 minutes. Your dog's eyes will be sensitive to light for up to 8 hours after receiving the dilation drops.

- **Injury:** examples are foreign body (dust and dirt) or corneal trauma (blunt or sharp injury or chemical burns).
- **Infection:** can be viral, bacterial, allergic, or fungal.
- **Keroconjunctivitis Sicca (dry eyes):** an autoimmune condition that causes lack of tears to properly lubricate the eyes and can lead to sore, itchy, infected eyes.

The most important measure to prevent and improve the outcome of eye problems is to have your dog routinely examined. All dogs should receive routine eye exams. The PWDCA recommends all breeding dogs receive annual eye exams by a board certified ophthalmologist. All other dogs, age 4 years or older and not exhibiting eye problems, should receive routine eye exams every other year until age 10.

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The Orthopedic Foundation for Companion Animal Eye Registry (CAER) provides a certificate to owners of dogs with normal eye exams. OFA records these exam and places results in a national registry. This registry provides breeders with information regarding canine eye diseases so that ethical breeding decisions can be made to produce healthier dogs and improve the breed. Dogs with normal exams are eligible for OFA certifications, which are valid for 12 months. Breeders should provide prospective puppy buyers with current OFA results for both the sire and the dam.

All dogs should have ophthalmology exams. Vets recommend pets be examined every other year. Experts recommend eye exams for breeding dogs be done yearly, whereas genetic testing for PRA, EOPRA, and MOS be done once prior to breeding.

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This article was adapted from the following online sources: (1) PWDCA PWD Health Conditions: Eyes (2) OFA.org Companion Animal Eye Registry CAER Overview, (3) AVCO.org PRA article by Dr. Brady Beale, VMD (January 2018), (4) AKCCHF.org "Canine Eye Health" (November 8, 2013), (5) the *New York Times*: "Does Your Pet Need an Eye Exam" (June 6, 2017), (6) Purina Pro Club "American Fanciers Embrace the Portuguese Water Dog," (7) University of Illinois College of Veterinary Medicine, "Inherited Ocular Diseases: Using CAER Exams to Show We Care" (May 11, 2021), (8) VMCLI "Canine Eye Registration Foundation (CERF) Exams" by Dr. Noelle La Croix, DVM.

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## See You Ringside!

Announcing the first of two Supported Entry shows by the Keystone Portuguese Water Dog Club! On Saturday, May 7, 2022, the KPWDC will be hold it's first Supported Entry show for 2022 presented by the Bucks County Kennel Club. The show location is Tinicum Park, Route 32, Erwinna, PA, 18920.

More details regarding Ring Number and Show Time will be posted on the KPWDC website and on our Facebook and Instagram accounts and also by email.

Immediately following the show, we will be holding our first General Membership meeting to include lunch, a raffle, and merchandise.

So, mark your calendar for this special date and be ready to come out and cheer on our wonderful breed as they "show off" their greatness for everyone to see.

—Dave Wichterman  
KPWDC Vice-President  
and Supported Entry Chairperson



### How to Exercise with Your Dog When It's Too Cold to Go Outside

#### Have Fetch Races

Games of fetch can easily be played indoors (just don't throw your dog's toy too high). Use your living room or a long hallway—wherever there's uncluttered space—and roll or toss your dog's toy. Get your workout, too, by racing him to get the toy first. You'll both be panting (and you'll be laughing) within minutes.

#### March Up and Down the Stairs

This exercise is almost like a doggy boot camp. If you have stairs in your house, walk up and down the stairs with your dog. This quad work will be fun as you watch your dog bound up and down. Make it extra challenging by racing your dog (or at least trying to keep up as dogs can be pretty zippy when it comes to climbing stairs).

#### Squat, Tease, Leap

Swap your kettle bell for your dog's favorite toy during your squat sets. Go to a large living space where you normally might do a DIY workout. Hold your dog's favorite toy between both hands. Squat low. At the bottom of the squat, tap your dog's nose lightly with the toy. Rise up and hold the toy high above your head to encourage your dog to jump for the toy. After every ten to twelve reps, let your dog have the toy for a few minutes, so they don't lose interest in the activity.

#### Get Centered with Doga

"Doga," in case you've never heard of it, is dog yoga. Just like with humans, doga helps your pup experience calmness and lowered levels of anxiety as well as improved levels of overall health. Just grab a yoga mat, your dog, and flip on the Doga YouTube channel, do a sun salutation into a downward facing dog (joke intended) and start finding your inner balance along with your dog. When doing doga, of course, keep in mind any injuries you or your dog may have and work gently around those as you stretch and strengthen your limbs and core.

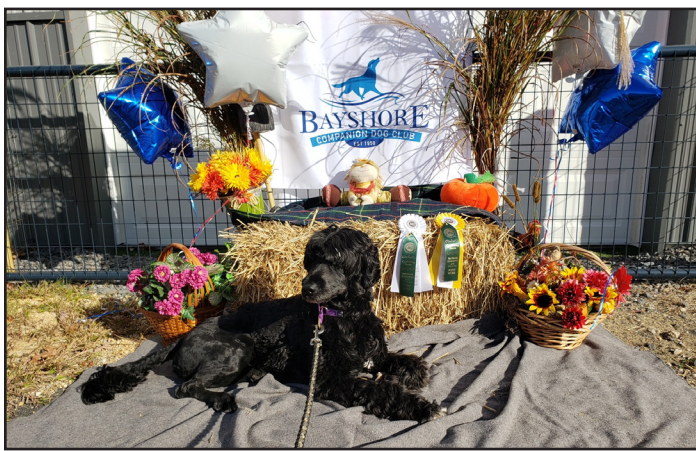
—Excerpted from [www.wellnesspetfood.com](http://www.wellnesspetfood.com)

# ★ BRAGS ★

## FLIP

Flip and I had so much fun doing scentwork at the National Specialty we kept it up in November. At the Burlington County KC trial he finished his Novice Containers title. Then a few weeks later at Bayshore trial he earned a 3rd place and his 2nd leg in Handler Discrimination and 4th place for his 1st leg in Buried. He is now GCH Freestyle Turn the Page BN RI TKA RATS CZ8B WWDX SCN MAC2.

—Lisa Wilkinson, Flip's partner



## KELSEY

CH Paragon-Hytide Too Hot To Handle, Kelsey, became our latest AKC Champion by going First/Winners in the Open Bitches Class, her 3rd major win in 5 days, at the Old Dominion KC of Northern, VA in Doswell VA on Sunday November 7, 2021. Kelsey is owned and very much loved by Dave and Carol Wichterman. Kelsey has been expertly presented by Michael and Michelle Scott.



## SOPHIE, NIKO, and GRACE

GCH Freestyle's Sunshine Daydream (Sophie), bred by Jane Freeman, earned her AKC Standard Novice Agility title, (NA), in November 2021 and her Novice Agility Jumpers title, (NAJ), on New Year's Day, 2022.

CH Paragon-Hytyd's Wait 'Til The Midnight Hour, AWD WWD, (Niko), bred by Carol and Dave Wichterman earned both his AKC Standard Novice Agility title, (NA), and Novice Agility Jumpers, (NAJ), title in November 2021

GCH Biddlebrook's Amazing "Grace," bred by Janice Cohen, won her AKC Champion Title on November 4, 2021 at 13 months old and went on to win her AKC Grand Championship Title on December 10, 2021. This huge accomplishment was possible because of the expert grooming by Best In Show Mobile Grooming, LLC, (Pam Bober) and Grace's handler, Monique Mastrapasqua, who beautifully presented her in the show ring. Additionally, Grace earned a Junior Water Certificate at the 2021 PWDCA National Specialty in Virginia Beach, VA. She also got second place at the PWDCA National Specialty while competing in the 9 to 12 months class conformation ring. Sophie doesn't like to get her paws wet so she has decided not to pursue any Water Titles. She will instead concentrate on Agility and Obedience. Niko, on the other hand, is crazy about Water, Agility, and Obedience so has a full schedule once Water Season begins this summer. Grace is going to continue to compete in the Conformation ring and in her spare time will do Water Work, Agility, and Obedience.

Sophie, Niko, and Grace are owned and dearly loved by Sandra and Robert Caruso. We are so very proud and feel so blessed to own these incredible Portuguese Water Dogs.

## DAWSON

At an AKC Scent Work Trial in December Dawson (GCH CH Patriot's Paint The Town Brown) earned his Scent Work Buried Advanced Title which gave him his overall Scent Work Advanced Title. He also earned his AKC Novice Trick Title at the PWDCA National Specialty in September. I am so very proud of him. He is loving what he is doing. Dawson is owned and loved by Jane McEwen.

# ★ BRAGS ★

## KIKI

Kiki, Seaworthy's Love that Notorious RBG, had a very busy and productive fall. She earned her RATN title in December with three first places and two high in classes. With those runs she finished the year ranked in the top ten for PWDs in novice barn hunt and top 10 all breeds in Maryland. She also earned her Beginner Novice Obedience title with a first place finish at the Mount Vernon Kennel Club trial in Point of Rocks, MD at the end of October. We also traveled to Orlando in December to participate in the FAST Cat National Invitational as one of the top three PWDs in FAST Cat. In her spare time we are continuing to work on our agility and scent work skills while we wait for water season!!!

—Cindy Miner



## CYRUS

GCHB NorthStar's Set Fire To the Rain CGC RI TKN FCAT "Cyrus," owned by John and Susan Soviero, proudly sired another litter this time with GCH Saltydawg's Easter Joy "Kenzie" owned by Karen Ash and Ada Popek. All eight puppies are doing great, including the one who received the "ee gene," producing a champagne-colored puppy. All puppies are in their homes and thriving.



## MIKA

Mika, Paragon Hytide Waitin' On A Sunny Day, was first in her class (Novice B) at the Talbot Kennel Club Obedience Trial on Saturday, January 15, 2022. Mika owns and loves Judy Murray.

**OOPS! Did You Forget  
to Renew Your Membership?**

Please renew your Keystone Membership on the club website: <https://kpwdc.org>.  
Thank you!



# ★ BRAGS ★

## KYLO

CH Glenwood's Master of the Knights of Ren CA FCAT3 DJ DN TKN, aka "Kyro," was invited to the AKC fast cat invitational in December. He placed 2nd for Portuguese Water Dogs.

—Tracey Dearborn



## TAWNY

Tawny, Hunter Any Port In A Storm SWN TDN CGC, had a great National Specialty earning his Trick Dog Novice title and several Novice Scent Work legs. In November he had a phenomenal performance at the Merrimac Dog Training Club Scent Work trials, earning 10 first place ribbons and his Novice Scent Work Interior, Exterior and Container Titles. Later that month at the Hampton Roads Obedience Club Scent Work Trial (held at the same location as the Specialty Water trial) Tawny earned his Novice Buried title, completing all the requirements for a Novice Scent work Title—SWN! At the same trial he also earned 2 Advanced Interior legs. Tawny is working on agility skills as well and coming along nicely. Now to get him to swim!

— Nancy Kurkjian



# ♥ IN MEMORIAM ♥

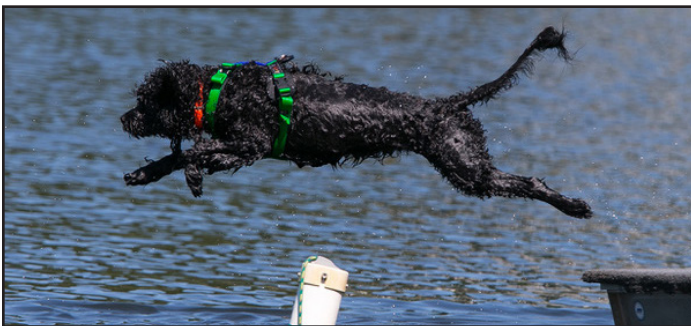
## Dazzle

March 11, 2009 – October 27, 2021

**A**nne and I said goodbye to a bright light in our lives late in October. Dazzle (Baywatch Dazzle With Style CGC TDI THDA, TKN, WWDX) was 12-1/2 years old and in all those years she never met a human she didn't like; she only tolerated other dogs. She was sweet and loving almost all the time. Unless you woke her up too early. She was also impertinent and extremely opinionated. Those of you who trained with us or watched us compete know that she barked—loudly—when she didn't think we were working fast or hard enough. Never wanting to be left out of the fun, she came out of retirement this past summer to finish her WWDX and had a memorable season training and competing. A little deaf in her later years, if she lost track of where Anne was on the water, she confidently executed Plan B and delivered her items to someone (often the Judge) on shore. And then sat waiting to be praised.

Dazzle had incomparable spirit. We knew she was a "drivey little bitch" when Debbi Rotenberg asked us to give her a new home nine years ago. It was one of the best decisions we ever made. Run free, baby girl, bark as loud as you like, and snooze in all the sunny spots.

—Anne and Peter Paige

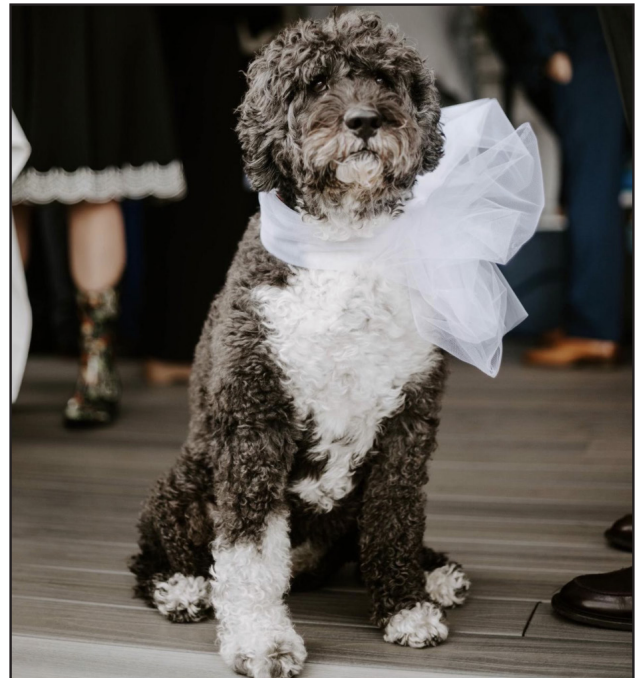


## Lacy

May 3, 2007 – December 21, 2021

**O**ur family brought Lacy home from the Sea Angels kennel July 4th weekend, 2007, from a litter that was born on May 3rd (also my son's birthday). Lacy died on December 21st, at 14-1/2 years old, after a rapid health decline, leaving behind her heartbroken human family and puppy sister, Ella. We were hoping to have her with us a few more years. Lacy was our first family dog, and like my children, not always obedient and somewhat mischievous. My husband was afraid of dogs as a child, but fell in love with gentle Lacy and the PWD breed. She loved walking in the rain and playing in the snow with the kids. On snowy days, Lacy would run up and down the hill when the kids were sledding and sometimes run away with their hats as she loved to be chased. Lacy loved to grab (and sometimes chew) casually placed cell phones, remote controls, clipboards, etc. Like many Portuguese Water Dogs, Lacy was gracefully athletic—jumping hurdles, running zoomies, jumping up the swing set, and sliding down with the kids. She had an elegant gait and a very gentle and sweet personality. She was wonderful dog from a wonderful breed for an active family. We miss seeing and caring for Lacy every day.

—Virginia Plaza and Thomas Leach



# Cold Weather Tips for Pets

- Ensure your pets ID tags are up to date.
- Limit time outdoors. Keep potty breaks brief and closely monitor your dog while outdoors.
- Animals are drawn to the smell and sweet taste of antifreeze, which can be fatal if ingested. Keep all antifreeze and ice melting products out of reach.
- Stock up on pet food, medication, and water in preparation of potential power outages. Keep a pet emergency bag in the car.
- Do not leave your dog unattended in a car. Cars act as insulators, trapping in the cold and increasing risk of hypothermia.
- Avoid thinly frozen ponds or lakes.
- Wipe your dog's feet, legs and belly as soon as they are back in the house. Remove snow from the paw pads. Routinely check the paws for cracks and redness. Apply a pet-safe protective balm as needed to keep paw pads supple.
- Recognize signs of hypothermia: shivering, whining, anxious or moving unusually slow.
- Offer your dog a warm place to sleep indoors, off the floor and away from drafts.
- Remember: if you are cold, then your dog is probably cold!

### Ditch the Bath

Reduce bathing frequency during cold spells. Drying can take too long, and washing too often can deplete natural oils and increase dry, flaky skin.

**Ask a Pro**  
If your dog must be bathed, ask your vet for a moisturizing shampoo or rinse recommendation.

ASPCA

### Check Before You Rev

Outdoor stray and feral cats sometimes sleep under car hoods to stay warm. But a car's fan belt can injure or kill a cat when the motor starts. To avoid a tragic accident: **bang loudly on your hood before starting the engine** to give any cats a chance to escape.

ASPCA

### Paw Protection

Daily walks in the cold can harm your dog's paws. Keep them moisturized to protect against salt and chemical agents.

Use pet booties to minimize contact with painful salt crystals, poisonous anti-freeze and chemical ice-melting agents.

Apply a dollop of petroleum jelly to their paw pads before going outside.

ASPCA

### The Cold Outside

See a dog out in the cold without proper shelter? Contact local law enforcement. Dogs left in extreme temperatures, especially without food and shelter, are at risk of hypothermia, death and frostbite.

#### How Can You Help?

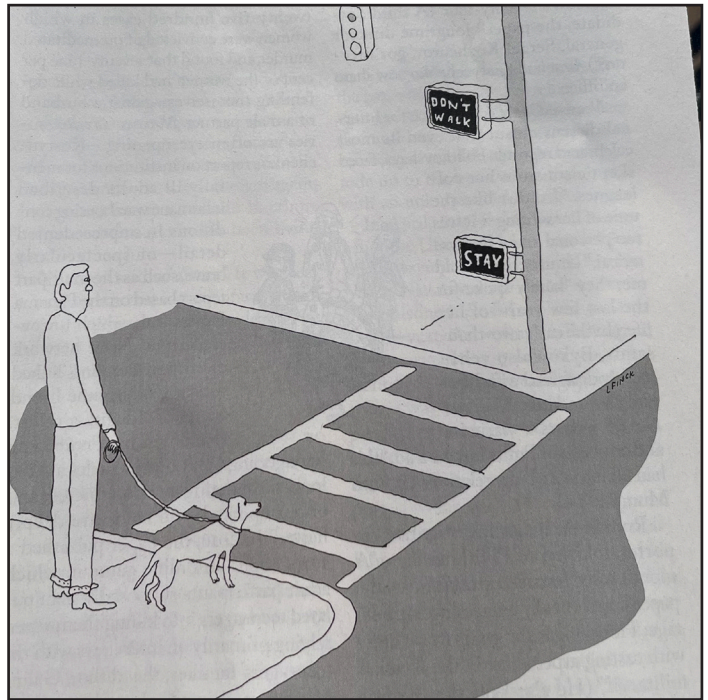
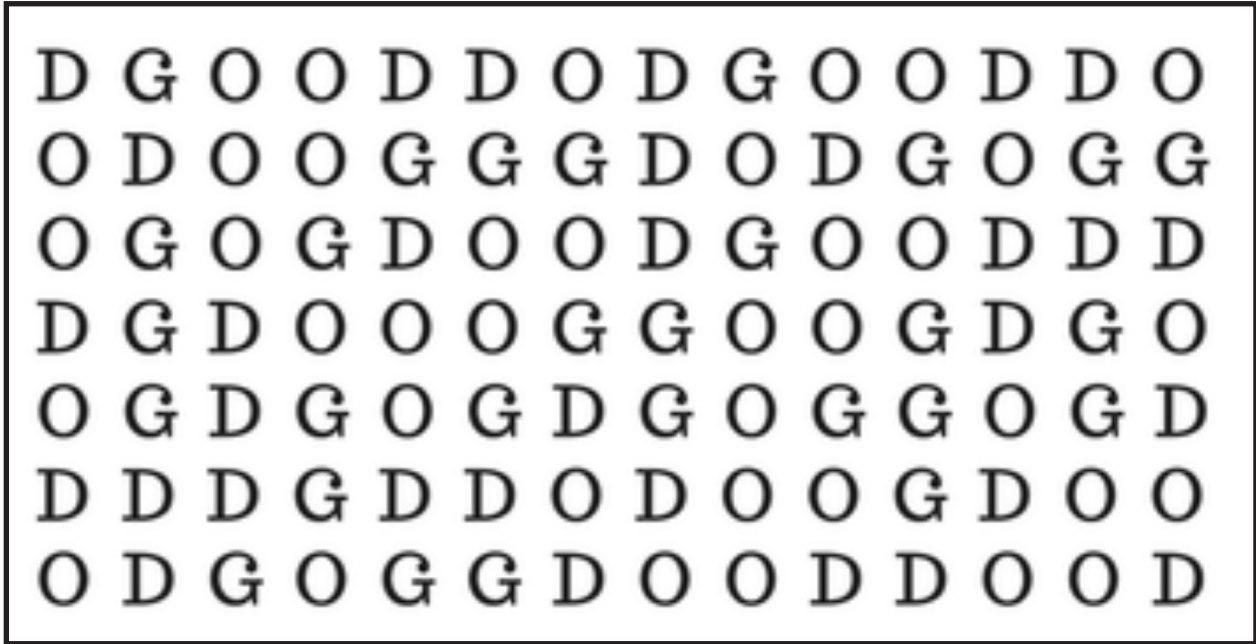
Note the date, time, exact location and type of animal(s) involved.	Jot down as many details as possible before contacting animal control or local law enforcement with your complaint.	Follow up in a few days if the situation has not been remedied.
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**Did You Know?**  
Animal neglect is a misdemeanor crime in all 50 states.

ASPCA



It may be a simple three letter word but the Internet is struggling with this tricky word search! With only 3 letters filling this box, how quickly can you spot when the letters spell out dog—it only occurs once!



### Thinking of You . . .



Do you know of a member who has experienced recent loss, has been ill, or could use a little cheer via the mail? Please contact Sandra Caruso, Sunshine Chair, and a card from Keystone will be mailed to the member.

# TECH CORNER

## Coming Soon: Detective Dogs!

The next "Featured Venue" on the Keystone homepage will highlight a new sport, called Barn Hunt. Barn Hunt utilizes a dog's instinct to "sniff out" prey using rats, hay bales, and tunnels. It is a safe and organized competition, open to all breeds, ages, and backgrounds. Stay tuned for an introduction to this fun sport!



TJ after winning the Hunt

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## IN THE KITCHEN



### Apple-Carrot Treats

#### Ingredients

1/2 cup plain, unsweetened apple sauce ▪ 1 cup shredded carrots ▪ 1 egg ▪ 1 cup flour

#### Method

- Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a baking sheet pan with parchment.
- In a large work bowl, mix together the four ingredients until thoroughly combined into a moist dough.
- Knead and roll out dough to 1/4-inch thick and punch out 1/2-inch round pieces OR roll the dough into small grape-size balls.
- Place the cut-outs or the balls on the baking sheet pan 2 inches apart and bake for 30 to 35 minutes until set and lightly browned.
- Allow to cool before storing in airtight bags (best in refrigerator).

Yield: approximately 4 dozen

—Dante Mazzocco



### 2022 Board of Directors

Judy Murray, *President*; David Wichterman, *Vice President*; Janice Cohen, *Secretary*; Harry Saltzer, *Treasurer*; Shannon Antunes, Sandra Caruso, Sandy Costello, Jane McEwen, Barbara Weisman



<https://kpwdc.org>

The News Buoy is produced by the Newsletter Committee: Shannon Antunes and Margaret Trejo.