

Vickie T Baker

We picked up Izabel, my first Portuguese Water Dog in September 2004. She joined us sailing on the Chesapeake Bay, walking the beaches of Florida, hiking at our mountain cabin and a lot of travel in between. In her, I had met my soul mate - an independent, stubborn, hard working, and spirited best friend who learned quickly and loved unconditionally. Crew joined our family in December 2015 and with him, a commitment to learn and train water work, conformation and other performance sports. We joined the USSPWD Club and jumped in with both feet, literally and figuratively.

The USSPWD Club has meant a lot to me these past two years and I would like to see it continue to grow by reaching out to all PWD owners, old and new so they can feel the genuine warmth, friendship, mentoring and support provided by the members of this organization. I look forward to many years of friendships and lots of humorous PWD tales. I am also a member of the PWDCA and PNWPWDC (Pacific Northwest) clubs.

The past 20 months, Crew and I have competed in conformation, water work, beginning obedience and dabbled in agility, dock diving and lure coursing. Zoey, our Pacific Northwest girl, joined our pack in August 2016 and is also doing all of the above. I am so in awe of the versatility, spirit and hard-working nature of this breed and simply want to continue to learn and promote their many gifts. I also support canine nutrition and continually research and advocate ways to extend the life of our dogs through better nutrition.

Prior to my career as a full time PWD Mom, I spent over 34 years as certified Project Management Professional (PMP), managing technical programs and projects for large companies in the US and abroad. I am a certified health coach and author, and treasurer of our homeowners association.

My motto is ***Do What Brings You Joy.*** Working with PWDs and the USSPWD Club does that.