

Vickie T Baker

We picked up Izabel, my first Portuguese Water Dog in Maryland in September 2004. She joined us sailing on the Chesapeake Bay, walking the beaches of Florida, hiking at our mountain cabin and even spent two years in Switzerland. In her, I had met my soul mate – a proud, independent, loving and spirited best friend who learned quickly and loved unconditionally. Crew, our Florida boy, joined our family in December 2015 and Zoey shortly thereafter in August 2016. We made a conscious decision and commitment with these puppies to learn and train water work, conformation and other performance sports.. We joined the USSPWD Club in 2016 at the Annual USSPWDC meeting and jumped in with both feet, literally and figuratively. I am also a member of the PWDCA.

The USSPWD Club has meant a lot to me these past three years and my mission is 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 the many years of friendships and humorous PWD tales that we will all share. My dogs and I have been competed in water trials in Georgia, North Carolina, Washington and Arizona and look forward to continuing our US tour!

The past three months, Crew, Zoey and I have also trained and competed in conformation, water work, rally, obedience, dock diving and coursing and dabbled in agility. 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.

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