

Portuguese Water Dogs

“...an indelible impression of strength, spirit and soundness.”



- This seminar is sanctioned by the Portuguese Water Dog Club of America, Inc.
- Any opinions presented are those of the presenters.
- Should anyone interpret any part of this presentation as being in conflict with the Official Standard of the Portuguese Water Dog as approved by the American Kennel Club, it should be noted that the Official Standard prevails.

Today's Presenters:

- Betty Trainor, VMD
- Letty Afong
- Linda M. Fowler, PhD
- Lou Guthrie, PhD
- Andrew Kalmanash

PowerPoint by Dr. Lou Guthrie



Seminar Outline

- History
- Working Function of the PWD
- Brief Standard Review
- Temperament
- Judging Challenges
- Hands On

History

- First written report of PWD in 1297
- Cao de Agua: 14th Century Art

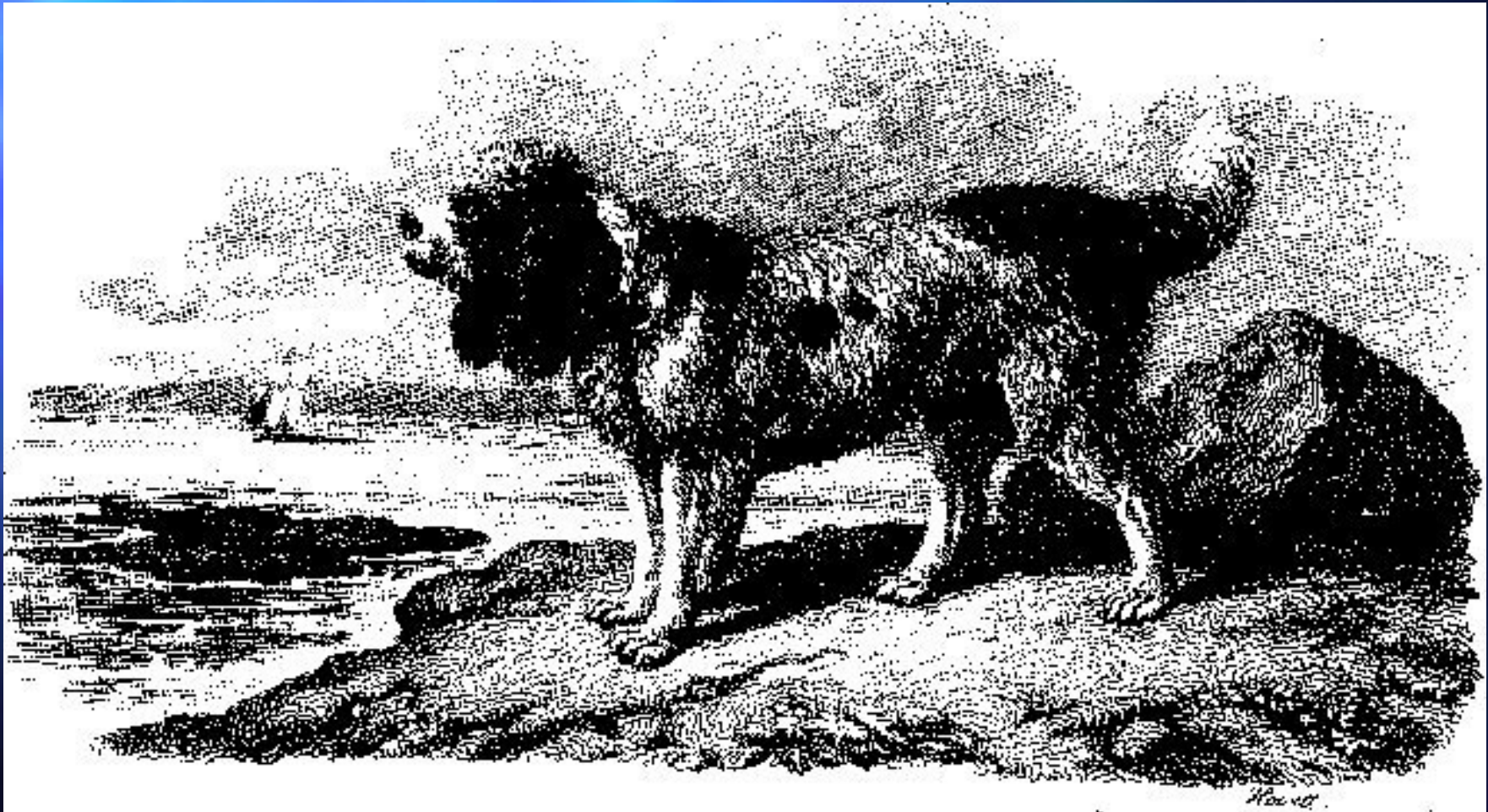


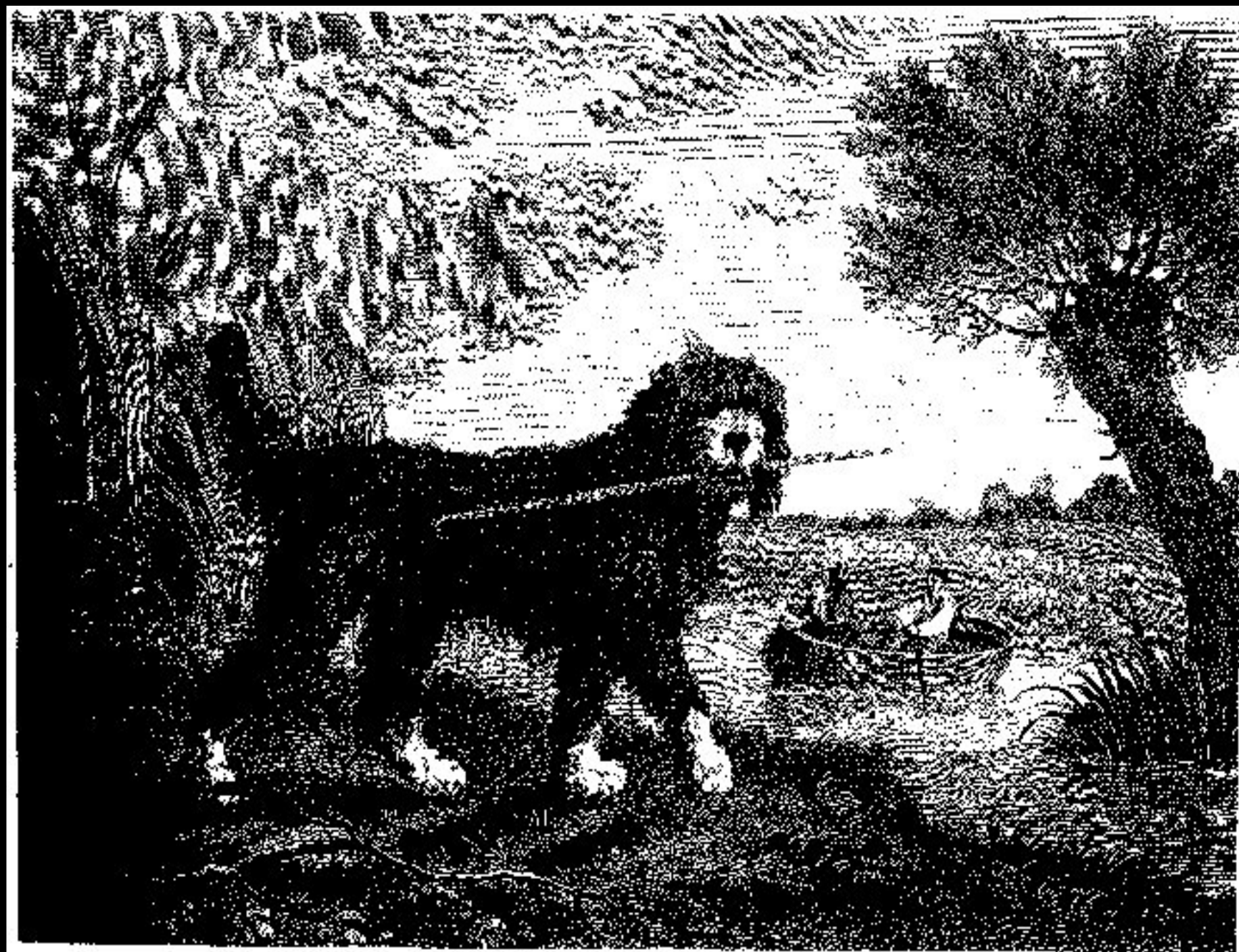
Plate XXXVI.



GREAT WATER DOG.

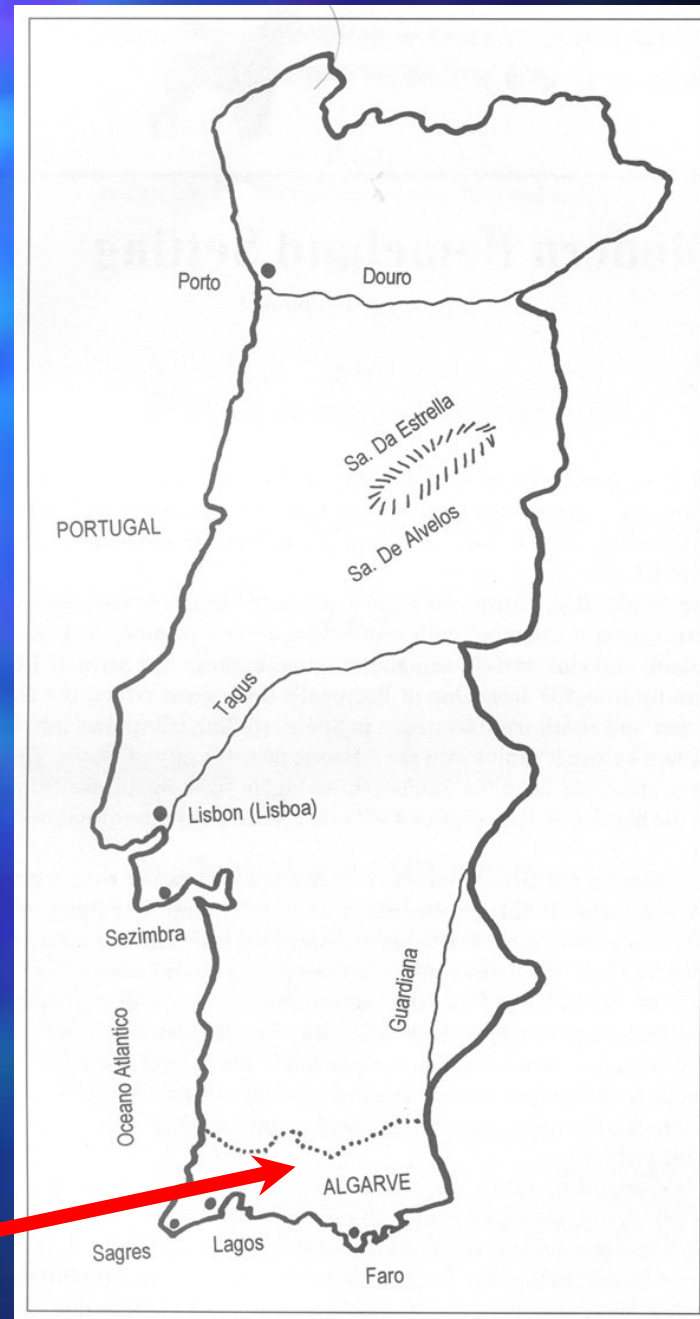
A. Bell Sculp.

The Great Water Dog by Count de Buffon (1750)



History

- Thrived 1800s - early 1900s in Portugal



- Algab Barbet –later named PWD



History

- 1930s - Vasco Bensaude and Leao and Dr. Antonio Cabral saved the breed



Dr. António Cabral – Alm. Américo Tomaz (Portuguese Head of State) and Vasco Bensaude
– Lisbon 1965



Algabiorum



The Algarbiorum famous founder LEÃO unclipped - 1936

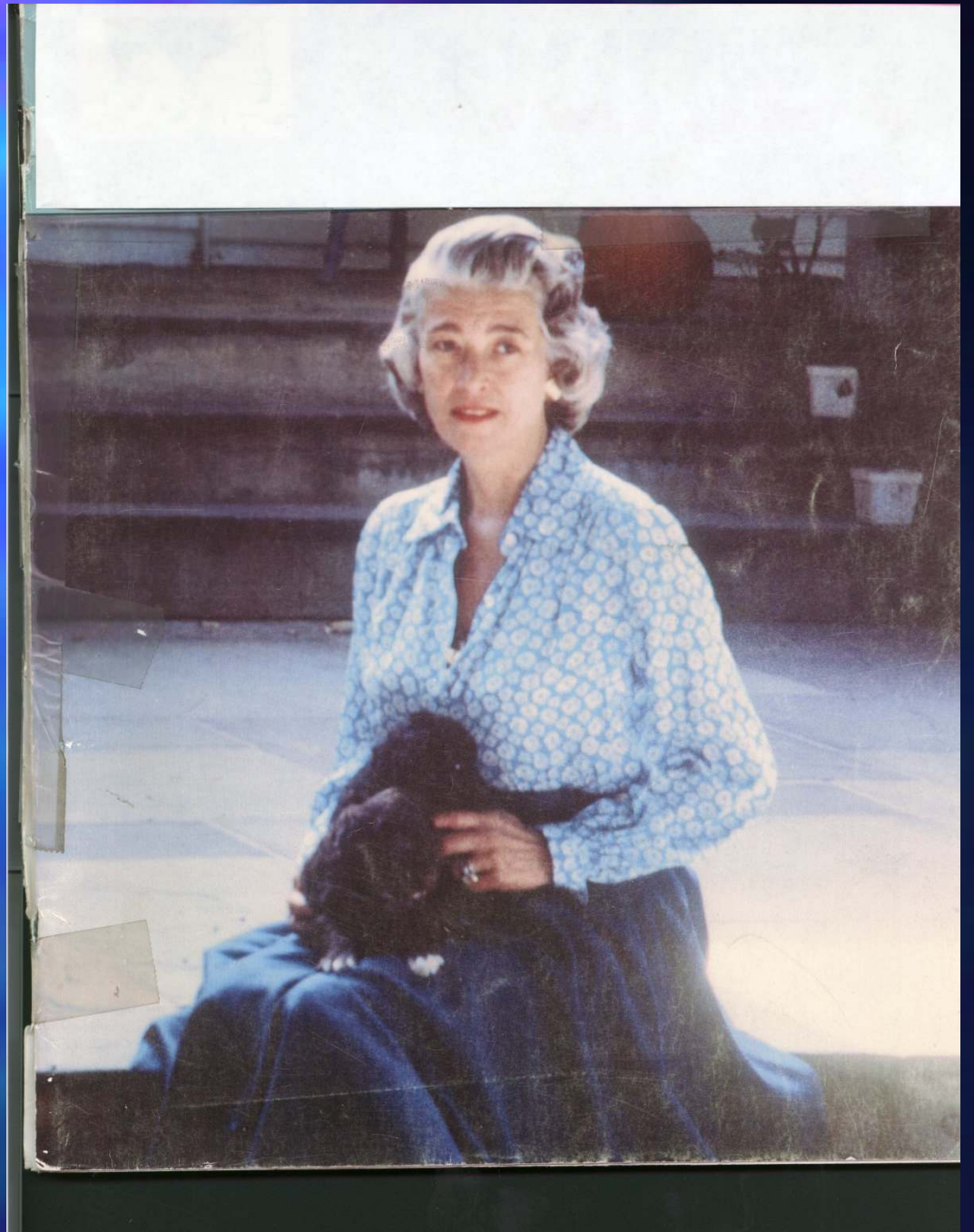
Leao 1931 - 1942



Alvalade

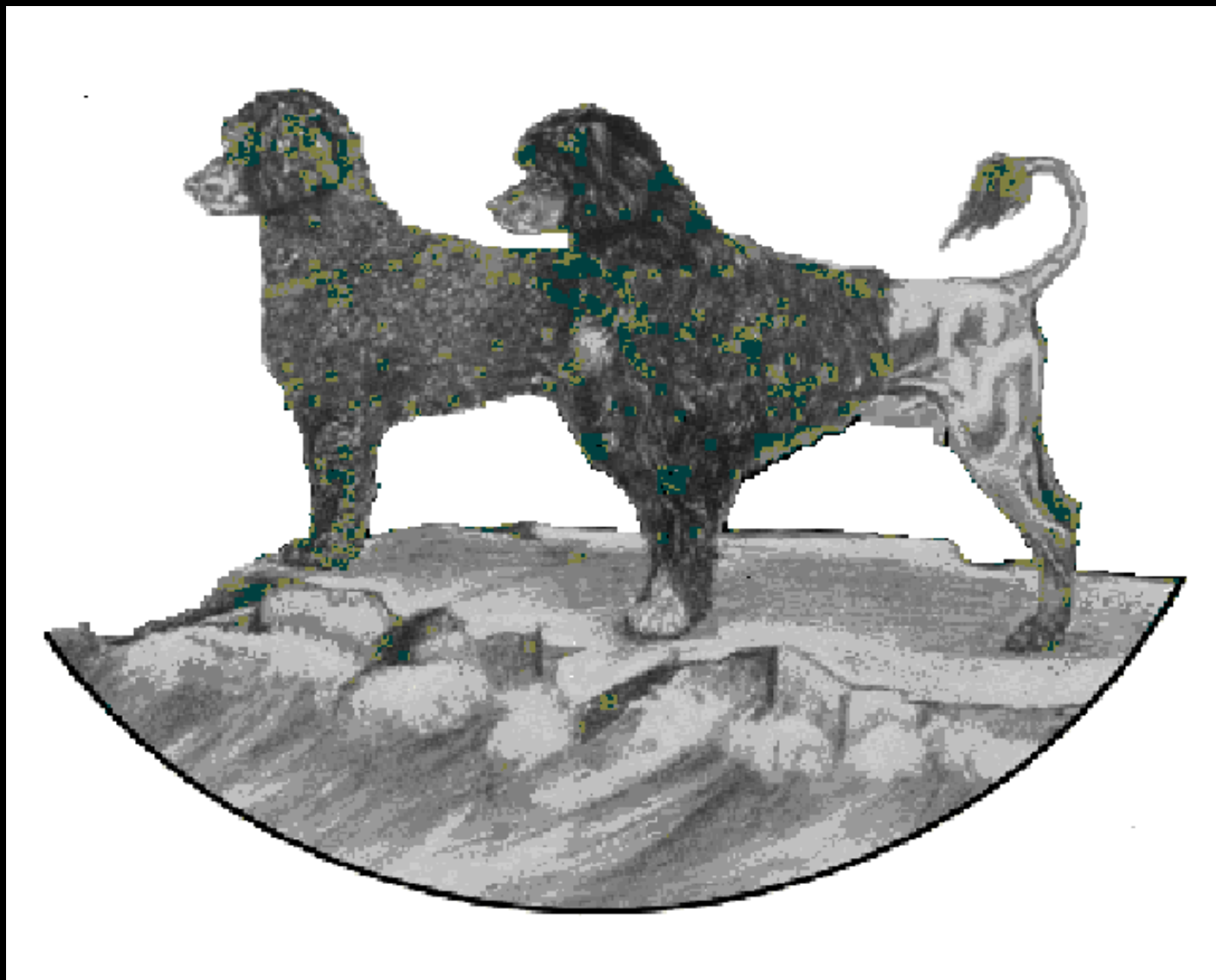
History

- First Dog in U.S. - 1960s



History

- 1972 - PWDCA formed (12 dogs in U.S.)
 - estimated to be 13 left in Portugal
- June, 1981 AKC Miscellaneous Class
- January, 1984 Working Group



PWDCA Logo

□ 1992 First PWDCA
National Specialty

Function -- A Seafaring Breed



Art by Vern Foster

- Swimmer
 - Exceptional Stamina
- Diver
- Retrieving
 - Nets, buoys, lobster pots,
 - Retrieving fish if they escaped from the nets
- Herding
 - Schools of fish into nets
 - Said to herd sheep in off-season
- Carrying Messages
- Guarding the Boat

PWDCA Water Trials







The Standard

Portuguese Water Dog Club of America members are in agreement on the subject-

Our Breed is Difficult to Judge!

The single most important message to someone about to judge our breed is that it is definitely a "Hands-On" breed. You cannot accurately assess the dog without feeling for the necessary structure, substance and muscle.

Highly Intelligent & Utilitarian

- Distinguished by two coat types
 - Curly or wavy
- Impressive Head
- Ruggedly Built
- Well-knit Body
- Powerful, Thickly Based Tail Carried Gallantly or Used Purposefully as a Rudder

Standard - Approved 1/1991

- Strong -12 Times
 - Physically Powerful, Healthy, Hearty
- Spirit/Spirited - 4
 - Lively, Animated
- Robust -3
 - Strong & Healthy

(Notes from Bill Trainor)

SIZE

- Height at the Withers:

17" to 23"

- Males -- 20" to 23"; Ideal 22"

- Females -- 17" to 21"; Ideal 19"

- Weight

- Males – 42 to 60 pounds

- Females – 35 to 50 pounds



•17” Female

21” Female

Proportion: Off Square

Too Short



Too Long



SUBSTANCE

- ❑ Strong
- ❑ Substantial bone
- ❑ Neither refined nor coarse
- ❑ Solidly built
- ❑ Muscular body



GAIT

- Short, lively steps when walking
- Trot is forward striding
- Well balanced movement



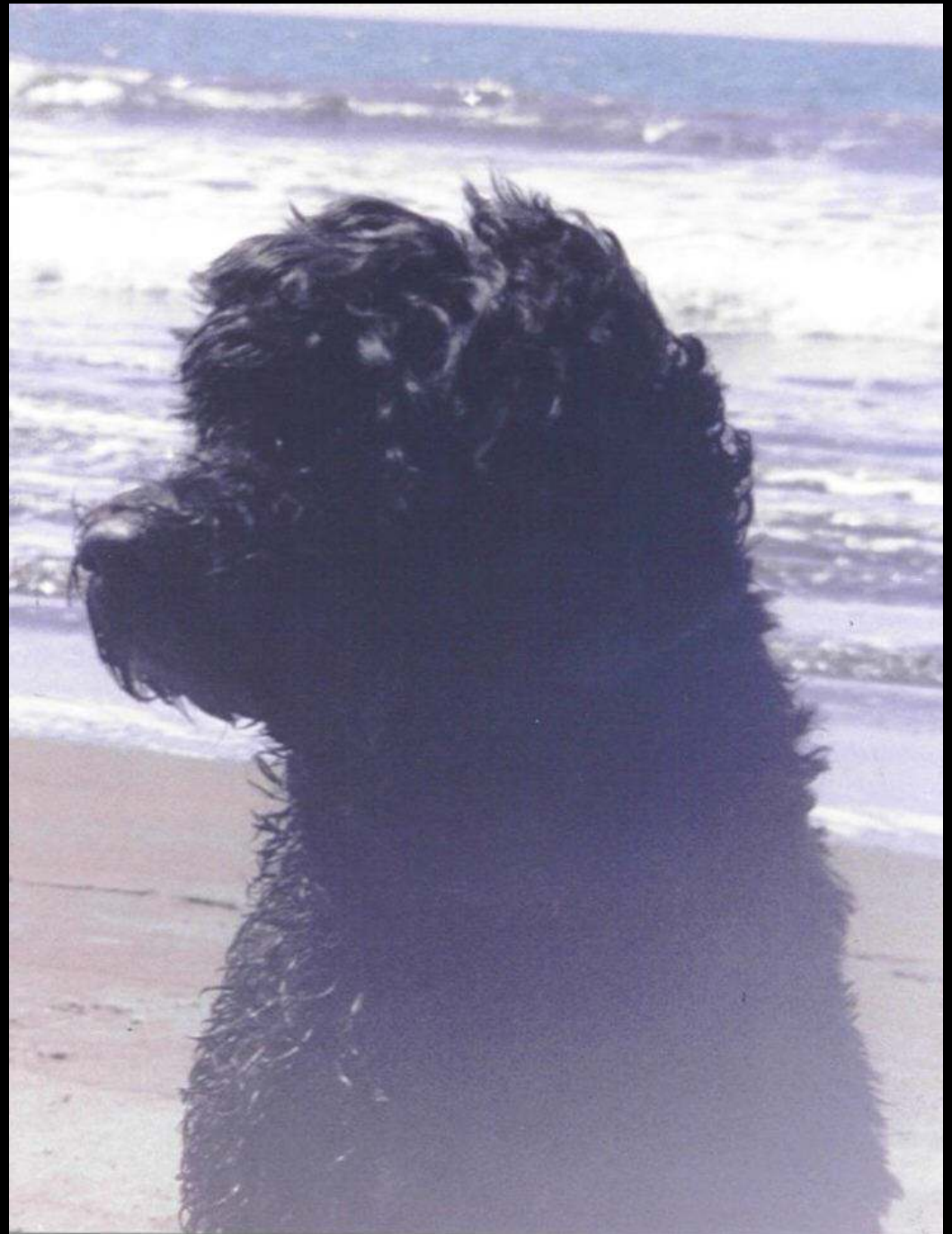


Head - Essential Characteristic



Art by Ron Iverson

- Distinctively large
- Well-proportioned
- Exceptional breadth of top skull
- Substantial muzzle



Eyes

- ❑ Darker Eyes Are Preferred
- ❑ Set Well Apart
- ❑ Set a bit Obliquely
- ❑ Roundish
- ❑ Expression: Steady Penetrating & Attentive



EARS

- Set well above the line of the eye
- Leather is heart-shaped and thin
- Tips should not reach below the lower jaw.



SKULL



- Slightly longer than the muzzle
- Curvature more accentuated at the back
- Top is very broad & appears domed
- Forehead is prominent
- Occiput is well defined

- Well defined stop.
- Substantial muzzle – wider at base than nose



- Jaws: Strong, neither over nor undershot
- Bite: Scissors or level
- Nose: Broad, well-flared nostrils
 - Fully pigmented
- Teeth: Not visible when mouth is closed
- Lips: Thick; no flew
 - Lips, roof of mouth, gums are black or well ticked with black in dogs with black, black and white, or white coats; various tones of brown in brown dogs

NECK, TOPLINE, BODY

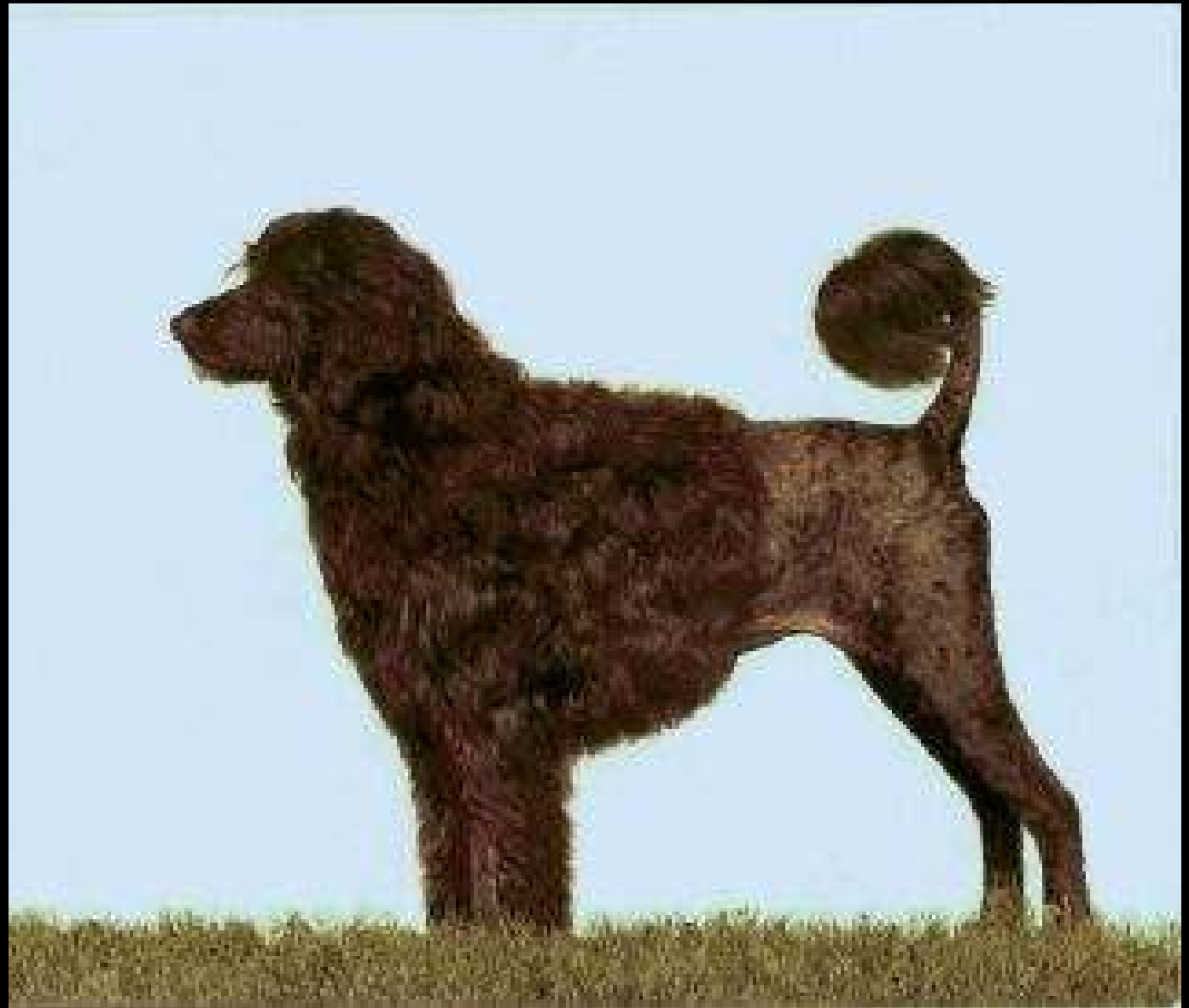


- Neck is short, straight and well muscled
- Held high
- No dewlap

TOPLINE

□ Level

□ Firm





TOPLINE

BODY

- ❑ Chest is broad and deep, reaching to elbow.
- ❑ Ribs are long and well-sprung.
- ❑ Abdomen well held up in a graceful line.
- ❑ Back is broad, well muscled



CHEST

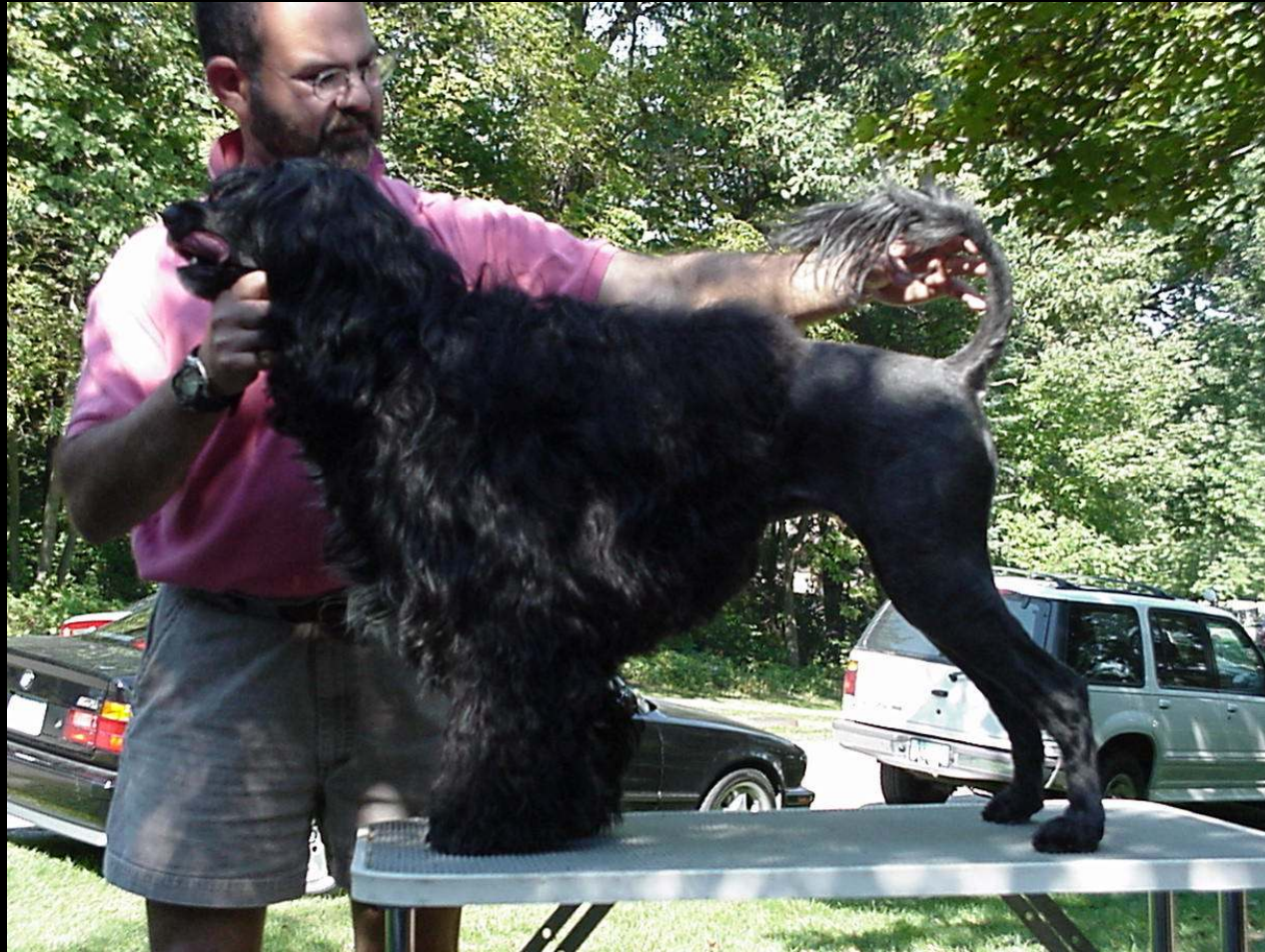
- ❑ Loin is short
- ❑ Meets croup smoothly
- ❑ Croup is well-formed and only slightly inclined
- ❑ Hip bones hardly apparent



- Tail is thick at base and tapering
- Tail is set on slightly below the line of the back
- Should not reach below hock



When attentive, tail is held in a ring, the front of which should not reach forward of the loin.



FOREQUARTERS

- Shoulders are well inclined
- Shoulders are strongly muscled
- Upper arms are strong
- Forelegs are straight with long, well-muscled forearms
- Carpus is heavy-boned
- Pasterns are long & strong



- ❑ Dewclaws may be removed
- ❑ Feet are round & rather flat
- ❑ Webbing is soft, well covered with hair
- ❑ Nails held up off the ground
- ❑ Black, brown, white & striped nails are allowed

FEET



HINDQUARTERS



- Powerful
- Well-developed buttocks
- Tendons & hocks are strong
- Metatarsus long

□ Rear is straight



BALANCE



FRONT & REAR
(SAME DOG/ BOTH CLIPS)

Judging Challenges



COAT

- Profuse, thickly planted
- No undercoat, mane or ruff
- Two varieties
 - Curly: compact, cylindrical curls, lusterless
 - Wavy: falling gently in waves, not curls, with a slight sheen



Wavy & Curly – 2 days old



No Preference Will Be Given to Coat Type – Wavy or Curly





Clips -- Lion & Working Retriever
Both clips are equally acceptable.

No discrimination
will be made
against either clip.

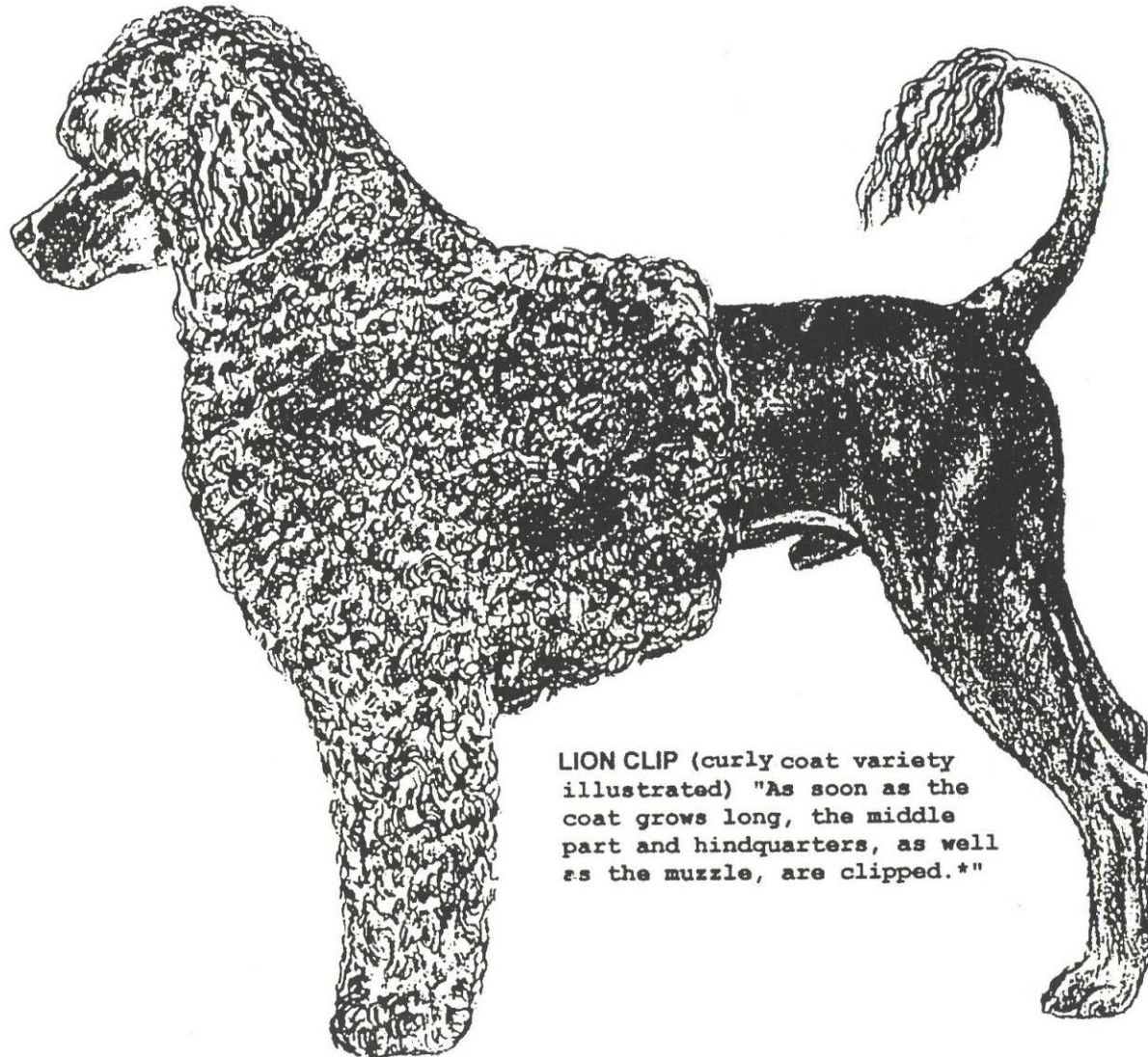
- Lion Clip

As soon as coat grows long, the middle part, hindquarters, & muzzle are clipped

- Working Retriever Clip

In order to give a natural appearance and a smooth unbroken line, the entire coat is scissored or clipped to follow the outline of the dog, leaving a short blanket of coat no longer than one inch in length.

Curly Coat – Lion Clip

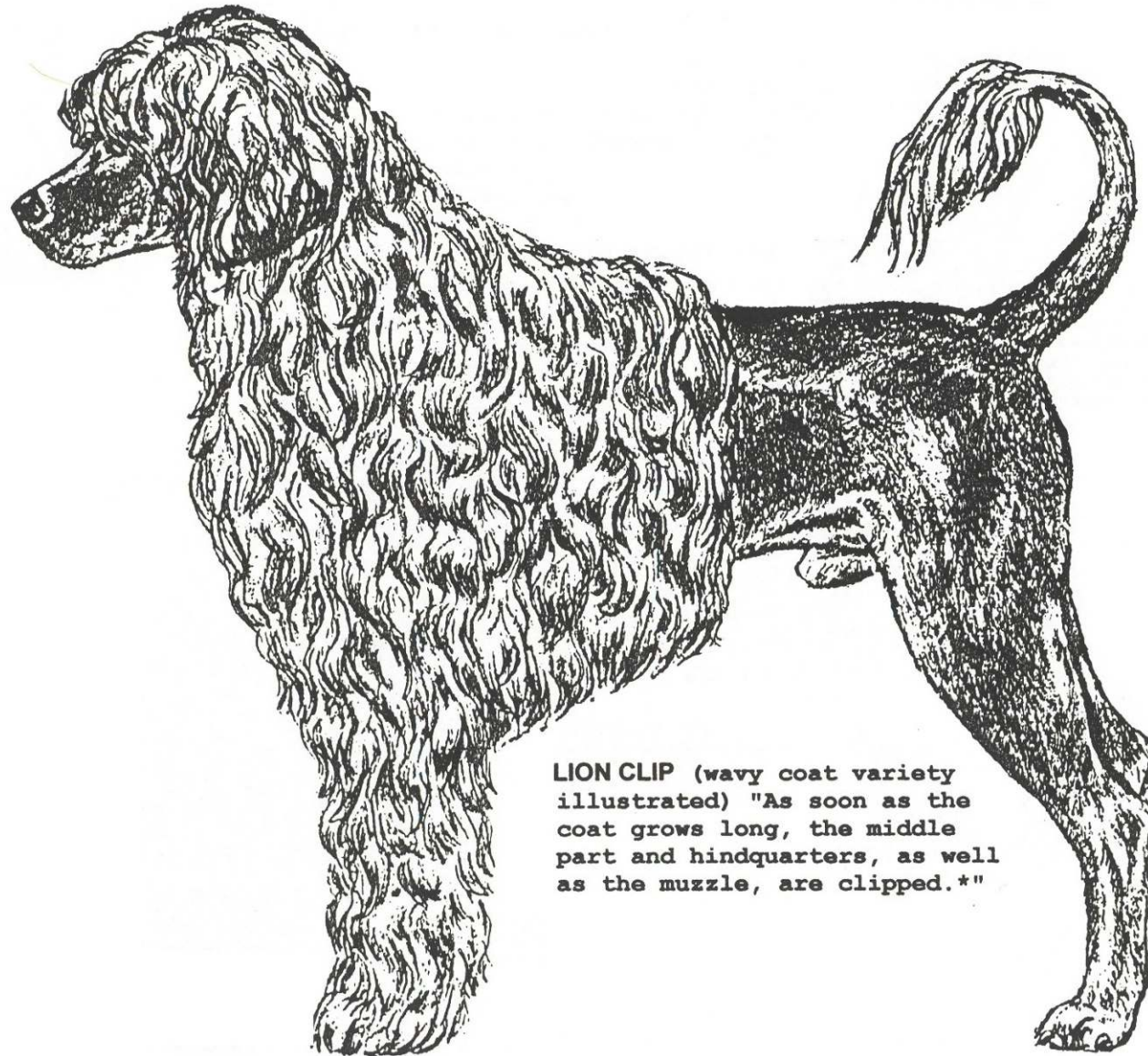


LION CLIP (curly coat variety illustrated) "As soon as the coat grows long, the middle part and hindquarters, as well as the muzzle, are clipped.*"

Curly Coat Lion Clip Head



Wavy Coat – Lion Clip



LION CLIP (wavy coat variety illustrated) "As soon as the coat grows long, the middle part and hindquarters, as well as the muzzle, are clipped.*"

Wavy
Coat
Lion Clip
Head



Curly Coat – Retriever Clip

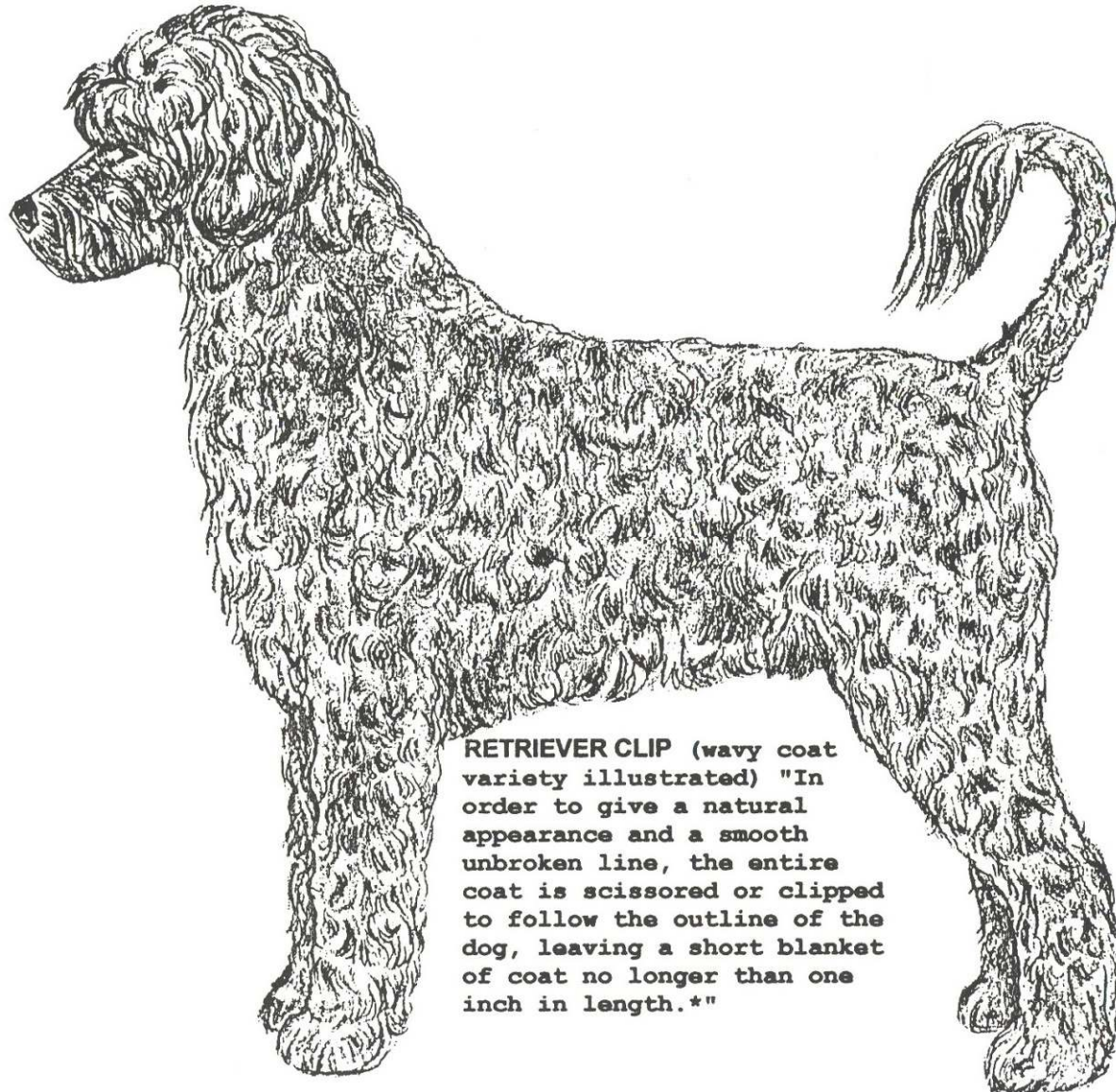


RETRIEVER CLIP (curly coat variety illustrated) "In order to give a natural appearance and a smooth unbroken line, the entire coat is scissored or clipped to follow the outline of the dog, leaving a short blanket of coat no longer than one inch in length.*"

Curly Coat
Retriever
Clip
Head



Wavy Coat – Retriever Clip



RETRIEVER CLIP (wavy coat variety illustrated) "In order to give a natural appearance and a smooth unbroken line, the entire coat is scissored or clipped to follow the outline of the dog, leaving a short blanket of coat no longer than one inch in length.*"

Wavy Coat
Retriever
Clip
Head



REMEMBER!!!!!!

- **No discrimination will be made against either clip – Lion or Retriever**
- **No preference will be given to coat type – Wavy or Curly**

Lion Clip—Coat Length may vary



Working Retriever Clip: no more than 1" of coat



COLOR

- Colors -- Black, White & Various Tones of Brown; also combinations of black or brown with white
- In dogs with black, white or black & white coats, the skin is bluish

Brown





Parti-colored



Grey Coat



• Aging Coat

Improper Coat





• Compare & contrast two clips



• Compare & contrast two clips

Judging Challenge

- **Any combination of**
 - 1. Clip**
 - 2. Color**
 - **Markings, Ticking or Roan**
 - 3. Coat Type (Wavy/Curly)**
 - 4. Size**

Major Faults

- ❑ Shy, vicious
- ❑ Unimpressive head, narrow top skull, snipy muzzle
- ❑ Light bone, lacking in muscle
- ❑ Sparse coat, wispy coat, wiry coat
- ❑ Low set tail, droopy in action
- ❑ Pigment: any deviation or partial pigmentation
- ❑ Overshot or undershot bite

Temperament



- ❑ Spirited
- ❑ Self-willed
- ❑ Brave
- ❑ Exceptional intelligence
- ❑ Loyal

□ Works with pleasure



Conclusions

- Both clips and coat types are acceptable -- no preference will be given to either.
- Many colors, sizes are acceptable.
- Strong breed, designed for swimming; should be strongly muscled.
- Spirited, willing worker --should "show" in ring
- This is a hands-on breed. You can't tell what is there by looking.

Looking To the Future ...



PWDCA Judges' Education Committee

□ **Chairman:**-- Betty Trainor, VMD

Regional Committee Members:

□ Southeast:--Letty Afong

□ Mid-Atlantic:--Lou Guthrie, PhD

□ Northeast:--Andrew Kalmanash

□ Central:--Renee Reiherzer

□ Northwest:--Judy Seibert

□ Southwest:--Janis Watts