Keystone Portuguese Water Dog Club

Winter-Spring 2021



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Welcome to the Winter-Spring edition of the News Buoy. Hopefully spring will be here before long and we can say good-bye to winter.

Keystone does have a few events in the works. Our annual eye clinic will be held on March 28, 2021 and you will find all of the pertinent information for signing up in this issue of the newsletter.

A Zoom "get together" is planned for March 10 for members to get better acquainted with each other and to welcome new members and their new puppies.

The club recently came into possession of very wellcrafted water video tapes which are currently housed in the resource section of our website. If you are interested in water work, these videos will provide an explanation of what is expected in terms of all of the water exercises, so please take a look.

I am sure everyone is hoping that we will be done with the pandemic and life can get back to some semblance of normalcy. The Board of Directors is certainly looking forward to going back to planning our usual activities as soon as we possibly can.

—Judy Murray

PWDs and Their Need to Chew

PWDs are retrieving and courier dogs, bred to be creative with their mouths. They tend to use their mouths much more so than other breeds. This can be a curse and a blessing. As owners, we need to teach our pups acceptable use of their mouths. We should not allow biting and chewing.

All puppies teethe. Even after adult teeth come in, they will teethe as they set permanent teeth in their jaws. This chewing will go on until they are at least a year old; some can remain chronic chewers. As an owner you must decide what to let your dog have—they must know what is theirs and what isn't.

The best way to stop a dog from chewing is to be alert and conscientious. As the saying goes, OUT OF SIGHT= IN TROUBLE. To keep a puppy out of trouble bring yourself down to puppy eye level and look around. What do you see that your puppy sees? If it is something that can be dangerous to chew or touch, remove it.

When teaching your dog what is right and wrong to chew on, be sure that you never scold for something chewed hours ago, or ten minutes ago. Scolding is only



continued on page 3

PWDs and Their Need to Chew

continued from page 1

effective if it is done when the dog is in the process of chewing. As you watch your PWD about to go for something that is off limits, remove it AND replace it with something that is OK. Most PWDs find that trial and error is a means of finding toys that their particular dog likes. Many Porties are quick to destroy a tender, stuffed toy.

Biting should not be confused with chewing. A dog's instincts tell him to use his mouth, he has to be taught at an early stage how. Most biting should be discouraged with one exception. At 6 to 11 weeks a puppy will start to use his mouth on people and other dogs. At this stage it is developmental for him to do so. He is testing his bite. As he tests his bite on your hand, stop it by saying "ouch" in a loud, high-pitched voice. You are letting him know it is unacceptable to bite on humans.

After 11 weeks all attempts at biting should be stopped. Some anti-biting techniques are:

- Replace you hand with something she is allowed to bite on.
- Simply get up and walk away.
- Make a growl sound.
- A harsh verbal reprimand—"Stop it"—then continue what you are doing.
- Gently close her mouth with your hand and give a verbal command.
- Take your dog by the scruff of the neck and give a little shake and verbal reprimand.

- Grab your dog by the cheeks, look her in the eyes with a strong reprimand. It is important that the dog look away first.
- If the puppy is running after feet and is an ankle biter, stand still, use a harsh verbal reprimand.

Care must be taken never to do any of these techniques out of anger.

As your dog matures he will learn what is acceptable to chew and bite. Some PWDs will continue to use their mouths in other strange ways or mouthy behaviors: snapping in your direction, barking in your face, or ripping and tearing. Use anti-biting techniques as necessary and remember OUT OF SIGHT= IN TROUBLE.

Many PWDs develop retrieving behaviors. They need to use their mouths and, therefore, collect and carry things all around the house. If you have a compulsive retriever you may want to train a "drop" behavior. Training PWDs to pick up their toys and then "drop" them in their toy basket can be a fun exercise for both. This can be used for picking up dirty laundry as well. Remember PWDs are a working breed.

If you are new to PWDs or are in need of help with biting and chewing behaviors, reach out to your breeder for help, ask your trainer, or reach out to KPWDC members. Keystone members have a wealth of knowledge and are more than willing to help other PWD lovers.

> *—Lisa Mullikin* From *Portuguese Water Dogs, a Guide for the New Owner* by Verne Foster

IN THE KITCHEN

DIY Frozen Treats

Teething puppies can be comforted several times a day with frozen treats of appropriate size. Supervise all items and check their integrity for safety. The following items can be frozen as a source of comfort to a teething puppy:

- Food items—carrots, green beans, celery, bagels, banana, waffles
- Stuff a Kong with moistened food, yogurt, or peanut butter
- A microfiber cloth or wash rag, tied in to a rope shape, soaked in water and frozen
- Cooling chew toys or nubby teething bones.

Please remember to check ALL food items for the presence of Xylitol, which is poisonous to dogs. The following recipes are from moderndogmagazine.com.

Frozen Banana Treats

Frozen treats are great for keeping dogs cool in the summer, and they can be used to soothe teething pain in puppies.

RECIPE

Preparation time: 5 minutes Makes about 16 treats 4 cups (32 fl oz/900 ml) plain, whole milk yogurt 2 tbsp peanut butter 3 ripe bananas, peeled and mashed

Blend all the ingredients to a purée in a food processor. Pour into 4-oz/115-g plastic cups. Freeze until firm. Pop the treat out of the cup and watch your dog enjoy!

Bananas are a great source of potassium. Combined with yogurt, they make a healthy treat. The mixture can also be frozen inside stuffable chew toys (seal the tip with a dab of peanut butter first).

Fruity Pops

Dogs just love the crunch of ice cubes, and here the rewards are made healthy and delicious.

RECIPE

Preparation time: 5 minutes Makes 24 ice cubes 4 1 qt/1.13 liters fruit juice (not grape juice) 1 ripe banana, mashed 1 cup (4 fl oz/125 ml) plain, whole milk yogurt

Blend the fruit juice with the mashed banana and mix in the yogurt. Pour into ice cube trays and put in the freezer. When frozen, pop out of tray and serve one at a time. Note: The pops will keep for up to 1 month in the freezer.

A fun and healthy treat, good for hot days and for teething puppies. It can also be frozen inside stuffable chew toys (seal the tip with a dab of peanut butter first).

Frozen Tuna Treats

Help your pup beat the heat with these tasty treats! Tuna is packed with omega-3 fatty acids, which can help decrease inflammation.

RECIPE

Preparation time: 15 minutes Yields 1 ice cube tray Ingredients: 1 can of water-packed tuna, 1/2 cup water

Pour the contents of the can of tuna into a bowl (including the tuna-water) and mash with a fork. Add the water and either continue mixing and mashing with a fork, or pour everything into a blender to create a smooth mixture. Pour the mixture into a Ziploc bag and cut a small hole in one corner. This helps prevent a huge mess while filling the ice cube tray. Fill your tray and freeze for a couple of hours. Let your dog lick the mixing bowl clean!

These treats keep for up to 6 months in the freezer.



Preparing Your Puppy for a Trip to the Groomer

One of the most common questions a new puppy owner wants an answer to is "When do I start to get my puppy groomed and what do I need to do to get my puppy ready?"

The answer to these questions begins very early in the life of the dog. A breeder will start grooming puppies as early as one week old. When the puppy's nails are long and scratching mama's belly while nursing, a breeder will start cutting the nails. Puppies get their paws rubbed daily to familiarize them with the feeling of being handled. Nails are cut weekly.

At about five weeks old, the breeder will massage the body, feet, ears, and muzzle and open the puppy's mouth to check the bite. While standing the puppy on a table, the tail is lifted to start acclimating the puppy to touch.

Around six weeks of age, the breeder will begin using a clipper without the blade. Running the clipper on low, the breeder will gently touch the puppy from the head all the way down the body, and over the chest and legs. The breeder will do this a couple minutes a day to get the puppy accustomed to the vibration and sound of the clipper. At the same time, brushing is introduced. Brushing begins with only using the back of the brush. Let the puppy get used to the touch and feel of the bristles. This is done for about a week.



At six to seven weeks, the next step is adding the bath and blow dry. Blow drying of the puppy is done on low, taking it really slow, praising the puppy, and trying not to frighten him.

Around this time a breeder starts clipping the bottom of a puppy's paws, flags the tail, or puts the puppy in a lion cut (as some breeders do). The puppy's private area is cleaned, the face is trimmed with scissors, and the nails are again cut. This is all done slowly while praising the puppy.

It very important that the breeder massage and touch all areas of the puppy daily.

Now it's the puppy owner's turn to take over ...

When you bring your puppy home, between eight to ten weeks, you should immediately continue brushing and combing your puppy. You can start by sitting on the floor, holding the puppy on your lap, and brushing for 15 minutes a day, praising and rewarding with treats the entire time. If you blow dry your hair, do so with the puppy nearby and casually blow air on the puppy, praising and giving a treat.

The next step is getting your puppy up on a table. An anti-skid mat prevents the puppy from slipping. As you lift the puppy to the table, say "Up" and "Good Puppy" and give a treat. Once the puppy is on the table, use the command "Stand." When the puppy stands, give a treat.

Keep practicing getting your puppy up on a table and standing. Once the puppy is comfortable, start brushing, massaging, and cutting his nails.

I cannot stress the importance of massaging your puppy every day: rubbing and putting your finger through the paws, massaging the ears, sticking your finger in the ears, opening the mouth to inspect the bite, and placing your fingers in the mouth. Gently lift your puppy's tail—the more you do this, the more the puppy will get use to the touch and feel.

Cutting nails is very important. Do not wait until you take your puppy for the first grooming appointment. If you are uncomfortable cutting nails, use a Dremel and file the nails.

Now, between the efforts of the breeder and owner, the puppy will be ready for the third step: going to the groomer. Puppies need to have three sets of shots before the first appointment. You want to find a reputable groomer who will spend time with your puppy. When calling to schedule, let your groomer know that you want them to take time with your puppy. For the first appointment, the groomer may do nothing more than bathe, blow dry, and brush. This is the time that you want the puppy and the groomer to bond. In some cases, because of all the work you did at home with your puppy, the groomer may be able to do a full groom. It's all about not stressing the puppy out! If the puppy needs more time, make another appointment two weeks out, or wait until the puppy is happy to stand on the table and be groomed.

–Barbara Weisman

BECOME A PWD FOSTER HOME!

PWDCA Rescue needs YOU to join the new PWDCA Foster program! PWDCA and Regional PWD Club members can help by volunteering as a Foster Home.

You may volunteer and never be called. But when you are called you could be:

- Playing a vital role in the life or death of a PWD.
- The difference in whether a frightened PWD must spend another lonely night in a shelter.
- Helping a PWD owner out of an unfortunate situation.

Fostering a PWD rescue will be one of the most rewarding acts of kindness you could do.

Your out of pocket expenses will be reimbursed, so the only thing it will cost you is your time. PWDCA Rescue will provide you with guidance and support and make sure that you are comfortable through the entire process.

Additional details on what it means to be a Foster Home are in the Foster Home Information Guide, which can be found at www.pwdcarescue.org/foster-program. asp. If you would like to volunteer to be a potential Foster Home, please download the Foster Home Application. You can mail it or email it to rescue@pwdca.org.

If you have any questions, please contact Keystone's PWDCA Regional Rescue Representative, (Sandra Caruso, at 215-396-8557, or email slcaruso@msn.com), or anyone at PWDCA Rescue by calling 877-328-PWDS.

With a little time and a little love you can help make the rescue of a PWD possible!

-Sandra Caruso

Grooming Supplies for PWD Owners

Andis Slicker Brush

Andis Steel Comb

Nail clippers or Dremel for grinding nails

Wahl Bravura clippers

Starter Scissors Hashimoto

EVENTS

SPRING 2021 EYE CLINIC

Country Companion Animal Hospital 110 Morview Blvd, Morgantown PA 19543T March 28, 2021, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

ZOOM MEET AND GREET

March 10, 2021, 7 p.m. Register on our website: https://kpwdc.org



Indoor and Outdoor Exercise for Our PWDs

Winter always presents its own set of challenges in regard to providing adequate exercise for our dogs and puppies. Most trainers will agree that exercise, particularly for Portuguese Water Dogs, must include mental as well as physical exercise in order to truly be of benefit to the dog.

Physical exercise can be difficult during the long winter months; rain, snow, extreme cold, and decreased daylight hours all conspire to make it harder to go outside with our dogs. There are alternatives to outdoor exercise that can be done indoors. Here are a few examples:

Round Robin Recall: This is a recall game in which members of the household position themselves in different parts of the house and take turns calling the dog to them and rewarding the dog when it comes. This can include two or more people and may also include one person on one level of the house and another person on another level, provided the dog is fit enough to do stairs repeatedly.

Fetch: A simple game of chase the ball and return it can be done inside through multiple rooms or a long hallway or, again, up and down the stairs.

Fast Fetch: For dogs that do not retrieve and return with a ball or toy, you can throw the ball (old tennis balls are great for this game) and if the dog will chase it, have a supply so that the when the dog returns, you throw the next one. The dog gives chase without retrieving, but still gets as much exercise as if they did return with the ball. You just need multiple balls/toys for this game.

Food Toss: You can make this a part of mealtime or a separate game. The food is tossed in one direction and the dog runs and gets its food or treat and then the food/ treat is tossed in the opposite direction. Each time the dog "chases" the food and in doing so gets some exercise.

Owners should always check with their veterinarian before substantially increasing their dog's activity level.

In addition to physical exercise, mental stimulation is equally important for most Portuguese Water Dogs. There are many ways to help your dog/puppy learn new "tricks" or tasks utilizing household items. Some examples of those are:

Object Discrimination: Teaching your dog/puppy to learn the name of two different toys. This can be done

with a clicker or "yes" if you prefer. First you have the dog/puppy touch the first object and click and treat several times. Repeat for the second object. When you offer the two objects at the same time, keep the object you have asked the dog to touch slightly closer to the dog to help the dog choose the correct object. Eventually both objects will be the same distance from each other and the dog.

Feet on Bucket: You can use a dishpan or a very short step stool to teach the dog to put his/her front feet on the bucket. I use a food lure to help the dog learn this. Once up on the bucket, using the word "pivot," the dog can then learn to keep its front feet on the bucket and walk with its back feet around the bucket. This can then be reversed using a slightly different command for the dog to put his/ her back feet on the bucket.

Jumping: Dogs/puppies can be taught to jump through a hoola hoop. Again, a food lure will work well here for teaching this trick. Just make sure that puppies are never asked to jump anything higher than their forearm until their growth plates are closed (approximately 1-1/2 years to be on the safe side).

Find It: Using a muffin tin, you put treats in one or two of the muffin cups and cover all of the muffin cups with old tennis balls. The dog is encouraged to find the treats and use its nose to do so.

Games that employ the dog's sense of smell are thought to be very tiring for the dog. Most dogs really seem to enjoy the nose games. One of our members has done a few Nosework videos which will appear on our website as an introduction and, if members are interested, we will be able to have a webinar or Zoom seminar with our member, Joan Klingler, about Nosework, which will include a question-and-answer segment.

In addition, both basic obedience and more advanced obedience and agility classes are ideal for Portuguese Water Dogs and we have included a list of local clubs which offer one or both:

Wilmington Kennel Club 2035 Sunset Lake Road #9 Newark, DE 19702 302-368-6448

continued on page 8



Thinking About Dipping Your Paws in the Water?

Yes, spring is just around the corner and I'll bet you'd like to start water training with your PWD! Maybe you have a new puppy or an older dog looking for more exercise and a new challenge? The PWDCA has an entire water trial program based on some of the tasks that our dogs' ancestors performed while working on fishing boats in Portugal.

The exercises are fairly basic for the Junior Water Certificate, the first entry level of trialing. There are four exercises, and we will describe them here.

- 1. Dummy Retrieve from Shore—Handler and dog stand on shore, article to be retrieved is thrown approximately 25 feet out in water, on command dog is sent and brings article back to handler *Training requirements for the Dummy Retrieve:*
 - Off-leash dog needs to remain beside the handler while the article is tossed into the water.
 - Dog responds to command to enter water and pick up the article, then bring it back to shore.
 - Dog needs to understand that the article must be brought either close enough for the handler to pick it up by taking a step or put in the handler's hand.
- Board and Boat Ride with Handler—Dog and handler move together to platform on boat, both are seated, and dog remains under control while boat is in motion for a brief time.

Training requirements for Board and Boat Ride with Handler:

- Dog must walk off-leash with the handler from the designated area in the ring to the back of the boat.
- Dog must jump onto boat platform on command of the handler. Physical assistance or guiding is not allowed.
- Dog needs to understand how to sit calmly, stand or lie down while the boat moves through the water.
- **3. Recall to Boat**—Dog remains on shore, may be held by steward, while handler is rowed out 60 feet from shore. On judge's signal the dog is called to boat and boarded on the platform.

Training requirements for Recall to Boat:

- Dog must either know how to stay independently on shore on command of handler OR may be restrained by the collar/harness by a trial volunteer.
- On command from the handler, the dog must enter the water and swim approximately 60 feet to the back of the boat.
- Handler will board dog onto boat platform after completion of the recall.
- 4. Timed Swim with Handler—Dog and handler walk into the water until the dog is at swimming depth. Handler may walk or swim. Dog must remain swimming and within approximately 6 feet of the handler for 1 minute then the team returns to shore together.

Training requirements for Timed Swim with Handler:

- Dog must walk off-leash with handler, enter the water with the handler, and the team then proceeds to swimming depth.
- Dog must swim continuously for 1 minute while remaining with the handler without climbing on or otherwise interfering with handler.
- Dog must leave the water in close proximity to the handler and remain under handler's verbal control until past the 3-foot line.

For a thorough and fun overview of water work, you can watch a complete series videos explaining the exercises required for each level on our website: **www. kpwdc.org** under the members tab and resources.

Now is a great time to begin practicing many of these skills (on land) with your dog. Then, when our club's open water practice days begin the in May at Codorus State Park, you and your dog will be ready to put those skills into practice in the water. In addition, the DelMarVa PWDC will be host a Water Camp on Saturday, June 5 and Sunday June 6 at Camp Pecometh, Centreville MD. Finally, don't forget to mark your calendar for our annual Water Trial on Saturday, August 21 and Sunday, August 22 at Codorus State Park in Hanover, PA.

—Bob Caruso





GCHB CH NorthStar's Set Fire To The Rain CGC TKN DCAT RN, **CYRUS** earned his Rally Novice title via the AKC Rally virtual program in January 2021. And, he didn't let the pandemic get in the way of fatherhood, having sired a litter that went to their homes in late 2020. Cyrus is owned and loved by John and Susan Soviero and bred by Carolyn K. Iraggi.

KERMIT (Bantry's Dapper Di Nozzo, CGC, CDX, CWDX), handled by Mary Ann McGunigle, earned his AKC Companion Dog Excellent (CDX) title at the Talbot Kennel Club obedience trial on January 16, 2021 with a score of 195 and a second place finish. Thanks to judge Frank Cardillino and all the club members who worked to make this trial possible at a difficult time. Kermit is technically owned by Mary Ann and Brian McGunigle and Linda J. Motta, although it is unlikely that he would agree that he is "owned" by anyone. He was bred by Linda.

TJ, despite Covid, finally earned his Advanced Buried title so he now has the overall AKC Advanced Scent title! He also earned his Excellent Container AKC scent title. Pretty good for 13-1/2 years old! TJ is loved and owned by Joan Klingler.

PERRY has been busy with agility competitions this past fall and winter. He has gotten his OA, OF, OAJ, AXJ, and XF. He also sired his second litter of puppies. Kayla gave birth on 12/28/2020 to 7 girls and 2 boys. One of them, little Zora, has just joined our household. They are loved by Diana Schaub and Lauren Weiner.

TAWNY, Hunter Any Port in a Storm, earned his STAR Puppy Certificate at 4 months of age and CGC title at just shy of 7 months. Next stop for him is the Breed ring! Nancy Kurkjian, Williamsburg VA.

ROXIE—Amigo's Brown Velvet CD RAE AX MXJ AXP MJP NF NFP JWD ThD CGC (2/1/06 – 5/1/20) The Princess

JETER—AKC/UKC CH Hunter's Mr. November CD RE AXP OJP NFP WWD TDI CGC GROM NW1 (12/9/09 -6/25/19) The best working partner one could ever ask for!

JAZZ—Amigo's Mars MXB MJB XF CGC, terribly missed and running agility at the bridge (11/22/02 - 4/9/09)

JOSIE—CH Hytide-Paragon Two For The Show. Our newest AKC Champion. Owned and loved by Kelly and Rick Jones. Co-owned by Dave Wichterman. Bred by Carol and Dave Wichterman and Sarah Wooten.



Indoor and Outdoor Exercise

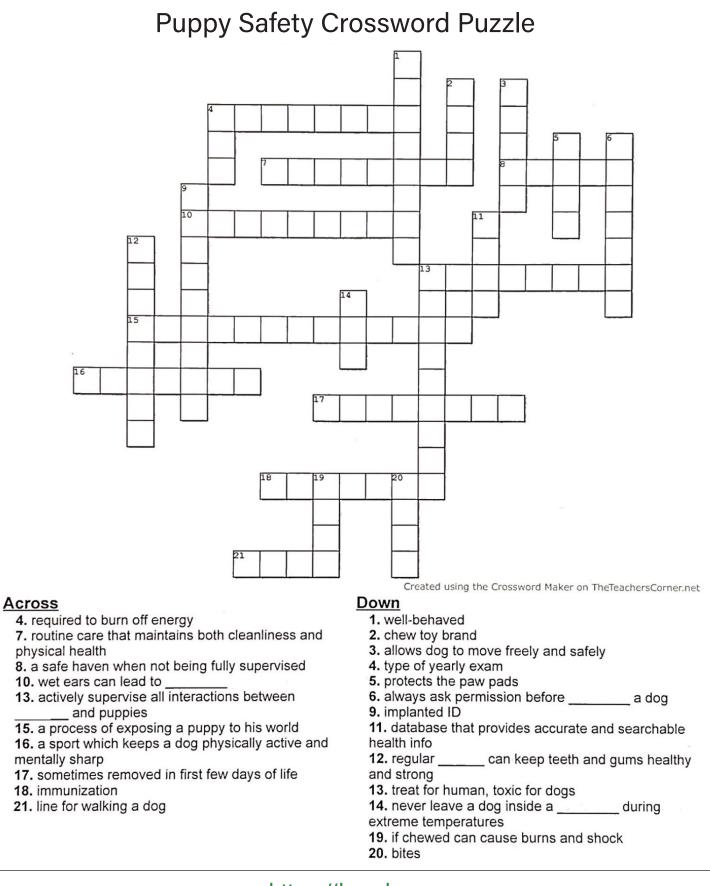
continued from page 6

Academy of Dog Training and Agility 89 Albe Drive Newark, DE 19702 302-588-4636 Swimming instruction also available here Suburban Dog Training Club 1101 E. Willow Grove Avenue Wyndmoor, PA 19038 610-941-6394

Philadelphia Dog Training Club 401 S. Bryn Mawr Avenue Bryn Mawr, PA 19010 610-527-2861 Flexible Flyers Agility Club 1841 Horseshoe Pike Honey Brook, PA 19344 610-692-5518

Tailblazers Agility Club P.O. Box 560 Newtown Square, PA 19073 610-356-3211 (Susan Parrish)

—Judy Murray



https://kpwdc.org

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

IN MEMORIAM



DICKENS, MBISS CH Ebb Tide's Poetry In Motion, AOE, AOM, CGC, our first PWD, met all the "criteria" to be a purebred Portuguese Water Dog. Dickens crossed the Rainbow Bridge in October 2019. He will be loved and missed forever. Dave and Carol Wichterman.

tech corner

Now that you all have had a chance to log in to the www. KPWDC.org website, let's start looking at some of the features and how they can be useful. Across the top of

the website are nine "tabs": Home, Events, Join Us, Newsletter, Merchandise, Contact, Forum, Members and Donations. Clicking on the tab brings you to that "page" of the website, where you can get expanded information on each topic. Take a minute to click on each tab to explore each page.

An example of expanded information is found in "events." Although *some* events are listed on the home page, *all* are listed on the events page. This has to do with content restrictions on the home page—only the most recent upcoming events are listed. You may also notice additional events when you log in, as some events are members only.

The "Newsletter" tab brings you to previous copies of the newsletter. Remember you can always print out a copy of the newsletter, if you prefer a hard copy.

The "Members" tab is only available to Keystone members, it is not viewable by the public. You *must*

COMING SOON TO THE WEBSITE!

Members' Resources Nosework Video



be logged in to see its content. Under this tab you will find board meeting minutes, annual meeting minutes, a members' directory and resources.

> Resources will be added periodically, such as training exercises or any additional resources of value to members.

> The members' directory is the place you can connect to other club members. Our ability to connect to other members has been very limited due to Covid. For example, let's

say you are thinking of trying water work this year but you want more information. Click on Members>Directory. An advance search brings up all the questions you answered when you completed your membership application. If you advance search "water work" it will bring up all members who are interested in water work. That member can be sent a message or an email. Advance search can also allow you to search for members who live in the same town, or towns nearby. Take a minute to explore this.

I understand that there are some members of the club who are not comfortable with technology, but please know you cannot break the website while playing around. Any ability to alter the site is only possible by administrators with access, so click away!

As always I look forward to any questions you may have.

—Lisa Mullikin Imulliki@gmail.com