

RSPWDC

Newsletter of the Rio Salgado Portuguese Water Dog Club

March 2020

newsletter editor: Lauren McDermott, lmcdermott@cox.net

The next meeting of the RSPWDC will be

A Walk in the Park!

March 28, 2020 8:00 - 11:00am

Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch
2557 E Guadalupe Rd, Gilbert, AZ 85234

We have a pavilion reserved from 8:00 - 11:00am. The park opens at dawn and you are welcome to come early and stay late. Early morning is the best time to enjoy a walk around the park with our PWDs before it gets too warm. We will meet at the pavilion for a club meeting at 10:00am.

Bring a maximum 6' leash, binoculars, water bottle for yourself and a water dish for your PWD. PWDs can rest in crates or on leash while we meet. Ice cold water and hot coffee will be provided. Bring a refillable water bottle and your own coffee cup. Bring snack items to share if you wish.

Meeting Agenda

includes discussion & planning for:

- Future Supported Entries
- AKC Sanctioning of the RSPWDC
- Club Bylaws
- Water Trial Budget for 2020
- Water Training in AZ
- Club activities in Northern AZ
- Club activities in Southern AZ
- Other New Business

There will be club T-shirts available at the meeting. Support your club and look good doing it!

From the Riparian Preserve Website (where you can download a map):

<https://www.gilbertaz.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/riparian-preserve-at-water-ranch>

Over 4.5 miles of trails weave through the park, and there are interpretive education panels on wildlife and vegetation throughout. Viewing blinds have been established at various locations near the edge of several ponds to further enhance the visitor's experience. A floating boardwalk crossing the northern end of the lake allows visitors a close up view of the fish and ducks on the water. Additional educational areas include an ethnobotanical garden, a paleontology dig site, gardens for pollinators including a hummingbird garden and butterfly garden, plus a state-of-the-art observatory and hilltop outdoor classroom. The preserve also includes restroom facilities.

Dogs are Welcome! Keep dogs on a maximum of a 6 foot leash at all times to ensure dogs cannot approach wildlife, for the safety of all.



2020 RSPWDC Board of Directors

President - Lauren McDermott
Vice President - Sherri Horstman
Recording Secretary - Gail Gomez
Corresponding Secretary - Michele Murphy
Treasurer - Lynn Nelson
Director - Jim Beach
Director - Mike Williams

Upcoming Club Events

March 28 - RSPWDC Meeting, starting at 10:00am
plus- PWD Walk in the Park, 8:00 - 11:00am
Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch, 2557 E Guadalupe Rd, Gilbert

May 9 - PWD Pool Party and RSPWDC Meeting, Scottsdale

August 11 - RSPWDC Meeting, TBD

October 17 - FESTA and RSPWDC Meeting, Gilbert

October 31 and November 1 - PWDCA Water Trials, (pending PWDCA approval) Canyon Lake

December 5 - Holiday Party, RSPWDC Meeting and Celebration of the Golden Ones, Phoenix

PWD water training near Phoenix

RSPWDC members have a long history of water work training in Arizona, beginning when several members participated at the first PWDCA National Specialty water trial in 1994 in California. The Rio Salgado PWD Club has hosted PWDCA sanctioned water trials since 2003 at the Canyon Lake Marina Campground beach.

For over 20 years we have looked for suitable sites to train and hold water trials in Arizona. Most open water in Arizona is surrounded by county, state or federal land. Nearly all of the open water in Arizona has fluctuating water levels making it impossible to know if there will be a beach, rocks, or cliffs at the water's edge in advance.

Canyon Lake located east of Phoenix is the only reservoir lake near Phoenix that maintains a consistent water level. We have been fortunate to be able to hold our water trials on this lake. We are indebted to both the Canyon Lake Marina Campground business and all of the individual RV campers who rent RV spaces at our trials, making our trials possible.

For training, it is common for a few people to meet at a lake to train. The west side of Lake Pleasant, entering the park off of North Castle Hot Springs Road, is a popular destination. Depending on the water level, suitable training areas can often be found after entering the Main entrance. Additionally, there are often suitable training areas near the Castle Hot Springs Boat Ramp by entering the North entrance. There is a fee to enter the Lake Pleasant park. Details about the park can be found here: <https://www.maricopacountyparks.net/lake-pleasant-regional-park-lp/>

The Tonto National Forest boat launch areas at Canyon Lake are also popular spots to get in the water with PWDs. One good training area is between the Acacia Picnic Site and the Palo Verde Boat Launch. Another training area can be found at the Laguna Boat Launch. Parking at these sites requires a Tonto Pass that must be purchased at a business in town.

Information can be found here:

<https://www.fs.usda.gov/recarea/tonto/recreation/wateractivities/recarea/?recid=35545&actid=78>

Canyon Lake Marina Campground campers can swim their PWDs at the campground beach as long as they follow the rules of the campgrounds. These include keeping all dogs on a leash when not on a boat or in the water working, cleaning up after the dogs, and being good neighbors to the other guests at the campgrounds. Day entries are not permitted so only campers can use the beach. Campers must reserve two nights on the weekends and three nights on holidays. Information can be found here: <https://www.canyonlakemarina.com/campground/index.htm>

Because of the unique situations described, we have several challenges when attempting to schedule club water events including water practice. The Canyon Lake Marina beach is only available to campers so a majority of the participants must reserve camping spaces in order for us to plan an event there. Although the RSPWDC has tried to get permission to host events at other lakes, none of the parties in charge have ever approved our applications to hold dog specific events at these lakes.

To help the dog community in Arizona we hope that everyone who takes their dogs to a lake is extra careful to follow all the rules and be a good citizen. Clean up after your dog, and keep your dog on a 6 foot or shorter leash at all times. Remember that not all people like dogs and some may be afraid of yours even if she is super friendly. Never leave your dog unattended where he may be a nuisance or worse, be in danger. If you know of places where the club might be able to host water events, please bring them to the attention of the RSPWDC Water Trial Host Committee so we can check it out.

Happy training!

Lauren McDermott, Chair
RSPWDC Water Trial Host Committee



Canyon Lake Marina Campground Beach



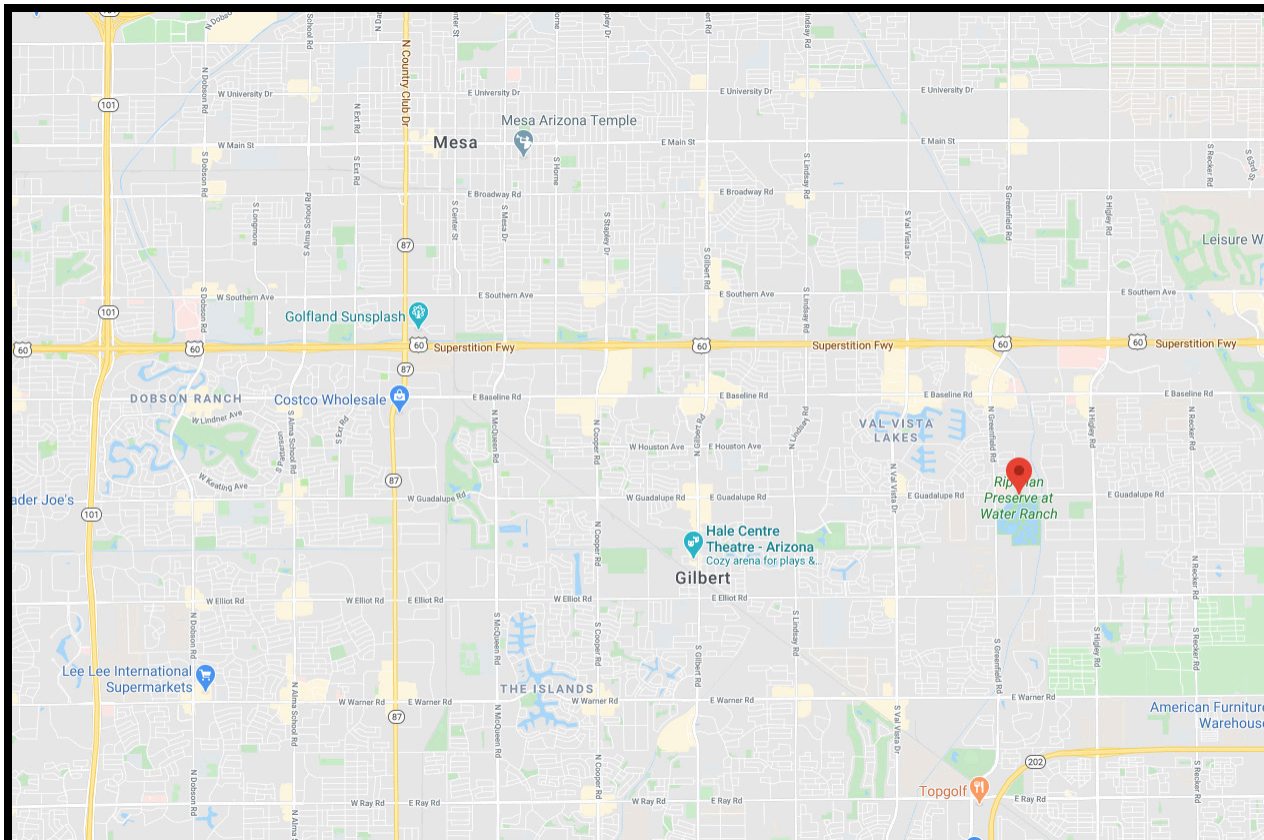
Canyon Lake near Palo Verde Boat Launch



Lake Pleasant near Castle Hot Springs Boat Ramp



Canyon Lake Marina Campground Beach



The March 28 "Walk in the Park" is at the Riparian Preserve at Water Ranch in Gilbert, AZ - not far from the Superstition Freeway (60) to the North and the Santan Freeway (202) to the South.

This event is offered by the Verde Valley Dog Agility Club



VVDAC Presents



Doggie Fun Day
Saturday, March 14th
9:00-1:00

Training Field
1502 Franquero Lane
Cottonwood

We will be offering the following events:
Agility, Dog Massage, Lure Coursing, Nose Work,
Obedience, Rally, Tracking, Treibball.

For a fee of \$20, you and your dog can participate
and experience all of the events! Give your dog the
opportunity to try something new. They might like
it!

Any questions, please contact Jan Tomlinson at
jtomlinsonx@mac.com

Hope to see you for a fun day with your dog.