

## A Note From Lynn Nelson, 2024 SSE Chairperson

The RSPWDC 2024 Sweepstakes and Supported Entry event was yet again a success! With 25 entries, and 11 Sweepstakes entries, we topped the charts for the 12th year in a row with the highest number of entries of all shows in the state of Arizona--an average of 24 entries a year! Can you believe we had 42 entries in 2012!?!?! Now that we are a licensed AKC club, I can't wait to see what a specialty will bring in! This year's entries were from six states: Arizona, California, Colorado, Oklahoma, Utah, and Washington.

We had a few weather challenges at the beginning of the HODC event, but thanks to our location, our tenting and setups fared well with only one pop-up loss (sorry Gail...). The Heart of the Desert Classic committee members did an outstanding job during the storm to save as many setups/popups and vendor booths as possible. Our thanks go out to everyone who risked injury to themselves to make sure attendees' and vendor's belongings were safe.

First, I'd like to thank our show committee members, Sherri Horstman (trophies), Nan Fa (raffle baskets), and Gail Gomez for their hard work to put on a great event for not only RSPWDC members but for the entire PWD community. Thank you also to Michael Fa, Lauren McDermott, and Michele Murphy for all the help they gave during set up, monitoring the tent, selling raffle tickets, and tear down. If I've forgotten anyone, I'm truly sorry, and I do thank and appreciate everyone for the help they gave!

Second, thank you to our members, and the companies that donated product toward, all the great baskets for our raffles!

Third, WOW! Members really came out in force with trophy sponsorships and donations!  
THANK YOU!

Fourth, many thanks to Susan Myrick for donating her knowledge, time, and expense to the RSPWDC to judge our Sweepstakes. Susan indicated she had a great time judging and was extremely impressed with all the entries and was honored to judge for us. She also thoroughly enjoyed catching up with members she hasn't seen since her move to Texas. We also thank Mr. Jon R Cole for judging breed as we supported the entry with awards and our ring stewards for without their knowledge things would not run so smoothly!

Finally, I give thanks to the Sahuaro State Kennel Club for hosting our event for the past eight years as well as the Heart of the Desert Classic show committee, the Working Dog Club of Arizona, and the Lost Dutchman Kennel Club for providing 5 days/5 opportunities to the PWD community to show, earn points, and gain new titles! It has been such a pleasure working with everyone involved and I look forward to continuing our relationship in the future. By the way, in 2025 the Working Dog Club of Arizona will have back-to-back shows on Thursday--with RSPWDC's planned specialty, there will now be 7 opportunities for PWD entrants in one weekend to earn those points, and/or gain those new titles!