



ited, obedient, loyal, self-willed, alert guard dog with a robust, medium build. An exceptional swimmer and diver, the PWD aided his master by retrieving broken nets, herding fish, and carrying messages between boats and shore.

With the advent of fishing technology such as radios and radar, the dogs faced the prospect of extinction in the 1960s. Herbert and Deyanne Miller, of

Connecticut, first imported the PWD to the United States from Portugal in 1968. In 1971, they had the first litter of Portuguese stock born in the United States.

The breed's most famous members are the magnificent Leao (1931–1942), founding sire of the modern breed, and the charming ambassador multiple Best in Show-winning Ch. Charlie de Alvalade, imported from Portugal to the United States by Deyanne Miller in 1981.

The PWDCA has a forward-thinking approach to breed-health issues. With studies and research, some diseases have been conquered, but not all. As we proceed, the PWDCA continues to preserve and protect the PWD. —*Carole Prangley-McIvor, Portuguese Water Dog Club of America*



Multiple Best in Show-winning Portuguese Water Dog Ch. Charlie de Alvalade; Pulik Ch. Pulikountry's Apro, owner-handled by Lois Wolff McManus (White), BIS at Catonsville, Maryland, in 1971; Influential Pyrenean Shepherds (l-r) Reglisse de l'Estaubé, Sarrat de l'Estaubé, and Tarquin le Superbe.

## Portuguese Water Dogs

**\* Recognized 1983 \***

Known for centuries along Portugal's coast, the Portuguese Water Dog is a multifaceted bundle of energy, a seafaring breed prized by fishermen as a spir-

## Pugs

**\* Recognized 1885 \***

History has a way of repeating itself. The Pug's popularity today shows a historical trend that has been well documented throughout the breed's rich history.

The Pug is one of the oldest breeds on record and gets its origin from the Chinese *lo-sze*, or "foo dog." Bred as early as 400 B.C., the Pug was highly regarded as a lapdog for Chinese rulers. Monks bitten by the "Pug bug" were said to have smuggled this breed out of China and into Tibet. From Tibet the breed is thought to have been introduced into other countries, often given as gifts to the ruling families. The breed's introduction into Russia and Japan may have occurred this way.

In the late 16th century and throughout the 17th, traders from the Dutch East Indies Trading Company fell in love

with the Pug. Traders and merchants imported Pugs from China into Europe. Once again the nobles fell in love with this little lapdog, and the popularity of the Pug breed began to rise in Europe. It is well known that the Pug was the official dog of the House of Orange. Pugs also began to appear with the nobles in France, Spain, and Germany. —*Brenda Belmonte, Pug Dog Club of America*

## Pulik

**\* Recognized 1936 \***

The Puli has been herding sheep on the plains of Hungary for centuries and is valued for his intelligence and working ability. The Puli is held in such high esteem by the Hungarian shepherds that they will tell you, "It's not a dog, it's a Puli!"

The first Pulik were imported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 1935 as part of a plan to create a "super herder" that could control livestock without being unnecessarily rough. When the United States entered World War II the experiment was abandoned, and the Pulik passed into the hands of several breeders who were interested in establishing the breed in America.

Most of those early Pulik had brushed-out coats, but by the 1970s cords were becoming popular. The brushed coat evolved from the largely unscissored look of the early dogs to a more sculpted style. The first corded dogs to be shown were not trimmed either, and handlers soon realized that the untrimmed coat distorted the Puli's required squareness and started to experiment with their scissors, leading to the look that is familiar today.

Brushed or corded, either is allowed in U.S. show rings. —*Sherry Gibson, Puli Club of America*

## Pyrenean Shepherds

**\* Recognized 2009 \***

For centuries of recorded history, these sure-footed, speedy little herding dogs have escorted flocks of sheep through high mountain passes in search of fresh pastures, their bright eyes peering through shaggy locks for stragglers, ears perked to locate the tinkle of sheep bells.

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