

Winter 2019

23

# Podengo Press

The Quarterly Newsletter for the first and only MedioGrand Club in the United States...

## American Portuguese Podengo MedioGrande Club

*Lochbay Just One  
More Hit CM  
(aka Addict) surveys  
the yard at an  
AirBnB in  
Indianapolis.*

*Photo by  
Veronica Miller*



## Have Podengos....Will Travel

*Veronica Miller*  
[podengoclub@gmail.com](mailto:podengoclub@gmail.com)

Many of us in the dog community travel with our pets. Between performance events, dog shows, vacations, and even trips to visit grandma, our dogs are most often on the road with us. Typically, dog owners seek out pet-friendly hotels, or spend many uncomfortable nights on Nana's air mattress – but there is another way! Our Flyball club travels together to out of state tournaments at least once a year. We have found that dog friendly Airbnbs are available just about anywhere, and have a lot to offer us, and our dogs. When you give up room service, you gain fenced yards, full kitchens, and, for us, the ability to bond with friends while saving money.

Setting up an account on Airbnb is a simple process. This link will give you a discount off your first trip. <https://www.airbnb.com/c/vmiller90?currency=USD>. Once you set up your profile, you can search for a rental easily. Simply put in the location you are looking for, the dates traveling, and clarify if you are ok with sharing a space, or if you only want to rent entire homes. Since I travel with my dogs, I only rent entire homes, as it tends to make things easier, but some like to get to know new people in a shared home. Always make sure to check the box under "house rules" for "pets allowed" properties. (cont. page 2)

Cont. from page 1 –

Make sure you are comfortable with the house rules before booking. Those are clearly listed within each ad. No dogs on furniture is common, but I have also noted some properties not allowing dogs to potty in the yard as well. A yard is one of the major reasons we book through Airbnb, so that clearly would not be a property for us. Instructions for check-in and check-out will be on the site as well. Some properties ask that you strip beds before departing, others ask that you take out the garbage, some don't ask for anything to be done at check-out. Still, I make sure to always leave the home as clean as when I arrived. Wash the dishes, double check the yard for accidental land mines, gathering up all trash, and double checking that I have all of my things loaded up before heading out.

In the beginning this process seemed very complicated, but I have come to love house rentals when traveling with my dogs. They have space to play, I can cook real food, and when friends share the space it becomes like a real home. I encourage you to step out of the hotel and try it!

## Top 10 ways to be a good AirBnB guest -



*Breakin All The Rulz JC FDCH  
DJ (aka Vandal) loves the  
AirBnB life!*

*Photo by Veronica Miller*

1. Be upfront with homeowners about your pets. Remember, communication and any additional deposits should always be done through the Airbnb website.
2. Note house rules, and ensure you follow them, especially regarding your dog's stay
3. When possible keep dogs off furniture or bring linens to cover it.
4. Bring crates for your dogs, and coverings to place under them to protect floors.
5. Remember plenty of poo bags. Clean up after your dog and dispose of the bags properly. Walk the yard just before leaving to make sure you have gotten it all up.
6. Check fenced yards upon arrival to make sure they are secure.
7. Do not allow excessive barking.
8. Do not leave dogs loose in the home unattended. Crate them or bring them along.
9. Clean up any loose dog hair, paw prints, etc. before departing, and leave the house as you found it.
10. Have fun and enjoy your home away from home!

# Training a Podengo isn't easy

Charlene Wiglesworth

I have trained a multitude of breeds in agility, obedience and tracking and have long enjoyed working with hounds, particularly the less well known breeds. I had never heard of podengos before Mary Dixon wrote something about them in email group post. She was raising awareness for the breed and looking for potential performance homes. I was intrigued with the potential that she described. Conveniently, Mary was located within a two hour drive, so I got to meet her dogs and she loaned me one to see how we got along. I thought the breed was loads of fun was but put off by the barking. So the next litter that Mary raised she brought them up to discourage nuisance barking. She did a great job at it and so I brought "Jolena De Retrouvaille WM" home in the late summer of 2007. We called her Jolena, or Jo for short.

Jo was fun puppy to train and quickly learned tricks and behaviors that would be beneficial in agility in the future. I saw a lot of silliness, which amused me to no end.

We also started tracking right away and she certified well before she was six months old. She was not eligible to show in AKC events at the time though, so we had to wait until 2008 to show (FSS breeds became eligible January 2008). We found a test in February 2008 in KY and got in. While she had been a terrific tracker when very young, at the age of 9 months and about to come into season, she was not such a focused worker any longer. At the TD test she started great and worked well for a bit more than half the track then lost focus and bounced around a lot, acting like an adolescent sighthound. I got her back to work and she did well for another 50 yards or so, then lost her little brain again. This happened multiple times, but we were able to recover each time and somehow found the glove at the end, thus earning her AKC Tracking Dog title- a first for the breed! No way was I going to continue with advanced tracking with the focus issue, so we put the tracking harness away to wait for her to mature.

We worked at rally obedience at the same time and she did a fine job, earning her Rally Novice (RN) easily. She had moments of brilliance but overall I was glad to have a leash attached to her! Alas, we had to take the leash off in Rally Advanced. This was right at 12 months of age, and she was still a bit goofy.

Her RA was also done in the first three tries, but the scores were never great, as she was silly thing and was easily distracted.

I had thought that I had socialized her well and that she liked people but one day she escaped my yard and got into the neighbor's yard. That's when I learned that she was very spooky outside my presence. It seems that I was the only one that could catch her. Alas, we did not have time to work that issue out, as it was not long after that before she dug a hole under the fence and escaped the yard- this time into complete freedom instead of just into another yard. The spookiness was her downfall- she ran and was killed by a car, just under 13 months of age.

I did not get another medio, but rather decided to work with pequenos, which are delightful in their own ways. And my yard is very difficult to dig out of now.



*Jo showing great focus at a Rally trial.*



## Certificate of Merit Spotlight

Congratulations to all of those that have completed their Certificate of Merit. The club has more than 10 now, which is another step before full recognition.

The club now has beautiful medals available for these special dogs.

If you would like to receive a CM medal from the club, and do not already have one, please send your dog's information to Diana McCarty ([dmcarty100@gmail.com](mailto:dmcarty100@gmail.com)). Include a photo (show or candid), registered name, call name, height/weight, and a fun fact about your dog. We will highlight our CM achievers in future newsletters.



*Fadista do Vale do Fermido CM (aka Fadista) shows off his new medal, in celebrating his CM, completed this past fall.*

# 205

What's in a number? Well if you are a MISC breed trying to advance – it's all about the numbers.

You need to have a certain number of members (check)

A certain number of CM's (check)

You need to have done judges education (Check)

You need to have a club (Check)

You need to vote you want AKC recognition (Check)

You need to have put on 2 Open Shows (Check 26)

You need to have dogs and members all over the country (Check).

You need to have 300 dogs – OOPS.

~~205 is where we are at~~ is that all that is around that is registrable – nope there are more – but we need them registered. If you imported a dog we need them registered, if you had a litter we need them registered. If you know someone in Portugal that send over a dog – we need to find them and register them. If you are not doing that – you are holding the breed back. There is no nice way to say it. We have EVERYTHING WE NEED EXCEPT ####'S

What can you do: Register if you have a Podengo not registered. We can help if you don't know what forms to use.

Help us with visibility and to find homes – do you know someone who would be a good home for a Podengo? Are you ready for another one? When people ask you about your dogs – do you had them a club card? Do you have a club card? It will take all of us to do this. We have the potential to have 3 more litters this year BUT without solid commitment for homes – no one can breed. Are you taking your dog to a dog show? Even if you are the only one - being there is important so folks can meet the breed.

I have been at this a long long time – seems like forever but we are now stalled at numbers and we need to kick start so WHAT CAN YOU DO right now to help this breed that we all adore – move forward.

~ Diana McCarty

## Newsletter Update

My dogs are amazing, and I love showing them off. I have a feeling your dogs are pretty amazing as well. I would love to include stories about their achievements, and adventures. Have you taken your Podengo on a fun trip, or are you training in a new sport? Tell us all about it – and send photos! Stories and photos can be sent to Veronica Miller at [podengoclub@gmail.com](mailto:podengoclub@gmail.com). Make sure you have photographer permission for us to use your photos in the newsletter. If I don't hear from our members, you will receive a newsletter all about my dogs. This would be very fun, but I know we have Podengos involved in all sorts of fun, all over the USA. Get your stories in today!

Club Website -

<http://www.podengo-mediogrande.com/>

Newsletter –

[podengoclub@gmail.com](mailto:podengoclub@gmail.com)

Club President –

Diana McCarty