

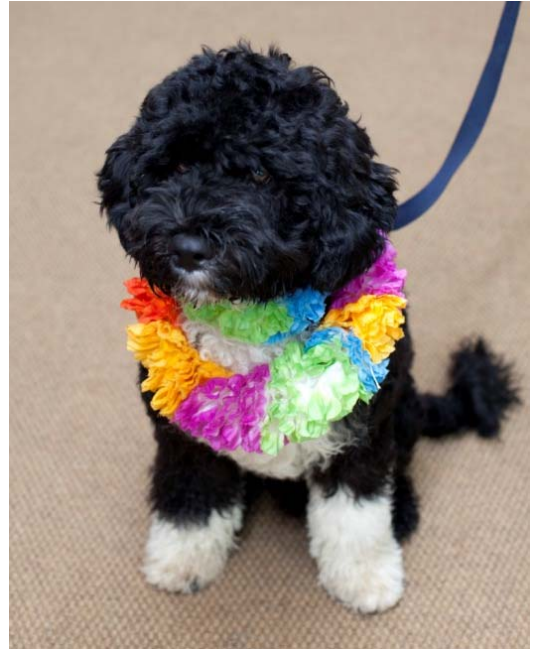
## Bo - America's Best Friend

A warm, comfortable, inviting home, a safe yard to run and romp in, and a family to love; every dog seeks this in their new home and new family. What better home, what better family to offer all this and more than the First Family?

"Bo", aka, Bo Diddly, the new First Dog, was formally presented to the Obama family by Senator Ted Kennedy, a long time owner of Portuguese Water Dogs, on Tuesday, April 14th, 2009. He was welcomed by the family, the country and the world.

The name Bo was chosen by the Obama daughters, Malia and Sasha in honor of First Lady Michelle Obama's father, who was nicknamed Diddley. Bo is a rehomed dog, given a second chance at a family, and the hearts, minds and eyes of the world are there to watch him, to ensure he gets the best care and love a new family member could ask for.

Although Bo may garner many headlines, he is not the first dog to romp on the White House lawn. There is a long standing tradition of Presidential Dogs. In fact, after intermittent dog ownership in the 18th and 19th centuries, almost every president of the 20th and 21st centuries has had at least one representative of man's best friend by his side.



### Did you know:

Millard Fillmore was one of the founding members of the Buffalo chapter of the ASPCA.

### See White House Pets

[Click here](#) to go to the White House website to see the Presidential Pets

Of all the First Dogs, the most popular were the hounds. There were several dozens of hounds recorded by historians in the Presidential households, due in part to their affinity for hunting and horsemanship in the early years of our history. Terriers, Spaniels and Shepherds come in next in popularity in the White House, but there continues to be as big a variety of Presidential dogs as there are Presidential families.

We wish a warm welcome to Bo, an ambassador to rehomed dogs everywhere, and a role model for families who until now, may have thought that allergies prevented them from being able to share their lives with America's Best Friend.

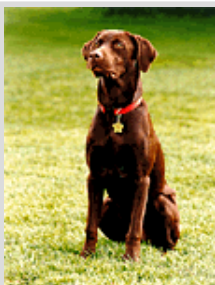
### Famous First Dogs



**Fala**, Scottish Terrier  
FDR  
1933-1945



**Millie**, Springer Spaniel  
George Bush  
1989-1993



**Buddy**, Chocolate Lab - Bill Clinton, 1993-2001



**Barney**, Scottish Terrier  
George W. Bush  
2001-2008

For more information, please review the related links below

- **Portuguese Water Dog Information**  
<http://www.dog.com/dog-breeds/portuguese-water-dog/>.
- **Portuguese Water Dog Video**  
[http://www.dogvideolibrary.com/01/07\\_portuguese-water-dog.php](http://www.dogvideolibrary.com/01/07_portuguese-water-dog.php)
- **Dog Breed Information**  
<http://www.dog.com/Breeds/Default.aspx>
- **Group - Working Dog Information**  
<http://www.dog.com/Breeds/Default.aspx>
- **Community Discussion - Bo, the First Dog**  
<http://community.dog.com/forums/t/93687.aspx>