



Northwest Flat-Coated Retriever Club

FLAT -COAT TIMES

SPRING 2015

Meet Me in St. Louis, April 2015

The FCRSA National Specialty in St. Louis provided west coast flat-coat owners and their dogs a chance to strut their stuff, play, laugh, and rejoice in our wonderful breed and wonderful friends. With thirty dogs in our set up, everybody pitched in to walk dogs, bathe dogs, and groom dogs. Thunderstorms and tornado warnings added to the excitement.

Important Dates:

Jun 13 Fun Day

Aug 1-2 Flat-coat Daze

**Aug 13 Rainier Sporting
Dog Supported Entry at
Enumclaw**

Inside this issue:

President's Message	2
FCRSA Specialty	3-5
Hunting?	6
Supported Entry	6-7
Health Matters:	8-9
Canine Flu	
Our Dogs	10-13
FCRSA Field Trial	14
A Special Note to New Members	15
Fun Day	16-17
Litter Announcement	18
Meet Out Board Member	19-20
About Us/Contact	18



Above, Kathy Adams' "Talle" displays some style as she participates in Fetch Fever, her first field event.

To the left, "Flo" shows off her alternative diving form during the dock diving event.

Talle' is Blacklace Star Over Gondolin

Flo is GCH Rainshadow's Rollin on the River BN CD TD JH WC RN

President's Message

Heather was unable to submit a President's Message for this issue, due to a recent family loss. We send Heather our best wishes and condolences.

"Please let me be the kind of person my dog thinks I am."



Two of Heather's best friends: above, Am/Int'l. CH Flashback's Paint it Black CD RA JH NAJ WC CGC "Mick" and to the right, CH Flashback Crazy for Loving You CD RN CGC "Patsy"



National Specialty



Enjoying the Awards Banquet: Cathy and Ken Johnson, Dinah and Rick Baggenstos, David Kerschner, Lura Dunn, Joyce Brackney, Barb Fowler, and Jo Chinn. The rest of our group, Marina Korzh, David Wells, Margo Ormiston, and Tracy Tennison were seated nearby.

To the left: Lura and Dalton enjoy a treat while waiting their turn with the judge during Veteran Sweeps. Dalton is CH Shasta's Western Outlaw.

Highlight of the week: Talle' got excited about dock diving and didn't want to wait for her turn. She gave Kathy a good yank, causing a nice face plant on the astroturf.



National Specialty, cont'd.



Possible captions: “We could have laughed all night!” or “We laughed ourselves silly?” Kathy Adams and Cathy Johnson enjoy each other’s company!



Joyce Brackney looked calm and relaxed as her “Stoney” won the Veteran Dog Age 9-11 class. In her comments at the Awards Banquet, the judge singled out Stoney as a exemplary veteran dog. Stoney is GCH MACH Shasta Brownstone CD JH.

Purina Farms’ beautiful, dog friendly grounds pleased the dogs, except Talle’, who tried to chase away the Easter bunny. Calmed down, she posed with her friends for the picture below. Kathy Adams, Jo Chinn, Lura Dunn joined the dogs in the photo.

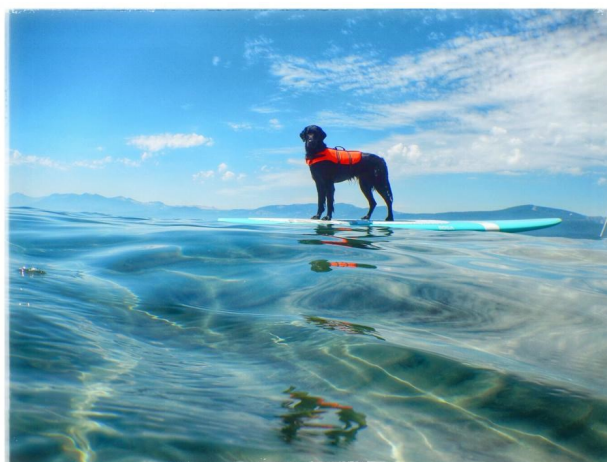


FCRSA 2016: Sacramento



Sporting the exciting logo of the 2016 FCRSA National Specialty, the California flat-coat people are planning for next year's "Summer of Love". The event will be June 3-10 in Sacramento, with field events in Corning.

You'll find them on Facebook at 2016 FCRSA National Specialty, and their website will be up soon.



A Hunting We Will Go?

Gary Simpson and Steve Chinn are interested in organizing a fall upland bird hunting trip to Maupin, Oregon. Sage Canyon Outfitters, <http://sagecanyonoutfitters.com/hunts.html>, is about 12 miles outside of Maupin Oregon, which is about 40 miles south of The Dalles. The Preserve season runs from August 1 to March 31 in Oregon. You don't have to have an Oregon hunting license, but if you don't you will need to purchase a Preserve license, (\$12 out of State, \$6 in State) which is available on-site. There are a number of hunt packages you can purchase, last year they chose to get 2 of the 6 bird pheasant packages which were about \$175 each. The packages can be pheasant (rooster and/or hen) chuckers or a combination.

Sage Canyon has a house and the bunkhouse for rent on-site or there are a couple of hotels in Maupin that you can stay at. Gary and Steve are willing to organize the trip, so if you're interested get in touch! You can reach Gary at: Home: (503) 645-5428, Cell: (503) 939-9609, or email Gary@GLSimpson.com.

Supported Entry Results

Results from the Supported Entry at the Chintimini Kennel Club Show held March 28 in Albany, Oregon.

SWEEPSTAKES

Judge: Sherry Anderson

Junior Dogs 12 Mos & Under 15 Mos .

1 (7) KARASAIL'S REIGNING ARROWS IN THE EDDY. BREEDER: Kari Mueske. OWNER: Kevin & Nancy Malloy.

2

Junior Dogs 15 Mos & Under 18 Mos .

1/BSS (21) WYNCLIFF'S WAUNARUN THE BASES. SR806819/01. BREEDER: DINAH BAGGENSTOS RICHARD BAGENSTOS RICI MORRILL. OWNER:MARY AYKENS JOHN AYKENS.

Junior Bitches 12 Mos & Under 15 Mos .

1/OSS (6) KARASAIL'S REIGNING MOONBEAMS. BREEDER: Kari Mueske.. OWNER: Christina L Karnes.

Junior Bitches 12 Mos & Under 15 Mos .

1/OSS (6) KARASAIL'S REIGNING MOONBEAMS. BREEDER: Kari Mueske.. OWNER: Christina L Karnes.

VETERANS SWEEPSTAKES

Dogs 7 Yrs & Under 9 Yrs .

1/BSV (17) CH HERONBECK OBSIDIAN STOUT CA RATD AXP MJP OF. BREEDER: Lynda Spangler & Linda Crowson Run. OWNER: Victoria Peterson & John Lovegrove & L Spangler.

REGULAR CLASSES

Judge: Ms Diane L Malenfant

Twelve To Eighteen Month Dogs .

2 (7) KARASAIL'S REIGNING ARROWS IN THE EDDY. BREEDER: Kari Mueske.. OWNER: Kevin & Nancy Malloy.

1 (21) WYNCLIFF'S WAUNARUN THE BASES. BREEDER: DINAH BAGGENSTOS RICH-

Supported Entry Results, cont'd.

ARD BAGENSTOS RICI MORRILL. OWNER: MARY AYKENS JOHN AYKENS.

A (27) BLACKLACE REMARKABLE RAFIKI. BREEDER: Kathy Kondrat. OWNER: Kathy Kondrat & Steven Henderson.

Bred-By-Exhibitor Dogs .

1/W/BW/BOBOH (9) WHAZTHAT HOT PERFECTION RN. BREEDER: Kris Rainey & Debbie Petersen. OWNER: Kris Rainey & Debbie Petersen.

American-Bred Dogs .

1/R (15) TAMDURI'S DREAMER AT TEA TIME. BREEDER: Linda M Monroe. OWNER: Patricia Olson.

Open Dogs .

2 (11) COASTALIGHT ITZA DBL O SEVEN JH. BREEDER: Judy Tesky & Wendy MacDonald. OWNER: Gary Simpson.

1 (25) ARTIC SUN'S MASTER OF MISCHIEF. BREEDER: Lori Mihm-Kunz & Deb Brown. OWNER: Ron Colyer & Sheila Colyer.

Twelve To Eighteen Month Bitches .

1/W/OS (6) KARASAIL'S REIGNING MOONBEAMS. BREEDER: Kari Mueske.. OWNER: Christina L Karnes.

Open Bitches .

1/R (8) TAMDURI DESTINY REIGNS CGC. BREEDER: Linda Monroe. OWNER: Linda Monroe.

Best of Breed Competition .

SEL (5) GCH CH SHASTA'S WESTERN SAMURAI. Dog. BREEDER: Joyce Brackney & Dinah Baggenstos. OWNER: Lura Dunn & David Kerschner.

17 CH HERONBECK OBSIDIAN STOUT CA RATD AXP MJP OF. Dog. BREEDER: Lynda Spangler & Linda Crowson. OWNER: Victoria Peterson & John Lovegrove & L Spangler.

BB (19) CH GCH WINDY HILL GOD OF FIRE RN CGC JH. Dog. BREEDER: Dr R Rickert & S Rickert & L Selof & M Bettis. OWNER: K Johnson & C Johnson & Dr R Rickert & S Rickert.

23 CH WAUNARUN'S MARIO ANDRETTI CGCA. Dog. BREEDER: Mary Aykens & John Aykens. OWNER: Mary Aykens & John Aykens.

Health Matters: Canine Flu

Canine Influenza was diagnosed in Chicago earlier this year, and cases have been identified in twelve states since. The American Veterinary Medicine Association published this information to inform the public about the disease:

Canine Influenza: Pet Owners' Guide

Canine influenza (CI, or dog flu) in the U.S. is caused by the canine influenza virus (CIV), an influenza A virus. It is highly contagious and easily spread from infected dogs to other dogs through direct contact, nasal secretions (through coughing and sneezing), contaminated objects (kennel surfaces, food and water bowls, collars and leashes), and by people moving between infected and uninfected dogs. Dogs of any breed, age, sex or health status are at risk of infection when exposed to the virus.

Unlike seasonal flu in people, canine influenza can occur year round. So far, there is no evidence that canine influenza infects people. However, it does appear that at least some strains of the disease can infect cats.

Canine influenza symptoms and diagnosis

CIV infection resembles canine infectious tracheobronchitis ("kennel cough"). The illness may be mild or severe, and infected dogs develop a persistent cough and may develop a thick nasal discharge and fever. Other signs can include lethargy, eye discharge, reduced appetite, and low-grade fever. Most dogs recover within 2-3 weeks. However, secondary bacterial infections can develop, and may cause more severe illness and pneumonia. Anyone with concerns about their pet's health, or whose pet is showing signs of canine influenza, should contact their veterinarian.

CIV can be diagnosed early in the illness (less than 4 days) by testing a nasal or throat swab. The most accurate test for CIV infection is a blood test that requires a sample taken during the first week of illness, followed by a second sample 10-14 days later.

Transmission and prevention of canine influenza

Dogs are most contagious during the two- to four-day incubation period for the virus, when they are infected and shedding the virus in their nasal secretions but are not showing signs of illness. Almost all dogs exposed to CIV will become infected, and the majority (80%) of infected dogs develop flu-like illness. The mortality

Health Matters, cont'd.

(death) rate is low (less than 10%).

The spread of CIV can be reduced by isolating ill dogs as well as those who are known to have been exposed to an infected dog and those showing signs of respiratory illness. Good hygiene and sanitation, including hand washing and thorough cleaning of shared items and kennels, also reduce the spread of CIV. Influenza viruses do not usually survive in the environment beyond 48 hours and are inactivated or killed by commonly used disinfectants.

There are vaccines against the H3N8 strain of canine influenza, which was first discovered in 2004 and until 2015 was the only strain of canine influenza found in the United States. However, a 2015 outbreak of canine influenza in Chicago was traced to the H3N2 strain – the first reporting of this strain outside of Asia – and it is not known whether the H3N8 vaccine provides any protection against this strain. Used against H3N8, the vaccines may not completely prevent infection, but appear to reduce the severity and duration of the illness, as well as the length of time when an infected dog may shed the virus in its respiratory secretions and the amount of virus shed – making them less contagious to other dogs.

The CIV vaccination is a "lifestyle" vaccination, recommended for dogs at risk of exposure due to their increased exposure to other dogs – such as boarding, attending social events with dogs present, and visiting dog parks.

For more detailed information, visit the AVMA web site:

<https://www.avma.org/KB/Resources/Reference/Pages/Canine-Influenza-Backgrounder.aspx>

Flat-coats Lose A Friend to Cancer

The flat-coat world lost a good friend in March, with the passing of Patti Skorupa of Fremont, Ca. She was known throughout the Bay Area and the nation for her deep dedication and unfailing love of raising and training Flat-Coated Retrievers. Her husband of 38 years, Joe Skorupa, said the cause of death was colon cancer.

Over time Patti developed a passion for field training that later expanded into canine agility obedience, and her expertise was shared across the show ring, the agility ring, and in field training and obedience. Many Flat-Coated Retriever enthusiasts point to Patti's support as a key to their early involvement with the breed, and called her their mentor.

Most recently her passion has been focused on promoting the advancement and efforts of the Flatcoat Retrievers Cancer Studies Support Group, becoming one of their field experts and greatest supporters. She had also served as the FCRSA administrator for the Flat-Coat Health Database, the Archivist, and was a member of the Cancer Studies Support Group.

In memory of Patti, the NWFCRC made a \$500 donation to the FCR Foundation.

Our Dogs

Congrats to Joyce Brackney and our Alaska Friend Lori Kunz:

BEST IN SHOW — TWO DAYS IN A ROW!!!

Artic Sun's Hot Pursuit "Bosch" earned a BEST IN SHOW in Alaska on May 23, 2015 and again on May 24! He is owned by Lori Mihm-Kunz and Bred by Lori Mihm-Kunz and Deb Brown. He is out of BIS GCH MACH Shasta Brownstone JH CD RA (HOF) "Stoney" and CH Artic Sun's Cool Change.

Bosch will be 2 on September 21 and has not been shown since the Oregon specialty where he won best puppy.

Ann Yuhasz was the BIS judge on Saturday. A young handler took him in for Best-in-Show, so Ann had no idea who owned the dog.

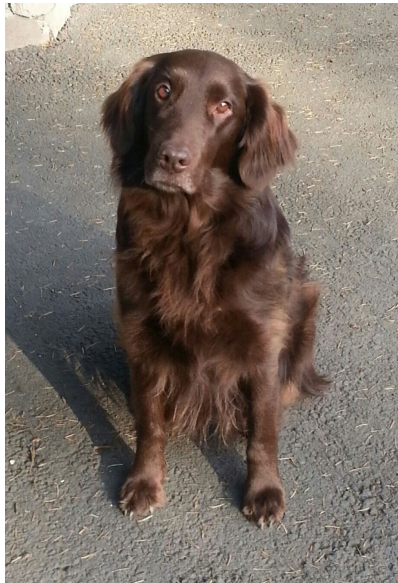
Our Dogs

Congrats to Kris Rainey:

Whazthat Hot Perfection “Biscuit” earned his TD at the test in April in Eugene. He also took the points at the supported entry in Albany. He took them the next day too. Whazthat All Fired Up “Sizzle” earned her MX and MXJ to now qualified for the HOF.



Above: Tracking Dog Biscuit and Kris Rainey.



To the left: Dolly and Kiss. Both are breed, loved, and owned by Jeanne Allen.

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Congrats to Jeanne Allen:

Ch. Whazthat's How Spicy You Want It? TD has a new title. She earned her rally novice title at the Sherwood dog training club in April.

Whazthat's Kissed By the Stars (Kiss) earned her rally advanced title with two placements at the Sherwood dog training club in April.

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Congrats to Maggie Minetti:

all 3 flatties have had introduction to barnhunt and have now attended 3 days of trialing. ValleyCrest Great Balls of Fire (aka Killer) has earned a RATN (rat novice) as well as 2 legs in open. he has also earned 2 high in trials!!!. Valleycrest Feudin' Fussin' and a Fighten" (aka Jasper) has also earned RATN and 1 leg in open. placing a 2nd, 3rd, and a 4th. the youngest (Mischief) is not into it so we will reintroduce at later date and see what he does.

2 days in Lynden: Jasper-earned 2 first places in Time to beat for another 20 points! also got 2- first places in Jumpers and 30 more pach points. (4 of 6 runs) Killer- 1st place in time to beat, had a breakthru with the weaves and weaved on the first try all 3 runs on sunday! was his only q but stuck with me and tried so i think neutering worked. he tried hard. (1 of 6 runs) Mischief- all 5 runs were 1st places, he now has his novice standard title as well as novice jumpers title and earned first q in novice fast. 3 days of trialing = 2 titles! (5 of 5 runs)

Our Dogs, cont'd.

Congrats to Adora Lanphere and Anthony Quade who send us this brag:

At the Western Washington Cluster in January, CH Blackstone's Heart of Oak "Watson" went Best of Winners at the Friday Sporting Dog Specialty and the Monday Tacoma Kennel Club Show to finish his Championship! What a wild ride!

And all before his 18 month birthday! We started off last March with our very first show at the Seattle Kennel Club and followed up with a wonderful experience at the Flat Coat Specialty in Oregon (our first Specialty!) where he went 1st in 9-12 month puppy sweepstakes. His first points were at the June Puyallup Cluster and then at Nisqually in August. I am so proud of my silly boy!

It's been an amazing experience for our first Flat Coat and first Confirmation dog. I am so thankful for such a wonderful and supportive local community while learning the ropes. It's been so much fun and we can't wait to explore other events.



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Congrats to Kathy Adams, who sends us this greeting:

Talle' and I had such a fun National- the highlight was in field where we took Reserve in the Fetch Fever!!!

She showed very well in Sweeps; making the cut and had a solid showing in her regular confirmation class- and we Qd in our very first Rally event (with zero practice or training) it wasn't pretty but a lot of fun!!!

The Dock (Dick) Diving was the ultimate fun- taking me on a face plant across the AstroTurf!! yes she loved that event!!!

The Best was being a part of Team NW!!! we had 30 dogs in our group and we all pitched in to help each other out and laughed and celebrated together everyone's fun achievements!!!

Here is the link to all the pictures i took - feel free to download (for free) and enjoy!!!

<http://kanyonadams.zenfolio.com/f789508792>

Looking forward to next years National in California!!!

Woof-eh!!

Kathy & Talle'



Our Dogs, cont'd.

Congrats to Steve Chinn:

GCH Blackstone Someone's in the Kitchen with Dinah CDX TD RE WC NA NAJ finished her Junior Hunter title in May. Both Dinah and Steve entered field events "later in life". She finished her title at age 8 1/2, Steve was considerably older than that. Matt Nolan did a good job training both of them.

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**Put your dog's picture here in
the next newsletter! No brag is
too small!**



Qualifying & Derby * Stakes

Judges - Martha Russell & Katherine Simonds

In beautiful Stowe, Vermont, in conjunction with the Lake Champlain RC's Owner Handler Qual, 7/24, plus Hunt Tests -- 3-day 90 dog MH, & JH & SH, 7/24-26

Three days of training with trial set-ups, Mon. 7/20 - Wed., 7/22

Stowe is a scenic, family-friendly tourist destination, with attractions for every taste

For more information, contact:

Sally Bridges - skywalkfcr@verizon.net

Priscilla Johnson - priscillabob@hotmail.com

Field website - fcrsafield.com

* Derby offered, if sufficient entry

A Special Note for New Members

I want to welcome all our new members on behalf of the Officers and Board of Directors of the North West Flat-Coated Retriever Club, NWFCRC. For some of you, this is your first issue of our newsletter, The Flat-Coat Times. Jo Chinn does a beautiful job, as you can see. I hope that you will enjoy it and find it informative.

I also want to invite you to participate in the Club's activities. Because our members live in five states, CA, OR, WA, ID, MT and sometimes in Canada, it is often difficult to plan activities that a lot of club members can attend. I know as I am from the Tri-Cities, WA, and I usually have to travel to the west side of the state, or to Oregon for activities. I don't make it to as many as I would like, but I am always happy when I can get to one.

We try to plan activities in different areas so that everyone can attend something. It is always difficult to find places to get together, so if you have any knowledge of an area you would love to see us use, please don't hesitate to let us know.

We have Flat-Coat play days, meet for activities and competitions, and occasionally have seminars and other educational activities. Please consider coming to as many as are possible for you. We would love to get to know you. There is no better way than to meet some of our members, and get to know our dogs!

Our next planned activity is an educational/fun day which you can read about on page ____.

We would love to see you there.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or comments. I will be sending out a club membership list soon. I hope that it will help you to find other club members in your area and maybe plan to get together with them.

Welcome to the NWFCRC!

Warmly,

Linda Monroe

NWFCRC

Membership Secretary

tamturifer@gmail.com

509.845.0550

Join the NWFCRC for a Day of “Flat-Out” Fun

Saturday, June 13

InStep Training Center
19625 99th Ave SE
Snohomish, WA 98296

Dog Tricks, Ear Trimming, Rally Obedience, TDI/CGC Testing, and a romp in the park!

Arrive between 9-9:30 am to meet everybody, enjoy coffee, tea, and muffins. There is crating space inside the building. Alternatively, you may choose to work your dog in and out of your car.

9:30 am— “Teach Your Dog Tricks” with Sharon Colvin

Your dog can amaze your friends and family at the next get-together. Sharon owns InStep Training and teaches obedience lessons. She and her dogs are well-known throughout the Pacific Northwest for their incredibly precise obedience work. You can visit her website at instepdogobedience.com.

Next, our dogs will rest in their crates or cars while we enjoy a free-style dance routine presented by Sharon and one of her fantastic dogs.

11:00 am— “Ear Trimming Demo” with Kathy Adams

Kathy, a member of our club, was once a mere mortal like you and I. She handled her first Flat-coat Kanyon to breed championship, doing all the grooming herself. Kathy will share her techniques for trimming ears to perfection.

11:30 am— “Rally Obedience” with Adora Lanphere

Our member Adora Lanphere, who teaches at Family Dog Training Center in Kent, will give us a lesson in Rally Novice, and your dog can try it out! Is there a Rally title in your dog’s future?

12:30 pm— “Lunch” Bring a sack lunch. The club will provide beverages and cookies.

1:30 pm— “CGC or TDI testing” with Chris Cornell. Canine Good Citizen & Therapy Dog International

If you’ve been wanting to certify your dog to work as a Therapy Dog, this is your chance! (Continued)(Continued) Or, maybe you would like to test your dog for AKC’s CGC title. Chris Cornell, a member of our club and an AKC Obedience Judge, will offer testing based on what our members desire. Chris has been certifying dogs for both CGC and TDI for many years. He says it may be possible for dogs to test for both certifications, depending on participant interest. Make sure you indicate your preference on your registration form so we can make appropriate plans. (Costs of actual registration with AKC or TDI will be the responsibility of the owner. AKC certificate registration is \$8, title is \$20. TDI has a \$10 testing fee.)

TBD — “Follow Up Fun” at Jasper’s Dog Park

Let’s continue the fun with a romp in the park! Jasper’s Dog Park is an off leash park in Kirkland, about 15 minutes from InStep Training. (This is tentative while we explore the “dogs must be licensed” rule for the park; we are also looking at alternative sites where the dogs can play)

What a grand day it will be! Happy dogs and happy owners! Fee for the day is only \$10, which will help pay for using the building. The NWFCRC will cover all other costs.

Reserve your spot today! Don't delay. Space is limited. Deadline is June 1st, but it may fill up before then.

Please send the registration form below and \$10 payment to:

Jo Chinn

331 Livengood Lane

Sequim, WA 98382

#####Flat-Out Fun Registration Form

First and last name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

#people: _____

#dogs: _____

Preference (please circle) : CGC testing TDI testing (your dog may be able to test for both)

Comments about the testing preference: (if you need to talk to Chris Cornell about what test your dog needs, note that here)

Please enclose \$10 (check made out to NWFCRC works fine)

=====

Directions

TO InStep Training:

From I-405 (about 10 miles):

Merge onto WA-522 E toward WA-202 E/Monroe/Wenatchee.

Turn left onto Paradise Lake Rd/WA-524.

Turn right onto Yew Way/WA-524. Continue to follow Yew Way.

Turn slight left onto Broadway Ave.

Turn right onto 196th St SE.

Look for NWFCRC signs.

Litter Announcement

Upcoming Litter Rudy & Maggie!

"Maggie"

MACH WAUNARUN'S PRIME MINISTER RN, JH, WC, MXS, MJS

Maggie



Owner/Breeders

**Mary Aykens and
John Aykens**

**Anticipated whelping date
is mid July. For inquiries
please contact:**

Mary Aykens:

Cell: 253-229-1505

Email: maryd333@Aol.com

****OFA clearances available for
both dogs**

Maggie's Versatility Award



"Rudy"

RBIS, BISS, SILVER-GCH BLAZIN'S JOIE DE VIVRE

CDX, JH, SCX, HOF-2014



Reserve Best in Show

Delaware Water Gap KC - Dec. 2013

Judge David Miller and Dawn Buttton

Owners

Don and Susan

Bierer

Breeders

Dawn Buttton

Martin Archambeault

2015 Westminster

Best of Breed

Winner!

Comments from his 2011 Best in Specialty

Judge Christine Calcinari wrote about Best in Specialty: "My choice for Best of Breed truly took my breath away. This dog, for me, exemplifies everything this breed should be, beautiful conformation, including a wonderful front, head to die for, wonderful neck into shoulder, fabulous top-line and tail-set conveying a wonderful presence. He used all of these attributes to move beautifully. I was knocked out by this dog!"

Rudy



Meet Our Board Member: Mary Aykens, Treasurer

I am Mary Aykens and along with my husband, John, we got our first flat-coated retriever from Andrea (Williams) Evans of Blackstone Kennels in March of 1998. It's been an adventure ever since. Annie was supposed to keep our other dog company and the other dog, a lab/visla mix, was to help us train her. Unfortunately, Jackson died three months later and we were down to one cute but lonely puppy. Andrea "worked a deal" for us and we soon had Gibson. You can't have just one FCR after all! This was the first of many "deals" and soon we were showing our two FCRs and eventually we bred Annie. While we don't breed often, so far we've whelped four litters, we have kept a dog from each litter. The last two litters were under our own kennel name, WaunaRun. We also kept a pick puppy in lieu of stud fee and Willie joined us. We have at most had five FCRs in the house at a time but tend to be averaging about four.

We currently live in Port Orchard and enjoy living on almost two acres of former pasture land. We have about an acre fenced and the dogs rule in that area. We enjoy the quiet country and small town life here. It's been a pleasant change from when we lived on the south hill of Puyallup. Crazy traffic there.

Over the years we have participated in obedience, agility, conformation, nose work, rally obedience, field and therapy dog work. Mario, our four year old, is our therapy dog and he and I go to nursing homes and do a read to a dog program at the library. He also shows occasionally. Maggie is our performance girl. She has her MACH, Rally Novice, JH, and WC and is the undisputed leader of our pack. We recently bred her and will know in a couple of weeks if she is pregnant. We have our "old lady", Izzy, with us. Izzy is our homebody. She loves to chase balls and sleeps under our bed at night. She is a groaner so we call her the troll under the bed. Seamus is our current baby. He acts like the baby too. He is our largest FCR but we claim his brain has yet to arrive. He is beautiful but oh so silly. He is our counter surfer.

I am the treasurer of the NWFCRC and am enjoying the relative calm after last year's specialty. Our bank account is healthy and we are able to support at least two entries per year. I hope we can find more activities like our upcoming fun day so we can make this club more responsive to the needs and wants of our members.

I went back to work this past year. In a weak moment, I agreed to teach high school math. I had retired two years before then and was clearly insane to agree to go back to work. School will end on June 15th. I plan to get Mario back to agility training along with some obedience training for him and Seamus. Hopefully our summer will be full of puppy raising. Once that is over, I hope to get Maggie back in action.

My favorite FCR anecdote has to be about Willie who died last year. Our neighbors have German shepherds who are reserved. Lisa, their owner, prefers cats but is getting attached to her dogs. She likes ours too but finds them "too affectionate". Lisa wanted the dogs to be able to play so we left the gate open between our yards. Willie decided to venture up the hill to their house and soon Lisa looked up from reading her book to find Willie in her living room. He wanted to visit. He had opened her back door and eaten her dog's food. She gently removed him from the house closing and locking the door. When she resumed reading her book, she soon found Willie had rejoined her in the living room. Willie, not to be deterred, had opened their daylight basement door and climbed the inside stairs to get back to visiting Lisa. Lisa began locking both doors.

Mary Aykens, cont'd.

Willie also “broke into Lisa’s house” when she’d gone to the store. She had left the door slightly ajar for her dogs and set it to close when they came in. Willie entered and was then locked inside the house. John looked for him but the house was locked. Before he left Lisa came home and John sheepishly explained that Willie was in her house. We really miss our home invasion expert.



Mary sent us these photos of her dogs, but she must be camera shy, because she didn’t send a pic of herself!

That’s Mario’s Best of Breed photo to the left, with Dinah Baggenstos handling.

The liver boy is the infamous Willie.



About Us



Northwest Flat-Coated Retrievers Club

Flat –Coat Times
Jo Chinn, Editor
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Sequim, WA 98382

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page

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