



# FLAT -COAT TIMES

WINTER 2012

## A Special Dog

### Important Dates:

- March 31. Supported Entry, Member's Banquet, and Annual Meeting. Albany, Oregon.
- July 18-22. Canadian National Specialty, Vancouver B.C.



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### News Flash!

**Koby Wins the Breed at Westminster 2012!!!**

**Congrats to Koby, Ken, Cathy, and Tony!**

They are our best friends. They Velcro themselves to us; they eat with us, go to the bathroom with us, and won't let us leave the house without them. And we love them.

But Sarah Cottrell's flat-coated retriever, Ginjeet, is more than a pal. Without formal training, she has become a lifesaver.

Sarah has been an insulin-dependent diabetic for a very long time. As such, she occasionally gets hypoglycemic, and when that occurs, the onset is very rapid. She feels very cold, simultaneously sweating and visibly shaking. She feels nauseous and often either very anxious or afraid. In order to come out of this state, she must immediately ingest glucose, followed by a high glycemic carbohydrate and a protein.

When Ginjeet was five months old, Sarah had two severe hypoglycemic events within the same month. When the first one began, Sarah was in her car in the garage with the garage door closed. She fainted after she started the car. As the garage filled with carbon monoxide, Ginjeet woke her with loud, piercing, big-dog barks. Sarah lives up a steep flight of stairs, and had to climb them to get her juice and food. As she tried to do this, her severe shaking caused her (continued on next page)

to sink down to the ground multiple times. Each time she did that, Ginjeet would run to her and continue the wild barking until Sarah got up and continued to move up the stairs. Sarah made it to the kitchen, took a hamburger out of the refrigerator, but sunk to the floor and passed out completely before eating it.

When Sarah awoke, Ginjeet was seated six feet away, staring not at the enticing hamburger, but at Sarah's face. And what woke up Sarah? Ginjeet's piercing barking. Ginjeet made no attempt to try and take any food from Sarah even though the hamburger was right in front of her and on the floor. Only after Sarah drank the juice and ate the entire hamburger did Ginjeet rise and begin to act normally.

The second very severe incident occurred after Sarah made a big mistake injecting insulin, causing her blood sugar to plummet within a short period of time. Fortunately, she realized her mistake and telephoned a friend before she passed out. When his phone rang and Sarah failed to respond, he called "911" and immediately began driving to Sarah's home.

Sarah awoke to find a great deal of pandemonium. An EMT was working on her, and her friend was trying to mop up her face and arms which were heavily bathed in perspiration. According to her friend and the EMTs, when the emergency crew had begun pounding on Sarah's locked front door, Ginjeet did not bark, which would have been her normal reaction. Instead, she ran to the opposite door near the garage, the door that Sarah's friend comes in through. And when he did, Ginjeet led him with excited barking to the front door so he would let in the EMT crew. As they ran up the stairs to assist Sarah, Ginjeet stayed out of their way. She sat 6-8 feet out of their way as they tended to Sarah. This is not at all her normal behavior to houseguests! Normally she monopolized the attention of anyone who comes in the house with excited barking, kisses, etc. She did none of this that day.

Thankfully, Sarah has had no further incidents as serious as these. She does experience middle-of-the-night hypoglycemia. She awakens to find Ginjeet standing on her bed, staring into her eyes. This always wakes up Sarah, and she is able to get the needed food. Ginjeet makes no attempt to take any of the food away from Sarah. Even if they're both on the floor, with a pile of deli chicken inches away from her mouth, Ginjeet will make no movements toward the food. She focuses only on Sarah's face. As soon as Sarah's blood sugar is corrected, Ginjeet immediately reverts to her normal, much more obnoxious behaviors such as trying to steal Sarah's food! Ginjeet is a constant "counter surfer" in the kitchen and is well known among Sarah's family and friends for stealing food. But not when Sarah is having an insulin reaction!

Sarah added a final note to her amazing story: she once asked her endocrinologist about Ginjeet's behaviors. The doctor said that when a diabetic is hypoglycemic, the body produces high quantities of corticosteroids such as adrenalin. The dogs that are specially trained in diabetic support are trained to recognize those smells. It seems that Ginjeet has taught herself all of this on her own!



Ginjeet came to Sarah as a puppy in fall of 2009 from Shasta Flat-coated Retrievers in Yreka, California.

# **YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED**

## **NWFCRC SUPPORTED ENTRY, BANQUET, AND ANNUAL MEMBERS' MEETING SATURDAY, MARCH 31**

### **LINN COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS, ALBANY OREGON**

Held in conjunction with the Chintimini Kennel Club all-breed show, with rally, and obedience trials. For entry information, go to <http://www.onofrio.com>. Also, Columbia River Agility Club holds a three day agility trial. Our supported entry will feature puppy and veteran sweeps along with regular classes.

### **BANQUET AND MEETING ROOM 3, WILLAMETTE CONFERENCE CENTER**

**6:00 SOCIAL HOUR.**

**6:30 DINNER.**

### **FOLLOWED BY MEETING, RAFFLE, AND ELECTIONS**

#### **Dinner Reservations:**

Our caterer will offer a wonderful menu of Northwest Cuisine and a beer/wine bar. The club will be covering a portion of the meal cost for each member. See the last page of this newsletter for your reservation form and contact information.

#### **Supported Entry Awards Sponsorship:**

Sponsors are needed for the supported entry awards. Use the last page of this newsletter to submit your contribution toward the awards.

#### **Raffle:**

We will be holding a fund-raising raffle. Please send your donated items (may be dog related gifts, personal items, gift baskets, etc.) to:

Jo Chinn

331 Livengood Lane

Sequim, WA 98382

## *President's Message*



Jeanne's champion and best friend, "Jedi."

Wishing everyone a Happy New Year, I hope the holidays were good to all and that you had lots of time spent with family, friends and of course our four footed friends that share so much of our lives. I hope the New Year brings many special memories as we start the new show season whether it's breed, performance events or just enjoying the fur kids. I also want to offer my condolences to those who may have lost a loved one in 2011. May the memories you have of them always be with you.

The first event will be the supported show Sat Mar 31st in Albany, OR. There are shows on Fri-Sun. We will be having a dinner & elections. Sweeps classes for puppies and Veterans. Trophies will be offered for all classes. The positions open for elections are President, Secretary and one board position. If you would like to run for one of these or if you would like to nominate someone, please let us know by mid Feb. Also yearly dues are due. Linda Monroe has sent out the renewal notices, please be sure and get them back to her as soon as possible. If you aren't current on your dues you aren't able to vote and you won't receive any newsletters after this one.

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Please consider  
chairing the WC/  
WCX test in  
September!

Plans for the 2012 events include the annual agility trial in July. A fun day, please consider being chair for this event. If you are new or haven't done something for a while, please think about helping out. We have a lot of people that do a majority of the events and it would be nice to see someone help with this. It will be our year to host the WC/WCX test in Sept. We also need a chair or chairs for this. Again if you would be willing to help, please let us know. Pete and Kate Szilard have done it for quite a few years and have asked for someone else to take over. They would be happy to help give you the info you need to get it organized. Plans are also in the works for an intro to field work for those that want to get started as well as more experienced dogs and handlers. Cindy Tulpa and Jo Chinn are working on the details and as they find a place and time we will let you know. If you always want to see what your dog might do in the field, this would be a good place to get started. There is nothing more enjoyable than watching your dog do what it was bred to do.

We will also have a second supported entry later in the year. If you have a show that you would like to see it as the supported show let us know. It would have to be late summer or early fall to let us contact that club as well as the national club. Please send your thoughts to the board.



### President's Message, continued

We are hosting the 2014 specialty. We still need to decide several things and will be having our first meeting to discuss various aspects of this. We will be asking for help as we get closer. Most of the major chair positions have been filled , but any help you can offer is greatly appreciated. Even if your new to the sport of dogs, there are members that would be willing to give you the advice you'd need to help with something. The more hands we have the better a specialty we will have. The specialty will be held in Albany, OR. Joyce Brackney and Heather Dawson are the co-chairs. They will be needing our help to host this speciality in our own back yard. For many of us , being able to travel across the country to attend a national isn't always possible and this is a good place to see dogs from all over the country.

Looking forward to seeing many of you this year at shows or meeting some of the people new to this wonderful breed. There are so many aspects to this breed that offer a wide variety of events that they can do whether , show, field , obedience , agility, tracking etc. Hopefully you'll find an event you both enjoy and show off this very talented breed.

Jeanne Allen,  
President NWFCRC

### *Who Loves the Snow?*



The “Abominable SnowPenny” shares her world with James Dodds and Robin Fontaine.

---



'Twinkle, Owner Victoria Peterson, and Handler Lynda Spangler

## Double Q # 16!

"Twinkle" CH Saudades' First Star IC Tonite RA TD MX MXJ OF CA, owned by Victoria Peterson, John Lovegrove, & Keli Martin, earned her 16th QQ at the Rose City Classic in Portland, OR. She accumulated the rest of the points she needs for her

\*\*\*\*\*

Saudades' Daily News of Denmark, "Dax" was Reserve Winners' Bitch 2 out of 4 days at Portland shows. She is owned by Victoria Peterson & John Lovegrove.

\*\*\*\*\*



Maggie Minetti's Valleycrest Repeat Offender "Felon" earned his MXJ title in agility. According to Maggie, he's a rockstar!

\*\*\*\*\*



Bill Mitchell's Tucker enjoys the snowy day on Vashon Island.

CH SHR Flashback's Moon River CGC RA CD "Rio" bringing in the duck to complete his UKC Started Hunting Retriever Title August 1, 2010 with four straight passes. He is owned and handled by Sheila Bradshaw.



## Our Dogs



Jeanne Allen and Dolly

"Dolly" CH. Whazthat's How Spicy You Want It? was select bitch on Thursday and Friday at the Portland shows for two 4 point majors giving her all three major and 11 points towards her Grand Championship. Owned & bred by Jeanne Allen & Kris Rainey and co-owned and shown by Deb Petersen.

\*\*\*\*\*

Pat Boydston writes: January 19th at the Rose City show in Portland, Pebbles earned Winners Bitch and Best of Winners for a 3 point major. This was her 2nd major and she now has 14 points. One more to go! She was handled by me and won anyway. We also competed in Agility, with no ribbons but progressed each day and had a ball. I enjoyed visiting with all my friends at the show and thank all of them for their support and encouragement.



\*\*\*\*\*



CH Heronbeck Obsidian Stout RN TD AXP AJP CA "Obi" with his 8 mo. old daughter Moonstone Bright Light in the Idaho Night "Moonshine" at the Rose City Classic in Portland, OR. Obi is owned by Victoria Peterson, John Lovegrove, & Lynda Spangler; Moonshine is owned by David & Marina Wells.

Barely a brag: Rainshadow's Rollin' on the River, owned by Jo and Steve Chinn, completed her puppy class at Legacy Dog Training in Sequim and earned her AKC "Star Puppy" certificate, along with two of her sisters. How lucky for the teacher to be blessed with three flat-coat puppies in one class! During the playtime at the first session, she insisted that the handlers remove the collars. Oops! Who's who?



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Editor's note: Yes. This info should  
be on page 2 or the last page.  
Yikes!!! Still can't seem to get it  
there!

#### New Website!

The extraordinary Heather Dawson has  
just launched a new website for the Northwest  
Flat-Coated Retriever Club!

You will find information of upcoming  
NWFCRC events and links to their information,  
list of board members and contact info, links to  
other regional clubs, breeders in the Pacific North-  
west, and last but most importantly...photos of  
our beloved flatcoats!! If you have photos of your  
fcrs, please send them to Heather  
(heather@northernlightsfcr.com) and she will add  
them to the photo gallery.

The new web address of our  
site: [www.nwfcrc.com](http://www.nwfcrc.com)

#### Officers/Board of Directors

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#### Membership

Linda Monroe sent out membership renewal  
forms in January. If you did not receive yours, or if  
you have lost it, please contact Linda at:  
tamturifcr@clearwire.net





# FLAT-COATED RETRIEVER SOCIETY OF CANADA

**2012 - National Specialty Vancouver, BC  
July 18 - 22, 2012**

## The following SPECIALTY EVENTS are as planned:

**Wednesday July 18th** - Welcome Party at the Eaglewind RV Park - Come visit with old friends and meet new ones...

**Thursday July 19th** - FCRSC National Obedience Trail and Veteran and Puppy Sweepstakes

**Friday July 20th** - FCRSC National Specialty judging. (Official and Non-Official classes

including brace, progeny, working/field, and altered classes)

**Saturday July 21st** - FCRSC Working Certificate tests (WC/WCI/WCX Tests)

**Sunday July 22nd** - FCRSC Working Certificate tests (WC/WCI/WCX Tests)

## Our Specialty Judges:

Specialty Judge - **Brenda Hutchison, Waverton kennels - UK**

Specialty Sweepstakes / Unofficial Classes - **David Hutchison, Waverton kennels - UK**

Specialty Obedience trial - **Karen Brearley**

Biographies for the judges can be found at: [http://www.flatcoat.ca/fcrscspecial/2012\\_special/2012\\_log-judges.shtml](http://www.flatcoat.ca/fcrscspecial/2012_special/2012_log-judges.shtml)

## COME FOR A HOLIDAY...

**Non-Specialty events happening around the same time as the FCRSC National Specialty events:**

**Seminar by field trainer - Mike Lardy** [Mike Lardy's Total Retriever.com](http://mikelardy.com)

Field trainer Mike Lardy will be holding two weekend-long field seminars in the same area as the National.

June 21 - 24, 2012 - Basics/Transition seminar

June 28 - July 1, 2012 - Advanced seminar (Mike Lardy will be teaming up with Dennis Voigt for this Advanced workshop)

The Workshops will have separate registrations- attendance at both is not required.

Further information can be found on Mike Lardy's website (link above) or by contacting Michael Rigby at [astonish@shaw.ca](mailto:astonish@shaw.ca)

July 14 & 15, 2012 - Two days of CKC Hunt Tests JH/SH/MH run by the [Golden Retriever Club of BC](http://goldenretrieverclubofbc.com) at TNT Kennels - Premium list will be available late spring/early summer 2012 at [BC Retriever News](http://bc-retriever-news.com)

July 21 & 22 2012 - The Sporting Dog Club of BC will be holding their Sporting Dog Spectacular <http://sportingdogsspectacular.com/> (not updated with the 2012 information yet) Approx. 40 minutes from the Specialty site. These two days include, two Group One Sporting Dog Specialty shows, a Sporting Dog only obedience trial and Junior Handling competition.

July 26 - 29, 2012 - The weekend following the Specialty events the Pacific Kennel Club (Surrey, BC) <http://pacifickennelclub.com/> will be hosting their all breed conformation show with FOUR All Breed Conformation Shows!

**More information about next year's Canadian National Specialty can be found on the Flat-Coated Retriever Society of Canada web site at:**

<http://www.flatcoat.ca/>

Wendy Tisdall - FCRSC National Specialty 2012 Co-Chair - [coastalight@shaw.ca](mailto:coastalight@shaw.ca)

## *Gary Simpson Hunts: Montana Pheasant with Flat-Coats*

Last spring dad was at a Pheasants Forever banquet and purchased a pheasant hunting trip in Montana. It included four nights hotel and a place to hunt. So early October found us loading up the Expedition with four shotguns, three dogs, two people and, as it turned out, one pair of boots. Oh, and enough gear to outfit an African safari for a month. We were headed for the town, to use the term loosely, of Saco Montana.

We arrived in Saco late in the afternoon of the second day. Saco has a population of about 150 and consists of a small grocery store, a motel, two taverns and a café. The motel, which was owned by the guy that donated

the trip, appeared to have been built about 1940 but had been updated.....well actually I don't think it had ever been updated, I suspect it even had the original TV. (to be fair, as the new owner he is working on renovating it) The first evening we discovered one of the shortcomings of Saco, the café is open random hours which didn't necessarily include dinner hours. We dined in one of the bars on piping hot cardboard pizza straight from the microwave, but the beer was cold...and more importantly cheap, as a stop at Cabelas in Post Falls to buy the boots dad forgot had siphoned a fair amount out of my wallet on the way



over. The locals asked us what we were here for, when we said pheasant hunting they said 'good luck, not many of them around, worst year in 30 years'.....oh boy.

The next morning Sam, the guy that donated the trip, gave us a list of places we had permission to hunt so we went out to the first one. We were hunting down the brushy river bank and then along an irrigation canal between a hay field and a wheat field. Dad and his shorthair were along the river when my flat-coats got birdy and up jumped a.....a what? It was about the size and color of a hen pheasant, but had a white bar across its back. It was out of range before I realized it was a sharp tail grouse, the first I'd ever seen. We hunted down the irrigation canal and flushed a couple of hens and then another sharp tail. This time I knew what it was and bang, bird in bag. This was to be the last sharp tail we saw while hunting. While my dogs were retrieving the sharp tail dad's short hair did what, in my opinion, short hairs always do, take off hunting for themselves, and sure enough, we stood there and watched him flush 13 roosters at about 90 yards..... I let the shorthair live. We hunted on up the canal, and as I approached a sharp bend, a rooster flushed, bang, bird down, another flushed behind me, bang, another one down, a third flushed while I was reloading, a fourth flying high flew by, two shots and it dropped its legs, but had its wings set and glided over the ridge. Five shots, four hits.....he whom the gods will humble they first make proud. We flushed another 6 or 8 birds from that area and, with the bird we killed on the way back to the car, had 5 pheasants and a sharptail by 11:00. This is the worst pheasant year in 30 years? Compared to hunting in Oregon this is incredible.





That afternoon we hunted with Sam and his partner and his two llewellyn setters in heavy cover along another part of the river. We were hunting waist high cover when all of a sudden the dogs went nuts and up jumped a 6 point white tail buck and two does with the dogs screaming shoot, quick, it's a big one, it's getting away!. We finished out our limits along the river and as we were driving back to town we saw a field where we counted 31 roosters feeding, (right behind the no trespassing sign).

Sam headed back to Oregon the next day and dad and I continued hunting. Dad and I hunted the irrigation ditches in a huge hay field. After a couple of wild flushes the dogs got birdy and a rooster jumped up about 20 yards away, such an easy shot no one could miss, so of course I missed, both barrels.....remember what I said about the gods above. We flushed another dozen birds, but the ones yesterday must have talked to these because none of them flushed at less than 80 yards. The next day was a complete bust, we hunted great cover, but there wasn't a bird to be found. Oh well, you win some and lose some. The fourth day found us back where



we hunted the first day. The honey hole from Friday wasn't today, so dad and I spit up along a huge S bend in the river, with him hunting the willows along one loop and me the other. I hunted about half way around it when the dogs started getting really birdy and out popped a rooster right at the edge of being out of range. I emptied my gun and suddenly there were pheasants flushing everywhere. I don't know how many flushed, but with an empty gun all I could do was watch them fly off while I tried to fumble shells back in my gun. We hunted further along and I dropped a rooster into the river, which gave Emma a chance to do a nice water retrieve. Bond, who was about a year and a half old, really hadn't figured this all out yet. He had retrieved a couple of birds, but hadn't figured out where they were coming from. As we came around a clump of brush a rooster held until Bond practically had his nose up its butt before flushing across an open field. I shot it and when the rooster hit the ground he was on it in a flash and come prancing back with HIS pheasant. I finished my limit a little further down and met dad back at the car, his luck was about the same as mine so we were done for the day.



The next day we had to head home so we hunted for a couple of hours and picked up one, before beginning the 2 day trip home. It was a great trip. We had a couple of so-so days, but in general even the poor days were better than most days hunting in Oregon. We usually hunted until 1 or so, by then the dogs were pretty worn out and so was dad, who is 79. In the afternoon we scouted areas to hunt when we go back. We had private land to hunt this time, but wanted to see if there was a public access.

In talking to people, it sounded like you can get permission by knocking on doors, the problem being how to figure out who owns the land as most of the farms are huge and the local farm house may or may not be the owners of the land.

The other promising option is to hunt the Block Management Grants. Montana has a program called Block Management Grants where the land owner is paid by the number of people that actually hunt the land. This encourages the land owners to leave decent habitat so people will use their property. Most of the properties have boxes where you check in and out. We scouted several and looked at the check in box and it didn't seem like they were getting heavily used, and of the users we couldn't tell if they were hunting birds or big game. We did not see another hunter on any of the Block Management land (or anywhere else for that matter).

You can get information on the block grants from the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks at <http://fwp.mt.gov/hunting/hunterAccess/privateLand/blockman/default.html>. Montana will send you maps and a book telling you a little about each place. The information is generalized and you will need a VERY good road map to find some of the more obscure areas. We never found a couple of the ones we looked for. The areas range from fairly small to literally tens of thousands of acres.

### **If You Go**

By the time you get all licenses and fees out of state licenses will cost you about \$130 for upland. We didn't buy waterfowl, but that would be more. We could have shot a fair number of ducks jump shooting the canals, so it is something to consider. The limit for pheasant is 3 roosters per day, 9 in possession. Theoretically you could also get 4 sharp tails and 2 sage grouse, but we only saw the 2 sharp tails and no sage grouse.

We stayed in Saco because it was part of the package dad bought. Malta, 30 miles west, and Glasgo, 40 miles east are both a little bigger and actually have restaurants that are open for dinner (this was a problem for us a couple of nights) and also had the nearest gas. After you get the block management information you might want to use that to help figure out where you want to stay.

You can use the satellite view on Google maps to get an idea of what the terrain looks like, but nothing beats driving out and looking, expect to do a fair amount of driving, especially if it's your first trip (after you get there, it's a fair drive just to get there). If you like trees, this is the wrong part of Montana to visit but there is a lot of wildlife, we saw mule and white tail deer, antelope, coyotes and a large number of different kinds of birds.

Yes, those specs are pheasants....a lot of pheasants





We were there in mid-October. It was in the teens in the morning, but 60 to 70 degrees in the afternoon, bring clothes for all situations. It snowed the week after we were there.

The burrs were horrible, don't bring your show dog if you want any coat on them. I will clip mine before I go back, especially under the arm pits (leg pits?). Emma got a skin infection from where the burrs rubbed which was a very expensive vet bill when I got home. (she also had scratched an eye) I spent an hour or two each night cutting burrs out of Emma and Bond's coats and they looked pretty moth eaten by the time we headed home.

I want to go back during a normal pheasant year, if this is the worst in 30 years and we got the number of birds we did, what must a normal year be like?

If you have questions feel free to drop me an email,  
[garys@glsimpson.com](mailto:garys@glsimpson.com)

Gary Simpson, a frequent contributor to the Flat-Coat Times, is owned by:

"Emma" Blackstones Get our Wings, JH, WC, NA, NAJ , age 10 and

"Bond" Coastalight Itza Dbl O Seven, age 2.



Right: Bond and HIS pheasant.





## *Rainbow Bridge*

Just this side of heaven is a place called Rainbow Bridge.

When an animal dies that has been especially close to someone here, that pet goes to Rainbow Bridge. There are meadows and hills for all of our special friends so they can run and play together. There is plenty of food, water and sunshine, and our friends are warm and comfortable.

All the animals who had been ill and old are restored to health and vigor. Those who were hurt or maimed are made whole and strong again, just as we remember them in our dreams of days and times gone by. The animals are happy and content, except for one small thing; they each miss someone very special to them, who had to be left behind.



They all run and play together, but the day comes when one suddenly stops and looks into the distance. His bright eyes are intent. His eager body quivers. Suddenly he begins to run from the group, flying over the green grass, his legs carrying him faster and faster.

You have been spotted, and when you and your special friend finally meet, you cling together in joyous reunion, never to be parted again. The happy kisses rain upon your face; your hands again caress the beloved head, and you look once more into the trusting eyes of your pet, so long gone from your life but never absent from your heart.

Then you cross Rainbow Bridge together....

## *In Loving Memory*

Coal, we love and miss you. You were such a gentle soul—Elizabeth and Elgie Gentry



SHR UH Am/Int CH Valley Crest Diamond In The Ruff SH WCX RE  
"Coal"  
5/31/03 to 2/13/12



An older, tired-looking dog wandered into my yard. I could tell from his collar and well-fed belly that he had a home and was well taken care of. He calmly came over to me, I gave him a few pats on his head; he then followed me into my house, slowly walked down the hall, curled up in the corner and fell asleep.



An hour later, he went to the door, and I let him out..

The next day he was back, greeted me in my yard, walked inside and resumed his spot in the hall and again slept for about an hour. This continued off and on for several weeks.

Curious I pinned a note to his collar: 'I would like to find out who the owner of this wonderful sweet dog is and ask if you are aware that almost every afternoon your dog comes to my house for a nap.'

The next day he arrived for his nap, with a different note pinned to his collar: 'He lives in a home with 6 children, 2 under the age of 3. He's trying to catch up on his sleep. Can I come with him tomorrow?'

—Submitted by Linda Monroe

## **NWFCRC BANQUET RESERVATION**

**RESPOND BY MARCH 15, 2012**

Please make checks payable to NWFCRC.

Please send to :

Jo Chinn

331 Livengood Lane

Sequim, WA 98382

Note: Non-member dinner price is \$18.70

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12

**TOTAL AMOUNT** \_\_\_\_\_

## **AUCTION/RAFFLE**

Please send auction/raffle items or your contribution to Jo Chinn. (Address above) This activity is a great fund-raiser for our club, and a lot of fun. Auction items need not be dog-related. Gift baskets from your area, wine, coffee, and personal items are always desirable. If you send a monetary contribution, the auction/raffle chairperson will purchase dog-related items .

## **TROPHY SPONSORSHIP**

Your generous donation allows us to continue awarding top quality prizes. Please consider sponsoring one of the classes on the following page. You may make your check to NWFCRC and send it to Jo Chinn. (Address above)

Place	Amount
Best of Breed	\$ 45.00
Best of Opposite Sex	\$ 40.00
Best of Winners	\$ 40.00
Select Dog	\$ 30.00
Select Bitch	\$ 30.00
Winners Dog	\$ 35.00
Winners Bitch	\$ 35.00
Reserve Winners Dog	\$ 25.00
Reserve Winners Bitch	\$ 25.00
High Scoring Flat-Coat-Obedience	\$ 20.00
High Scoring Flat-Coat-Rally	\$ 20.00
Best of Sweeps	\$ 30.00
BOS Sweeps	\$ 30.00
Best Puppy	\$ 30.00
Best Veteran	\$ 30.00



**Working Certificate Tests**  
**FCRSC National Specialty**  
**Aldergrove, BC**  
**July 21 & 22, 2012**

Flat-coats and their owners will enjoy two exhilarating days in the field next summer during the Flat-coated Retriever Society of Canada's National Specialty. Working Certificate Tests will be held on July 21st and 22<sup>nd</sup> at the TNT grounds in Aldergrove, British Columbia.

We warmly invite and encourage you and your Flat-coat to come and join the fun! Check the 2012 specialty website for the specialty schedule, accommodation suggestions, etc. [http://www.flatcoat.ca/fcrscspecial/2012\\_special/index.shtml](http://www.flatcoat.ca/fcrscspecial/2012_special/index.shtml)

Premium lists and entry forms will be posted on the website early in the spring.

This article describes:

- the test requirements for the three levels – Working Certificate, Working Certificate Intermediate and Working Certificate Excellent;
- the main differences between the CKC Working Certificate Test requirements and the FCRSA Working Certificate tests;
- the Canadian Kennel Club participation requirements for CKC and non-CKC registered dogs;
- a description of the TNT grounds where the Working Certificate tests will be held;
- a description of plans for the two days.

### **Working Certificate Test Requirements**

The Canadian Kennel Club booklet "Working Certificate Test Rules & Regulations", January 1, 2011, contains the requirements for the three test levels – Working Certificate, Working Certificate Intermediate and Working Certificate Excellent – plus all the rules and regulations. The rule book is available on-line to CKC members; it can be ordered by calling the CKC at 1-800-250-8040. I encourage you to become familiar with the test requirements, standards and guidelines for your event...and beyond.

To earn any Working Certificate title a dog must receive one passing ribbon at a test held under the WC rules; in addition the dog must be registered with the CKC or have an Event Registration Number. (Details about the ERN follow). Dogs must progress through all levels – WC, then WCI, then WCX. A dog cannot skip to advanced levels. Since we will be holding WC tests on Saturday and Sunday, handlers who anticipate their dog has the skills to run at more advanced levels can enter their dog in the entry level for both days, run the dog at the first level, qualify at that level, then move the dog up to run the next level on Sunday. For example – enter the WC level both days; qualify at WC on Saturday, then move the dog up to run the WCI level on Sunday. Or, for a dog that has a WC title, – enter WCI both days, successfully complete the WCI on Saturday then move the dog up to the WCX level for Sunday. The test secretary will have "move up" forms at the field headquarters table; forms must be submitted to the secretary prior to the start of test. Note – move ups from WC to WCI will incur an additional \$5.00 entry fee.

Spend time reading the rules and regulations that apply to the test level you are considering – in addition to discovering what skills are being tested, learn about the differences between the WC program and hunt tests and read about the various levels of faults. At WC tests handlers are allowed to point out the gunners to the dog, similar to line procedures seen at field trials. Pointing out gunners is not allowed at hunt tests. Learn what faults will result in failure (serious faults - e.g. breaking) and what faults may result in failure if they are repeated (moderate faults – e.g. controlled break or minor faults – e.g. sloppy bird handling).

Following is a summary of skills required for each level. Note – this summary is intended as a guide only and is not complete! You will need to read the details in the rule book!

### **Skills required at the Working Certificate level**

Dog does not need to be steady and can be held by lead, collar or hand. Dog cannot wear a collar when retrieving. Dog should deliver to hand and must bring the bird across the line.

Back to back singles on land– at least 90 degrees between falls; bird to land in light to moderate cover; distance 45 to 68 meters (50 to 75 yards).

Back to back singles on water - at least 90 degrees between falls; line to be at the edge of the water; birds to land in open water

or at the edge of reeds but should not be hidden; distance 23 to 37 meters (25 to 40 yards). Test set up should not encourage shore running. No decoys are used.

#### Skills required at the Working Certificate Intermediate level:

- Dog walks off leash from the final holding blind to the line (up to 25 yards).
- Dog must be steady as marks are thrown and until released by the judges. Dog must deliver to hand
- Double marks on land - at least 90 degrees between falls; birds to land in moderate to moderately heavy cover and not visible from the line; distance 68 meters (75 yards).
- Double marks on water - at least 90 degrees between falls; birds to land with a visible splash; one bird to land in cover; distance 37 to 46 meters (40 to 50 yards). Decoys are used – singly anchored and centrally located between the 2 marks.

Dog must honour as a land double is thrown for a working dog.

#### Skills required at the Working Certificate Excellent level:

- Walk-up test of 14 meters (15 yards) to a land double or a land / water double – at least 45 degrees between falls; first bird thrown is about 91 meters (100 yards) and second bird about 46 meters (50 yards) in moderate to heavy cover. If judges choose to have a land / water double the water bird should be the shorter bird. Handler carries a replica gun.
- Honour on the walk up, 14 meters (15 yards). Dog shall honour after they have run the mark. Both honour and working dogs shall stop when the first gun is fired; handlers may quietly tell and/or whistle their dogs to sit and stay. Both handlers carry replica guns.
- Double marks on water – about 90 degrees between falls; birds to land with a visible splash in light cover; distance up to 46 meters (50 yards). Decoys are used – singly anchored and in front of the line, but not in a direct line to either fall. Handler shall point a replica gun towards the marks; a designated gunner discharges a gun from the line for one mark.
- Land blind – about 46 meters (50 yards) in length; in moderate cover; and should have a natural obstacle about 5 meters (15 feet) in front of the line. Open, flat terrain should be avoided. A shot is discharged at the line before the dog is sent.

Water blind – maximum of 46 meters (50 yards); running line not more than 5 meters (15 feet) from the water's edge; must be a direct, not an angle entry. If decoys are used they should be at least 3 meters (10 feet) off the direct line to the blind and not closer than 3 meters (10 feet) to the shore or the blind.

#### Classification of Faults

- Serious faults can be sufficient to fail a dog:
  - Returning to the handler without a bird or without being called in
  - Switching birds
  - Blinking a bird
  - Unwilling to release a bird on delivery
  - Retrieving a decoy
  - Hard-mouth or badly damaging the bird
  - Breaking at the WCI and WCX level
  - Touching or holding a dog to prevent it from breaking in the WCI and WCX
  - Breaking on the honour in the WCI and WCX or other interference with the working dog
  - Handling in the WC

Failure to bring the bird across the line

- Moderate faults – repeated or a combination of moderate faults may convert the total infraction into a serious fault. Usually 2 moderate faults result in elimination of a dog from the test:

- Failure to make the area of fall, requiring handling
- Not stopping for direction after 2 or 3 whistles in WCX
- Controlled break in WCI and WCX or going before being sent in WC
- Reluctance to enter rough cover, water, mud, etc
- Moderate whining of short duration

Reluctance to give up bird in WCI or WCX

- Minor faults – several or repeated minor infractions may convert into a moderate or even serious fault
  - Poor line manners – heeling poorly, dropping a bird at delivery, jumping after a bird, not remaining quietly on line after delivery
  - Sloppy bird handling
  - Unsteadiness, including creeping on line in WCI or WCX
- Failure to deliver to hand in WC

### **Differences between CKC and FCRSA Working Certificate Tests**

The CKC administers WC Tests in Canada; all retrievers, Irish Water Spaniels, poodles, Airedale Terriers and Barbets are eligible to enter. This FCRSC test will be open to all of these breeds – expect to enjoy watching Golden Retrievers, Labs and Toller! Occasionally on the West Coast Irish Water Spaniels and poodles enter WC tests; we haven't yet seen Barbets or Airedales run WC tests.

As outlined above, there are three WC levels – Working Certificate, Working Certificate Intermediate and Working Certificate Excellent. Each level has unique requirements and conditions regarding bird delivery, decoy use and placement, use of a handler's gun, handling on a mark, etc. Many of these requirements are different from those in FCRSA Working Certificate tests.

Gunners and handlers cannot wear white or light clothing, except when the WCX handler is running a water or land blind. Gunners and handlers are not required to wear camouflage clothing; ordinary (not white or light) clothing is acceptable.

Handlers can use British slip type leashes at the line at the WC level; dogs cannot wear a collar when running the tests.

Hunt tests, field trials and working certificate tests in Canada do not utilize shot flyers; all birds at this WC will be ducks.

No duck calls will be used; gunners will shoot, then will throw or launch the bird. Wingers can be used to throw birds in Working Certificate tests.

At the WCI and WCX levels it is desirable for handlers of working and honouring dogs to remain silent after the first shot is fired and until the dog is released by the judges. However handlers may very quietly give an occasional command without incurring a penalty.

Bitches in season can compete at the option of the test-giving club; they must run last. The test committee has not yet made a decision on this matter; information will be provided in the premium list.

### **CKC Participation Requirements**

WC tests are open to all eligible breeds; dogs must:

- Be registered with the CKC, or
  - Have an Event Registration Number (ERN), or
  - Be eligible for registration with the CKC, or
- Have a Performance Event Number (PEN)

For additional information and registration forms check the CKC website - <http://www.ckc.ca/en/Default.aspx?tabid=439>

If a dog is not registered with the CKC it may be entered as a "listed" dog, provided that:

- If born in Canada, it is eligible for individual CKC registration,
- If not born in Canada, is eligible for individual registration with the CKC (e.g. is registered with the AKC)

If foreign born and owned, it obtains an Event Registration Number (ERN) or CKC registration number from the CKC within 30 days of the first test entered. Failure to do so within 30 days will result in the cancellation of all passes earned.

Entering a listed dog at a WC test required an additional "listing fee" of \$9.30 plus taxes.

An annual non-member participation fee for awards and titles will be charged to Canadian residents who are not members of the CKC. This fee applies only to dogs wholly owned by non-member residents of Canada and is not applicable to CKC members. To protect the awards/titles earned, the non-member will have a choice either to become a CKC member or to pay the non-member par-



ticipation fee.

### **Description of the Field Site**

The 2012 FCRSC National Specialty will consist of an obedience trial, a conformation show (including juvenile and veterans' sweepstakes) and two working certificate tests. All performance events will be held at the TNT Training Center, located in Aldergrove (Langley), owned by Janice and John Gunn. For directions see: <http://tntkennels.com/info/map-directions>

The site is very close to the Aldergrove – Lynden Canada / USA Border Crossing.

The grounds are a combination of gently rolling hills and several man-made technical ponds. The fields are mowed hay fields and the ponds are quite groomed, with minimal bulrushes, etc. Two stakes can be run simultaneously; however shots from one stake will be heard at the other stake.

Weather could be quite hot..... or raining! Be prepared for either! Natural shade is limited – bring shade for your vehicle...and yourself!

### **Plans for the Field Days**

We plan on having two sets of judges; one set will judge the Working Certificate level as we expect most participants to enter the WC test. The second set of judges will judge both the Working Certificate Intermediate and Working Certificate Excellent levels; the judges will determine which level they will start with and whether they will start with land or water.

We hope to have coffee, drinks and lunches available at the field site. In addition we'll have a raffle table with enticing things for dog lovers to bid on!

The test secretary will be at the field headquarters table, near the raffle table; catalogues, move up forms, etc. will be available there.

Plans are in the works for a casual field dinner to be held on Saturday night. Check the specialty website for details.

We will hold a scurry and other fun, retriever-related events at lunch on Saturday or prior to Saturday evening's field dinner. Details will be on the specialty website.

**News** – the Golden Retriever Club of British Columbia is planning on holding two hunt tests the weekend prior to the FCRSC's working certificate tests – July 14th & 15<sup>th</sup> at the TNT grounds. Avid Flat-coat field aficionados could arrive a few days prior to the specialty and enter two hunt tests one weekend and two working certificate tests the next! The premium list will be available at the BC Retriever News website next spring or early summer - <http://www.bcretrievernews.ca/>

We'd love to have you and your Flat-coat to come and join the fun!