Northwest Flat-Coated Retriever Club

Important Dates:

March 28 Supported Enry at Albany. Entries close 3/11. Go to www.onofrio.com to enter.

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FLAT -COAT TIMES WINTER 2015



Bella's friends eagerly await her!

K9 Camp for Ember

Ember, now 16 months old, came to Cammie Bella's family last year at 10 weeks old from Applegarth Kennel in California. She has brought joy, love, and humor into their home in great abundance. Once a week, she goes to K9 Camp to "run with the pack", learn to swim, socialize, etc.

www.AdventurousK9.com is a family-owned business in the coast range, west of Corvallis. They come pick Ember up around 8:30 am in the camp bus and return her about 4:30. Each dog is fitted with a GPS collar when picked up and they wear this all day as they romp through the woods and valleys and swim the creeks on 40+ acres. The "pack leaders", both canine and human, go with the dogs throughout the day. Ember has to take a lunch along, too, just like other "school" or "camp" kids. When she hears the bus coming up our road, she can't wait to go! When she comes back, she's pleasantly all tired out. She's been going to camp once a week for about 6 months now and Cammie is so pleased with the opportunity for her and to have a "day off" herself.

Read more about Cammie and Ember in "Our Dogs".

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President's Message

I hope everyone had a wonderful holiday season with their family, canines and friends! As we begin 2015 I hope that everyone has a ton of fun in the endeavors you choose to participate in with your canine companion! The Northwest Flat-Coated Retriever Club has some great events planned for the year and we look forward to seeing everyone so stayed tuned for more information.

I want to offer a special thank you to Jo Chinn for doing such a wonderful on our quarterly newsletter! I encourage everyone to participate by sending your brags and photos to Jo.

I again would like to encourage everyone to participate in the NWFCRC events and get involved with your club! Let us know if there is an event you would like to see or an area you would like it to be. This year the board is very focused on creating events/classes that you all want, so please give us your feedback.

I am honored to be working with such an outstanding board this term and appreciate everyone's efforts and look forward to a fantastic 2015!

Happy New Year

Heather Dawson

President, Northwest Flat-Coated Retriever Club

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



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



Our next Supported Entry will be held at the Chintimini Dog Show in Albany, Oregon on Saturday, March 28th. For folks who haven't attended a Supported Entry, here's what you can expect:

Our club sponsors the competition, with special prizes for winners of each conformation class. Usually, each dog entered brings home a small toy. (Puppies of all ages enjoy their toys!) In the past, prizes for winners have included flat-coat logo items like cutting boards, crystal dishes, silver plates, wood candle holders, etc. As a supported entry, special "sweepstakes" classes are offered. This allows puppies an extra experience in the ring under a separate judge. If you are new to conformation, make sure you enter your puppy in "sweepstakes" and the regular classes. We also offer sweepstakes classes for veterans (age 7 and older). The winners in the sweepstakes classes do not advance to "Best in Breed", so they may be neutered. Dogs and bitches entered in the regular classes must be intact. Be sure to check the premium to see which classes as offered, as sometimes we offer "Gun Dog and Gun Bitch" and "Working Retriever" classes.

At a supported, entry, we are usually judged right after lunch. The sweepstakes classes go first, followed by the regular classes with a very smooth judge change in between. Occasionally we have to change rings for the regular classes. Although it may sound confusing, everything flows smoothly.

Our club also sponsors a prize for the highest scoring flat-coat with a qualifying score in Obedience or Rally. In Albany, the obedience and rally classes are held in a separate building, but it is close by and dogs can usually be entered in conformation and obedience. Obedience stewards are quite good about working around a time conflict.

After the judging, many of us stay around to chat or go back to the grooming area to hang out. Some of us take our dogs on walks through the nearby park and get in a good chat! If the weather is nice, we sometimes sit outside in lawn chairs at one of our travel trailers, as several of us camp onsite. Adult beverages have been known to flow...

More information about the dinner will be sent to you as soon as the details are confirmed. This year we'll be going to a restaurant. Carpooling for people staying onsite at the fairgrounds will be arranged. The dinner usually includes a raffle, with all kinds of cool items donated by members. We have a short business meeting in which we elect new officers, but most of the evening is socializing.

See everybody in Albany!

Pheasant Hunting with Flat-Coats – The Preserve Hunt By Gary Simpson

There isn't much more exciting than watching a dog, nose down working across the field, suddenly turn a 180 and, tail whipping back and forth, work out the trail of a rooster, the flush, the shot, the look in their eyes when they bring the bird back that says 'I was born for this'.

It was a cold rainy Sunday afternoon that found me in the small Central Oregon town of Maupin waiting to meet up with Steve Chinn. We were bound for the Sage Canyon Outfitters where we had booked a preserve hunt for Monday.

A preserve hunt is a hunt where the outfitter releases pen raised birds for hunting. The birds are typically released to make the preserve hunt as similar to a wild bird hunt as possible. One of the advantages of a preserve hunt is you know there are going to be birds there (not necessarily the case when hunting wild birds) which makes it much more effective when working with young or inexperienced dogs. In one outing a dog

can get bird more experience than in half or even a whole pheasant season.

Steve had brought his 8 year old girl, Dinah, on what was going to be her (and Steve's) second pheasant hunt. On the first hunt we were hunting wild birds and hadn't been able to get Dinah into any so this was really going to be her first real hunt. I had Bond, my 4 year old boy, who has been pheasant hunting since he was a pup, but had always relied on Emma, my old girl, to be the real hunter; he was just along for the fun. With Emma departed to the rainbow bridge in October, Bond had finally stepped up his game on our last outing, going from a mediocre hunter to a pheasant flushing fiend. This hunt was to find out if the last hunt was a fluke or he had finally figured it out.



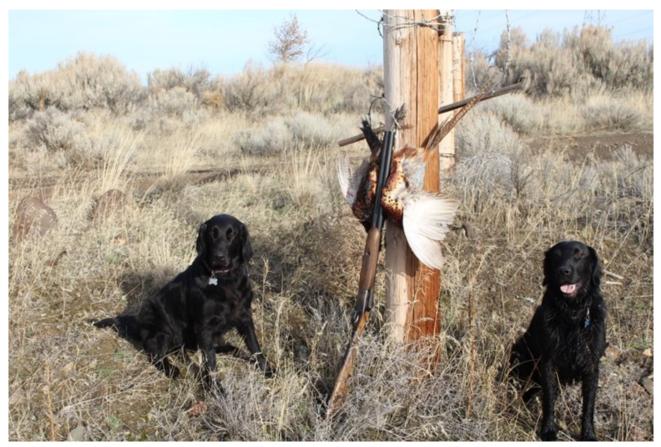
Dinah delivering to hand

We spent the night roughing it in Sage Canyon Outfitters' "bunkhouse", a cabin with kitchenette, full bath and a 48" flat screen satellite TV (wouldn't want to miss Sunday night football). The rain had blown through by Monday morning and the weather was clear and cold as we met with Bob Krein, owner of Sage Canyon Outfitters to discuss our hunt. We had opted for two-six bird packages where we could do one set in the morning and one in the afternoon. The first hunt was to be along a small creek with several hundred yards of rushes, tall grass and cat tails that ran down to two small ponds.

With Dinah being new to hunting pheasants we asked that they put flags by the first two birds and we would hunt Dinah by herself, then hunt the rest of the birds with both dogs. By flagging the birds we would know where the bird was and could hunt Dinah to the bird ensuring her success. This is another huge advantage of hunting a preserve. You can structure the hunt so that an inexperienced dog can quickly figure out why you

Hunting with Flat-Coats, cont'd.

are out in the field. After a couple of birds they realize there are cool things to find in the brush and then it becomes more about controlling the enthusiasm. We left Bond in the car (which did NOT make us very popular with him) and began hunting down the brush row. When we saw the first flag Steve positioned Dinah so she could flush it. We shot it and had a running cripple that I dispatched before Dinah retrieved it. Oh happy dog! We hunted down to the next flag, but Steve saw that pheasant take off running before Dinah had winded it so he shot it before it could get out of range. Dinah again zoomed down and was all wiggles as she retrieved her second rooster.



Dinah and Bond

We took those two back to the cars where we released a more than ready Bond to hunt the rest of the birds. We hunted on down the creek flushing and shooting birds as we went. The birds were in a variety of cover so it gave the dogs a varied experience, excellent training for future hunts. When we got to the edge of the property we had 5 or our 6 birds so we hunted back up to the cars and Bond dove into the brush allowing us to collect our sixth bird.

We went back to the clubhouse and had lunch while they put out our second batch of birds. This hunt was down the bottom of a canyon with another small creek and substantially more cover. You really needed another couple of hunters and dogs to effectively hunt this area, so were only able to flush 4 of our 6 birds, but it was still a great hunt.

Hunting with Flat-Coats, cont'd.

Preserve hunts are a great way to train new dogs or tune up the older ones, plus it's just a lot of fun. Lots of birds, lots of shooting and lots of opportunity to watch your dogs do what they were bred to do. Plus, when you get done you have a very tasty reward to look forward to.

If You Go

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, we 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. There are a couple of restaurants but they aren't necessarily open every day so check ahead. Maupin is a small town, and while it is very busy with rafters and fisherman during the summer, many businesses close during the off season so it pays to check

Jo's version of the story:

Gary isn't telling you about the first trip he and Steve took up the John Day River with Bond and Dinah. The dogs got into burrs, and while Gary and Steve were waiting for AAA to rescue them on I-84 (he isn't telling that story, either) the guys worked on cleaning up the dogs. How did they do it? THEY CUT THE BURRS OUT OF THE DOGS. Yep. My show dog. She came home half bald.

Note from Gary:

NWFCRC - Club Outing ???

<u>Steve and I talked about</u> how much fun it would be to have a Flat Coat hunt day. We talked with Bob Krein, the owner of Sage Canyon Outfitters, and he would work with us in setting up hunts (beginners, more experienced etc) that would cater to people and dogs skill levels. (they've done it for other dog clubs.) If we did this it would probably be in September. They have facilities for a barbeque so in addition to the hunt we could do a pot luck BBQ and possibly set up a clay pigeon shoot.

We are trying to get an idea of how many people might be interested in doing something like this. If this sounds like something you might be interested in could you email me <u>Gary@GLSimpson.com</u> or give me a call 503.65.5428 so I can see if we should move forward.

Health Matters: Bloat By Carolyn McKnight

After Carolyn's dog, Rory scared her with a bloat experience at the 2014 Specialty, Carolyn researched the topic and provides us with this information:

Canine bloat, torsion or gastric dilatation-volvulus (GDV) is a serious, potentially life-threatening condition that requires immediate medical attention.

Bloat happens when the stomach fills with gas. The increased pressure compresses both ends of the stomach, preventing the gas from escaping. If torsion occurs the stomach twists, crimping and cutting off the inflow and outflow from the stomach. When the stomach gasses and/or a foamy mixture of gas and fluids cannot get out, they expand. Affected dogs drool saliva because they cannot swallow. Also, they cannot belch or vomit, which would help relieve the mounting pressure from the gasses. The pressure causes the abdomen to become distended. When tapped, the abdomen can sound or feel like a drum.

Know the symptoms:

*A dog beginning to bloat may seem larger around the last ribs before abdominal swelling is noticed.

*An obviously distended stomach, especially near the ribs. However, this is not always evident depending on the dog's body shape.

*Dog appears highly nauseated and is retching but nothing is coming up.

*Restlessness, salivation.

*Rapid, shallow breathing.

- * Heading turning to look at the abdomen
- * Abdomen is as tight as a drum.

If you suspect any symptom that may be GDV, seek medical attention immediately. Every minute counts.

Treatment

Emergency treatment is required to alleviate the gas and bloat. The longer that the stomach is stretched and twisted, the more damage is done to both the stomach and other organs and the chance of survival decreases. The enlarged and twisted stomach puts pressure on the surrounding blood vessels, affecting the heart and depriving some tissues of oxygen, especially in the stomach. When deprived of oxygen, tissues rapidly start to die. Other organs such as the spleen are often damaged. A dog with bloat can rapidly go into shock or experience arrhythmia.

When a dog with suspected gastric torsion arrives at the vet, they will often try to insert a tube through the mouth and into the dog's stomach to release air. If the stomach has twisted, this may be unsuccessful. X-rays are taken to confirm stomach torsion. IV fluids, electrolytes, and pain medication are given to stabilize the dog.

Surgery is required to repair the torsion if the stomach has twisted (GDV). Severe cases can result in removal of a damaged spleen or a portion of the stomach wall. A gastropexy is performed, which tacks the stomach into normal position. Dogs recovering from torsion surgery will likely have to stay at the vet for a few days for monitoring and then it will be required to rest for three weeks in order for the gastropexy stitches for form adhesions between the stomach and abdomen. Without a gastropexy 76% of dogs will torse again, half of those within three months. Sometimes when the stomach has not twisted the gasses can be released without surgery. In that case, a gastropexy is performed as soon a possible to prevent a future torsion, although bloating may still occur.

Bloat, cont'd.

Is your dog at risk?

Any dog can bloat, even Dachshunds and Chihuahuas. Typically large breed dogs with deep chests have the highest risk of GDV. A dog that has a close family member with a history of bloat may be at high risk. Although there is no single gene that controls bloat, similar body structure may contribute to the increased risk. Dogs do not inherit bloat; they only inherit a predisposition for the condition. Lean, healthy dogs are at a great risk than overweight dogs. It is thought that this is the case because in a fat dog there is less room for the stomach to move and twist. In large breeds, the chance of developing bloat goes up to 20% each year after the age of 5. There is still a lot about the causes of bloat and torsion that is unknown. Additional risk factors may include:

*Dogs that eat quickly or bolt their food.

*Eating and drinking from elevated bowls.

*Anxious, fearful, or nervous dogs.

*Stressful situations

*A single large, daily meal

*Dry dog food containing fat among the first four ingredients

*Dry dog food containing citric acid and which was moistened prior to feeding.

What can you do?

Know the risk factors for your dog. If possible, feed smaller portions of food items two or three times a day. Talk to your breeder about the health of your dog's littermates. Know and record your dog's healthy statistics; their temperature, pulse, waist measurement. Discuss potentional risk factors with your veet and have them examine the waist/chest ratio.

A preventative prophylactic gastropexy may be sensible for dogs that have shown a tendency towards bloating or those that have a very high family risk factor. This procedure is suturing part of the stomach to the abdominal wall to prevent it from flipping. Surgeons are now able to perform this procedure laparoscopically, minimizing the risk of invasive surgery.

Keep a card with up to date emergency telephone numbers in your wallet or training bag. If an emergency happens you want to be able to make a phone call quickly and not be fumbling for a number. When your plans include traveling, check with your friends or family about nearby emergency medical care for tyour canine family member.

Keep a crate in your vehicle so that you are always ready at a moments notice to transport a sick dog.

Slow down fast eaters where possible. Placing a rock or other large item in the food bowl can force some fast eaters to slow down. There are also bowls on the market that are designed to slow down dogs who bolt their meals.

Let your dog move around freely after eating or drinking. This encourages gas to move through their system. A dog that is crated immediately after eating cannot move freely to aid their digestion.

Feed a food that agrees with your dog. If you dog gets a lot of gas, you should investigate a different food.

Make sure that your dog's other caregivers know about bloat and the signs of bloat/torsion.

It cannot be stressed enough: if you suspect any symptom of bloat or torsion, seek medical attention for your dog immediately.

Our Dogs

Report from Solstice Kennels (Vicki Peterson & John Lovegrove, Medford, OR):

Our boy, "Obi" GCH Heronbeck Obsidian Stout RA TD AXP MJP OFP CA, earned his Grand Championship on October 18, 2014, at the Del Valle show, handled by Luke Baggenstos, just a few months after winning BOS at our national specialty. He also recently completed his first 50 hours of visits as a therapy dog with Therapy Dogs International. We are awaiting his certificate to commemorate that achievement. He loves visiting with the other therapy dogs & the residents at the care facilities we go to. He turned 7 in October, so is now an esteemed veteran. He will continue to compete in Rally and Obedience, and hopefully field, but will be retiring from agility.

Our little girl, "Dax", is now CH Saudades' Daily News of Denmark CGC, earning her championship at a Santa Barbara show August 24, 2014, handled by Stacy Keeter. Dax needs just one more leg in Rally Novice to get her RN title. She is in training for agility, and is showing a wonderful desire to learn and also grace and speed while running and jumping.

The Queen of our kennel, "Twinkle", CH MACH Saudades' First Star IC Tonite VCD1 RA MXS MJS OF CA, earned her Master Silver Agility title July 25, 2014. then followed that up with her Time 2 Beat title on October 11,2014. She is about half way to earning her MACH 2. Unfortunately, she is retired from agility as of this month, per her vet's orders. We just discovered that our beloved girl has hemangiosarcoma. Twinkle is a fighter and loves life, so we are going to fight the cancer with her as she undergoes chemotherapy.

We look forward to seeing many Flat Coat folks in the months ahead, and upcoming Albany shows in February and March.







Above, left, Twinkle races for her Mach title. Above, Twinkle and Vicki receive their March ribbon and bar.

To the left, Dax poses for her championship photo.

More from Cammie Bella:

We look forward to getting to know other NWFCRC folks and dogs. I'm hoping for hints on "loose leash walking" and "calm greetings". We're making progress, but she's such an eager, affectionate soul, she wants to greet everyone, human and canine, with great enthusiasm. She just LOVES everybody! Dogs and kids especially. . .



Cammie Bella with Ember



Barb Folwer and Mole earned his MACH at the Border Terrier Trial in Santa Rosa in November.. He is now CH *MACH* Shasta Cinco de Mayo CD RE XF T2B2 JH WC {USDAA PI}

+++++++

From Maggie Minetti:

Valley Crest Furricane's King of Cantrip "Mischief" made his agility debut at a one day trial in Auburn, and it was a Double Q!!!. At the tender age of only fifteen months, he earned two first place ribbons. VRecovered from his back injury, Valley Crest Feudin'Fussin' and Fighten' "Jasper" earned a Triple Q at the same trial. He got two first places and a second place that day.

All three of Maggie's flatties have been involved in barnhunt classes and will go to their first trial in March.



From Kathy Adams:

Blacklace Star Over Gondolin "Talle" is well on her way to her AKC and CKC championships--all before a year old!!!

At Whidbey Island KC she won her first AKC point with a 3pt major and best of winners!!!

At the Auld Lang Syne show in Chilliwack BC she won half her CKC championship all in one weekend!! She was for all three days: WB, BOS, and to top it off was BEST Puppy in sporting group one day!!!

Very exciting journey ahead for this sweet girl!!!





From Lura Dunn: GCH Shasta's Western Samurai "Ronin" won a First Award of Excellence at the Eukanuba National Championship show! Ronin traveled for the first time in a plane and did pretty well. The weather in Orlando that week was cooler than it was in Seattle so he traveled well locally. He took a few runs with me in between shows and visited the Disney World kennel while we visited Mickey and company. Next up, the Westminster Kennel Club show!



GCH Rainshadow' Rollin' on the River JH WC TD "Flo" earned her Tracking Dog title at a tracking test in Bow, Washington on January 4th. She got off to a very shaky start when a flock of snow geese flew up from a nearby field and cruised directly overhead, honking at her. Flo turned around to face the judges and barked voraciously at them, as if to say, "Are you going to shoot one for me? The next distraction came from the south bound Amtrak train that gave her a very loud and boisterous "hello." Distracted conquered, she settled down to complete her track.



Sisters in Crime!

Flo earned her CD at the Puyallup show, and her sister Bree earned her first leg in the same class. Graciously, Flo let Bree beat her out for the third place ribbon, accepting fourth place. There were 26 dogs in their class, and eleven qualified, so third and four place wasn't too shabby. Flo thought maybe they should wrestle to celebrate, but Chris Cornell quickly put a stop to that!

Flo is now GCH Rainshadow's Rollin' on the River CD TD JH WC, and Bree is now CH Rainshadow's Summer Breeze BN RE NA NAJ. She also works full-time as a therapy dog.

Meet Our Board Member: Pat Boydston

Hi, my name is Pat Boydston and I have lived in the beautiful Rogue Valley for over 45 years. I live in Medford Oregon on 2 ¹/₂ acres with a two story 4 bedroom house. 1 acre is in pasture and ³/₄ acre is a sand arena that I used to ride in dressage and jumping with my horse. I no longer have a horse so I now use the arena for dog agility. My sister, my Mom and I all live in the same house along with 4 dogs and two cats.

I have been working for 40 years at Harry and David Corporation and am currently managing several departments and open a call center in Eugene Oregon in the fall Christmas season. So for 3 ½ Months I live in Eugene and love the area and the people.

My first introduction to Flat Coated Retrievers was at our agility clubs training sessions when I met Joyce Brackney and two of her wonderful dogs, Annie and Leo. I fell in love with Leo and asked Joyce a lot of questions about the breed. I asked her if she was going to have puppies and she just happened to have one puppy left from an Annie, Leo breeding. The male puppy grabbed my heart immediately and helped me learn about this wonderful breed's talents and temperament. I brought him home and introduced him to my family and my sister and Moms dogs and our cats. We named him Shasta Sgt Murtaugh and he and I had a lot of fun with dog agility for many years.

When Murtaugh was 5, I asked Joyce if she was going to have a repeat breeding with Leo and Annie and it just so happens she was. When it was time for that litter to be born, Joyce had to rush Annie to her vet for a C section. I was there when the puppies were brought to life and helped keep them warm and rubbed them to keep them breathing. It was a wonderful experience. Every weekend after they were born I traveled to Joyce's house and played with the puppies and tried to figure out which puppy was going to come live with me and Murtaugh. Well it came down to two puppies, one girl and one boy. They both were beautiful and talented and it was hard to decide. They were the two that always came to see me when I visited. I chose the boy and he was a handful. Totally a different than his brother and more challenging than any other dog. He was my first dog that I did hunt test with and he was so talented and earned his Master hunting title. He was also my 1st champion thanks to Rick and Dinah.

I was so hooked on this breed that I traveled to Canada to pick up my next puppy from Judy Teskey. Carolyn McKnight and my sister traveled with me and Carolyn picked up her puppy boy and me my puppy girl. She is Coastalight Rippling Pebbles. I was able to show her in conformation to her championship again with thanks to Rick for getting her 1st major. She earned her junior and senior title in Hunt test. She has earned her excellent titles in Standard, Jumpers and Fast. She is working toward her Master agility title and has earned her Time to Beat 1 title. She and I have been enjoying Rally classes and earned her Novice rally title and hope to earn her advanced title this summer. The delay to earn that title is due to her being pregnant. This will be the 1st litter that I will raise and I plan on keeping one of the puppies.

What I love about Flat Coated Retrievers is the versatility, their gliding stride and loving nature for everyone. What I love to do with my dogs is, hiking, swimming, training and competing in hunt tests, agility and rally. I love to do clicker training with tricks and obedience.

I think anyone who has the opportunity to have one these lovely dogs come into their life will find more humility, company and love!

DANG IT!!!!

This is your newsletter editor screaming and pounding on the computer from Hawaii.

When I got here, I discovered I had lost the Litter Announcement from Susan Kravit-Smith. It had been a bugger to get inserted, and somehow during the flight, it vanished.

As soon as I get home, I will find it, fix it, and send it out.

It is exciting news for Susan, she is breeding her Gracie to a beautiful Canadian dog.

Dang. Dang dang.

Susan—Please accept my huge apologies.



NWFCRC Board Minutes 11-11-14 7:00 PM

Present on the call: Mary Aykens, Joyce Brackney, Jo Chinn, Jeanne Allen; Heather Dawson; Kris Rainey and Lura Dunn

Specialty Update: Mary is going to cancel the Specialty account after two large checks get cashed. If there are small checks that people still want cashed we will reimburse them out of our club account

Treasurer report:

\$9649.11 Club account\$19,566.26 agility account\$5,104.25 FCRSA account

Supported entry dinner in Albany, OR – Due to the costs of the room and the difficulty in getting attendees to commit to attending a dinner, the dinner will be held at a local restaurant. We will arrange for carpools for those who need transportation. Action item: Lura to look for a restaurant.

Agility Trial: The National club has approved us taking over the two day agility trial in Eugene. Will split proceeds and work with Afghan club. We will have to go out for food for judges as there is no caterer on site. National club has approved us to keep the money from the trial. Kris is sending in the deposit for the facility. Kris was asked for a budget. We will split the cost of the fairgrounds with the Afghan club. Details still need to be worked out.

Fun Day: Jo looking for a day in April for rally, ear trimming and trick training in Maltby area. Everyone was in support of this event!

Discussion of supporting another show in WA in a warmer weather. Jeanne will follow up after Jo finds the dates of the Gig Harbor show that was moved to Bremerton.

Next meeting to be December 2nd.

Respectfully submitted by Lura Dunn, Secretary

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