

NORTHWEST FLAT-  
COATED RETRIEVER  
CLUB



**Important Dates:**

**July 13 Entries close for Hurricane Ridge Show in Sequim**

**July 29,30,31 HRKC in Sequim. BBQ at Chinn's.**

**Aug 3 Entries close for Rainier Sporting Dog Show in Enumclaw**

**Aug 6 Flatcoat Daze at the Bersch's.**

**Aug 18 Rainier Sporting Dog Show in Enumclaw. Supported Entry**

# FLAT-COAT TIMES

SUMMER 2016

## Northwest Club Rallies!

Members of the northwest club scored high in the rally competition at the national specialty in Sacramento. Karen Dolphin and her dogs performed so well their scores almost reached the same numbers as the air temperature, which reached over 100!

Shown below are Sandee Butler, Mary and John Aykens, Mary Kirkness and Dan Rotter, Jo Chinn, Margo Ormiston (who actually lives in California but helps with northwest events), Victoria Petersen, Pat Boydston, Jeanne Allen, Nancy Harger, Lizzy Ramhorst, and Karen Dolphin.

Twenty-five of the northwest folks attended the specialty, excelling in field, rally, agility, and the breed ring. After we were ousted from the set-up area by the fire marshal because of our large numbers, Kathy Adams commandeered the best area for crating and grooming for us. Mary Aykens spearheaded creation of the "northwest basket" for the annual FCRSA raffle. And, our communal happy hour was the envy of the show grounds!



**Read the important President's Message  
on the next page!**

## *President's Message*

A Summer Greeting to you all!

I hope that everyone is enjoying the warm summer months and are able to take advantage of the nice weather to head outside with your pups!

This month's newsletter highlights some of the action that occurred at the 2016 Specialty held in Sacramento in early June. A large number of NW FCRs and their guardians attended the Specialty and competed in agility, obedience, conformation and hunt (Corning, CA), events as well as all the social activities that occurred at both sites. A number of adventures and mishaps occurred as you will read about in this newsletter. Some were successful in their events with lots of very pretty ribbons being earned while others just had a great time participating. Specialties are a great time to connect with old friends and make new ones from across the country.

The National Club needed a regional club to step up and accept the challenge of hosting the 2019 Specialty. There was a lot of discussion around this request by members present. Those present that held key positions in 2014 expressed interest in volunteering again and members who hadn't previously participated said they would be interested in helping. The Albany fairground site (which is terrific) only had one possible date open in June for a 2019 event and another group was also interested. The board voted to put a deposit down so that we can hold the facility for the Specialty. While this is a big endeavor for our club, the National Club is much more involved in the Specialties and will be assisting in fund raising, financial accounting and the selection of Judges. Having hosted the 2008 and 2014 Specialties, we have experience in what works and what doesn't work for a Specialty and lots of exciting ideas. The previous events we hosted have received many complements from National Club members who said they would love to return to the NW! All that being said, working together, let's put on another awesome Specialty!

Lura Dunn  
President, NWFCRC



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## ***FCRSA 2019???***

A message from Jo Chinn, Co-Chair, proposed 2019 Specialty

Bolstered by requests from flatcoat people around the United States to “Do Albany again”, many of us Northwest Flatcoat folks got interested in pursuing the idea of the 2019 Specialty. Our favorite motivational speaker Kathy Adams rallied us to step up and make the commitment! Soon, it appeared we would be able to staff the major chairperson positions.

Joyce Brackney, Lura Dunn and I have offered to co-chair. Joyce brings a huge background of specialty experience, she is really great at working with the fair-grounds people and coordinating with FCRSA, and she’s good at working the phones! Lura is highly efficient and organized, calm and thoughtful, and thoroughly versed in the area of conformation. I have paltry knowledge of the performance events, am highly ADHD, and can’t talk on the phone to save my soul.

What can you contribute? Short term, long term, there’s lots of work to be done! We’ll develop a list of jobs and committees, with job descriptions. Why should you get involved? First, it’s fun. You’ll learn lots about the breed. You’ll make great friends. Joyce, Lura, and I are committed to making this stressless for the workers and the participants. With lots of open communication, lots of careful planning, and lots of cheerful volunteers, it can be fun and rewarding for all. The Northwest Club has a reputation of doing things well, and 2019 will be icing on our cake!



Update:

If we go ahead with this, we will not have to do major fund-raising, as FCRSA is restructuring the specialty so that the national club pays for expenses. This relieves major stress from the local club.

Also, we would be searching for a theme to use for the logo, merchandise, and signage. Ideas?

## *Supported Entry*

Results from our supported entry, held in on April 2 in Albany, Oregon:

Best in Puppy Sweepstakes: Swiftwater Tom Foolery. Breeder: Susan Kravit-Smith. Owner: Jude Fritts.

Best Opposite Sex in Puppy Sweepstakes: Wynclyff's Wild Violet. SR882251/01. 03/04/2015. Breeder: Sandra Jo Dennison & Dinah L Baggenstos. Owner: Rick Oswald & Laurel Westall.

Best in Veteran Sweepstakes: BGCH Blackstone Someone's in the Kitchen with Dinah CDX TD RE NA NAJ JH WC JHU Breeder:: Andrea & Wes Williams Jo & Steve Chinn. Owner: Jo & Steve Chinn.

Winners Dog: Blacklace Northern Quest. Breeder: Kathy Kondrat and Marion Hemming. Owner: Cindy Tulpa and Heather Dawson.

Winners Bitch/ Best of Winners: Wynclyff's Wild Violet. SR882251/01. 03/04/2015. Breeder: Sandra Jo Dennison & Dinah L Baggenstos. Owner: Rick Oswald & Laurel Westall.

Best of Breed: GCH CH WINDY HILL GOD OF FIRE RN JH CGC. BREEDER: Dr Robert & Sonja Rickert & L Selof & M Bettis. OWNER: Ken & Cathy Johnson & Robert & Sonja Rickert.

Best of Opposite Sex: BGCH Blackstone Someone's in the Kitchen with Dinah CDX TD RE NA NAJ JH WC JHU Breeder:: Andrea & Wes Williams Jo & Steve Chinn. Owner:: Jo & Steve Chinn.

Select Dog: GCH CH Shasta's Western Samurai. Breeder: Joyce Brackney and Dinah Baggenstos. Owner: Lura Dunn and David Kerschner.

Select Bitch: CH Saudades' Daily News of Denmark RN NF. Breeder: Keli and David Martin. Owner: Victoria Peterson.



## *Our Dogs*

From Nancy Dyson: Following in the illustrious pawprints of his mother Rip and grandmother Echo, Inklin (Coastalight Just an Inklin) earned his CKC Draft Dog title at the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Canada test in Nanoose Bay, BC June 18th. He put in a truly splendid performance and I couldn't be more proud of him or of us as a team. He repeated his success the following day at the Newfoundland Club test so we ended up with six lovely ribbons -- one from each of the three judges over two days



From Cammie Bella:

Ember just passed her CGC (Canine Good Citizen) and last month was certified by Alliance of Therapy Dogs as a therapy dog. Yay! She'll be 3 July 29th. I bought her from Arlene Wilson in Clear Lake, CA, and brought her home at 10 wks.

We served as a match-maker for a friend, Marilyn, to buy a FCR puppy from Jeanne Allen in Sherwood. Little Poppy is a darling! She and Ember are playmates. Poppy has been home with Marilyn for 2 wks now and is already 25#! See photos. They played so hard, they were pooped. . .





## *Our Dogs*



BGCH Blackstone Someone's in the Kitchen with Dinah CDX TD RE JH NA NJ JH WC added "Junior Hunter Upland" to her titles at the spaniel hunt tests in Scatter Creek, Washington. She and owner Steve Chinn discovered how much fun these tests are! The spaniel clubs hold four days of testing over Memorial Day weekend and four more over Labor Day.

The tests, while designed for spaniels, are also open to Golden Retrievers and Flat-coats. Club members are very friendly and helpful, and the atmosphere is relaxed and fun.

Your enterprising editor found the photo on the right on Facebook! That's one of our fabulous northwest dogs, Whatzthat's Hot Perfection "Biscuit" showing off his Junior Hunter ribbon. He finished his title at Pepper's Retrieving Grounds on Sunday, July 2. His is owned by Kris Rainey and proudly bred by Kris and Jeanne Allen.

The photo below was Facebook posted and captioned by Jeanne Allen also. That's Karen Dolphin as puppeteer.

Jeanne's explanatory caption is to the right.



"Congratulations to the four flat-coats who Q'd in the Junior Hunt Test in Carnation. Only 10 Q's out of 25 and Kris Rainey said it was a tough water retrieve. Left to right, Biscuit, Tag, Phineas and Roxie. Thanks to Matt Nolan for handling Biscuit. All others were handled by their owners. Congrats to Karen Dolphin, Susan Shingleton, and Mary Kirkness. So great to see flatcoats do so well."



## Our Dogs



Jeanne Allen sends us this picture of her gorgeous Sizzle, with the following information:

“A very big brag today. GCH Whatzthat’s All Fired Up “Sizzle”, owned and loved by Kris Rainey and Deb Peterson completed her MACH title today up in Washington at Argus Ranch. She was bred by me and Kris and while she’s already qualified for the Hall of Fame, she now has this title to add to the many others . Almost all her titles have been owner trained and handled. We are all on Cloud 9 this accomplishment!

Maggie Minetti sends us all kinds of interesting and exciting news:

“Jasper Valley Crest Feudin' Fussin" and a Fighten' has received his 20th and 21st titles he is now MXJPB MXPB, he also has an open Barnhunt title now RATO.. Mischief has 8 titles now including his RATN and is 2 Q"S away from his MXJP MXP . Killer has an RATO title and is finally earning PACH points.”

Maggie sends the pictures below.



Also from Maggie: Shout out to Denice Langley Custom Leather for Jasper and Killers collars, they are sooo amazing. Mischief will be getting his this fall.





## *Our Dogs: Scenes from the Sizzling Specialty!*



Temperatures soared; so did our spirits!

We'll all remember this year's specialty as a time of cool coats, ice buckets, and mister fans. Those of us who participated in field events can add memories of dust, grit, fox tails, burrs, and sweaty hair plastered to our heads.

We'll also remember the incredible effort put forth by our members to get our dogs ready for the ring, to keep our dogs cool, and to support one another.



Comrades in Crime? Cathy Johnson, Kathy Adams, and Nancy Harger keep cool! They are so cool!



Mary Aykens, Joyce Brackney and Jeanne Allen share shady stories.



## *Our Dogs, Cont'd.*



Adora Lanphere and Watson (CH Blackstone's Heart of Oak) show off their rally skills, Pat Boydston shows off the northwest club banner, Steve Chinn shows off his silly side, and Mark Kirknerss shows off a junior hunter qualifying ribbon.





## *Sizzling Sacramento*



We're too cool. Overwhelmingly successful in the field, Karen Dolphin, Kathy Adams, Marina Korzh, and Steve Chinn celebrate at the field banquet.



## *Our Dogs, Cont'd.*



Susan Shingleton gives the play-by-play.



Is David Wells just a little bit proud?



Funny how a few ribbons help a person forget the heat of the day! Lisa Anderson, new member from Boise, shows she knows what the field stuff is all about, Karen Dolphin displays another of her dogs' many ribbons, and Jo Chinn, earlier described as looking like a "scruffy bag lady" shows off the first of Flo's two senior hunt ribbons.



## *Our Dogs, Cont'd.*



All Hands on Deck! Northwest Club Members pitched in to show stud dogs and their “get”.



Kathy Adams was more than pleased to discover her Husky canopy had been up-styled with a little WSU decorating. Go Cougs!

To the right: Jude Fritts and Swiftwater Tom Foolery take a spin on their way to a ribbon in the Puppy Sweeps!



CH Waunaruun's Immortal Spirit “Phineas” looks cool and calm as he awaits the bird. Were Susan Shingleton's knees knocking?



Mary Kirkness and Roxy demonstrate the concentration that makes them so successful in the field.





## *Our Dogs, Cont'd.*



What? Another bitch in season? The poor boys.



Pat Boydston and Pebbles look for the Q.



Jenny Blasko sends Phineas for a land retrieve...will he succumb to the lure of the water?



Susan Kravit-Smith and Swiftwater My Foolish Heart "Juno" show their stuff in Puppy Sweeps.



"I will if you will." NWFCRC members hold a serious discussion about hosting the 2019 specialty.



## *Our Dogs, Cont'd.*



Kathy Adams and Cindy Tulpa celebrate Talle's Unsteady Singles win. And Talle (CH Blacklace Star Over Gondolin" demonstrates her winning style. Talle conveniently came into season, taking herself out of the obedience and rally events. She joined three other northwest girls on the sidelines.



Above, Biscuit prepares to launch. To the right, he flies for his bird! Biscuit is Kris Rainey's Whatzthat's Hot Perfection.





## *Our Dogs, Cont'd.*



Two senior hunt test passes! GCH Rainshadow's Rollin' on the River CD TD RA BN JH WCX "Flo" proudly wears her ribbons !



Saudades' Jalapeno "Popper" with his ribbons from the specialty where he was 2nd in puppy sweeps, 6-9 mos., 2nd in regular 6-9 month puppy boys & earned a qualifying ribbon in Nov-ice Rally. This young boy with the bright future is owned by Victoria Peterson and John Lovegrove.

"Shout Out" to field trainer Matt Nolan, who patiently taught many of our owner/handlers the skills they needed to run their dogs in hunt tests. In many cases, the dogs learn quickly, remember their jobs, and aim to please every time. Owner/handlers, however, need repetition, repetition, repetition, forget their jobs, and sometimes just don't "get it". Matt deserves a huge "Thank You" for his fortitude!



## *Our Dogs, Cont'd.*



Victory's My Name In Lights "Roxie" had two JH passes won puppy stakes and was first in rally novice at just eleven months. She is owned by Mary Kirkness and Dan Rotter and trained/handled by Mary. It was Mary's first venture into field events!

From Mary Kirkness:

What a wonderful time Dan and I had at our first National (with dogs). It was so nice to get to spend time with all the NWFCRC people, with everyone so spread out it doesn't happen often enough.

I want to give a big shout out to Steve Chinn. I don't think he ever sat down during the field events at temps over 98 and no shade not one complaint from this man.

I hear we will be doing this again in 2019?



Valley Crest's Happy Feet BN,CD, CGC "Sadie" was reserve in USSA and second in rally novice. She is also owned by Mary and Dan.



Gotta love Sadie's photo bomb!



## *Our Dogs, Cont'd.*



From Karen Dolphin:

The old campaigner (Flynn) and the young gun (Tag) and I left Craig and Kiera home to hold down the fort while we went to the Specialty. It was a terrific trip for us. Besides getting to see some old friends and make some new ones, the boys worked their hearts out for me.

Flynn picked up a junior leg (which finished his JH) and placed first in rally excellent b and advanced b to earn the rally high combined award.

Tag earned a junior leg in the field on Friday, a JAM in Unsteady Singles B on Saturday, passed the WC on Sunday, placed 4th in a large (13) regular 12-15 month dog class on Tuesday then went in the rally ring an hour or so later to place 4th in rally novice b, which finished his RN. That also earned him a Patti's Pride award for versatility - not bad for 14 months old!

Flynn (on the left near his rally prize) is now officially Affinity In Like Flynn VCD2 UD RE MX MXJ XF \*JH\* and Tag is Wingover Ready Or Not \*RN\* \*WC\*

Want to see even more pictures? Professional photographer Chris Butler's fabulous photos from the specialty can be viewed at:

<http://gondolin.zenfolio.com/f806602898>



## *Flatcoat Daze*



**Carolyn and Joe Bersch and their Flatcoats Suzy and Scout Invite You to the Tenth  
Annual Flat Coated Retriever Daze**

**at**

**RUDDER'S RIVER RANCH**

**52368/52372 Concrete Sauk Valley Road**

**Concrete, WA 98237**

**Saturday, August 6, 2016**

**10:00 - ??:00**



**Potluck Lunch to be Served at 1:00 (or thereabouts)**

**Pot Luck, but some BBQ'd chicken/homemade Brats will be provided**

**Please Bring Your Own Beverages**

**Please Feel Free to Invite other Flatties (and their owners too!)... or  
folks who might like to own a Flattie!**

**Please RSVP and request directions by e-mailing**

**[cjbersch@comcast.net](mailto:cjbersch@comcast.net)**

**or**

**[rhharper2@gmail.com](mailto:rhharper2@gmail.com)**



## *Health Matters: Fox Tails*

This time of year, the plant commonly known as “fox tail” poses a serious health risk to dogs. The following article describes and risk, and preventative measures dog owners should employ.

### Protecting Your Dog Against Foxtails by Nancy Kay, DVM

Tonight my littlest dog Nellie came in the house sneezing. Any other time of year and I would be unconcerned, but in late spring and early summer an abrupt onset of sneezing after being outdoors is a “foxtail-in-the-nose alarm bell.” I’ll be watching Nellie like a hawk for the rest of the evening. Any crinkling of her nose, ongoing sneezing or bloody nose, and she’ll be my first patient tomorrow morning.

If you are unfamiliar with foxtails, count your blessings! These pesky, bristly plant awns grow in abundance throughout California and are reported in most every state west of the Mississippi. Once the plant heads dry, they become hell-bent on finding their way into dogs’ noses, ears, eyes, mouths and just about every other orifice. They can dive deep into a dog’s nostril or ear canal (beyond sight) in the blink of an eye. And a foxtail camouflaged under a layer of hair can readily burrow through the skin (a favorite hiding place is between toes). Foxtails can wind up virtually anywhere in the body, and associated symptoms vary based on location. For example, a foxtail within the ear canal causes head shaking, under the skin a draining tract, or within the lung, labored breathing and coughing. Not only is the dog’s body incapable of degrading or decomposing foxtails, these plant awns are barbed in such a way that they can only move in a “forward” direction. Unless caught early, they, and the bacteria they carry, either become walled off to form an abscess or migrate through the body causing infection and tissue damage. Once foxtails have moved internally, they become the proverbial needle in a haystack—notoriously difficult to find and remove.

Take the example of Emma Louise, an undeniably adorable Brittany Spaniel mix whose family told me that her favorite pastime is running through fields with her nose to the ground. They described her as a “foxtail magnet,” having accumulated several in her ears and nose over the years. I was asked to help figure out the cause of Emma Louise’s hunched back and straining to urinate. With abdominal ultrasound, I discovered a gigantic abscess tucked up under Emma Louise’s spine, extending into her pelvic canal. Given this girl’s history, I just knew there had to be a foxtail in there somewhere. The question was, would we be able to find it?

As is my medical tradition before launching a foxtail search, I recited a prayer to the “god of foxtails.” I then turned Emma Louise over to one of my surgical colleagues for exploratory surgery. After two hours of nailbiting and a barrage of expletives originating in the O.R., I heard a shout of, “Got it!” The foxtail had been located and removed, and sweet little Emma Louise made a rapid and complete recovery. Not finding the foxtail would have meant a lifetime of antibiotics to treat her foxtail-induced infection.

If you suspect your dog has a foxtail-related issue, contact your veterinarian right away to find out what steps can be taken (at home or in the veterinary hospital) to rid your dog of this unwanted plant material. Whenever possible, avoidance of foxtail exposure is the best and only foolproof prevention. If your dog does have access to foxtails, carefully comb through his or her haircoat—checking ears and toes, too—a couple of times daily to remove any that are embedded and poised to wreak havoc!

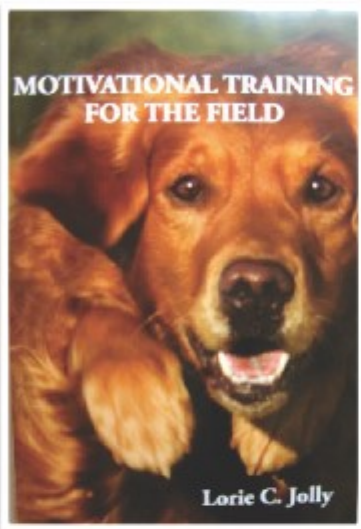


## ***FCRSA Lending Library***

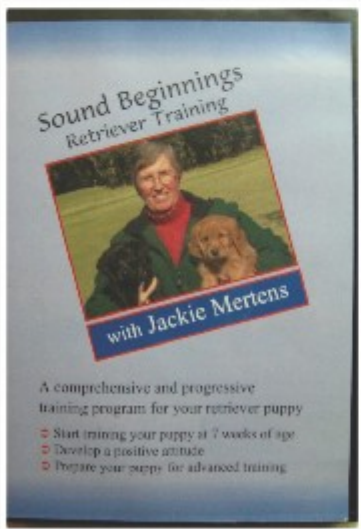
Finding information about field training specifically can be hard to find. The Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America maintains a lending library with helpful information. See their flyer below:

### **FCRSA Field Lending Library** [www.FCRSAfield.com](http://www.FCRSAfield.com)

#### **Recent additions**



#B011 - A positive training book



#V022 - A familiar DVD title but new to the library

#### **A field training resource —**

- A 33 title library of DVDs and books
- Easy to use
- Six week loan period (can be renewed)
- Return by Priority Mail

#### **Authors available to you —**

Bill Hillman  
Mike Lardy  
David Rorem  
Dennis Voigt  
Evan Graham  
and more . . .

#### **For more information —**

Go to the Lending Library at [fcrsafield.com](http://www.fcrsafield.com)

For the lending list -

<http://www.fcrsafield.com/list.html>

For the request form -

<http://www.fcrsafield.com/requestform.html>

#### **Email Lending Librarian**

Ruth Sumner at [rusumner@mac.com](mailto:rusumner@mac.com)

Phone: 860-669-6959



## *Coming Soon...*

The next edition of the newsletter, slated for September/October, will feature our dogs that work. Therapy dogs, search dogs, rescue dogs, personal assistance dogs, service dogs...does your dog work? Start preparing your articles now!

Pictured below is Blackstone's Botany Bay CD BN "Emmett" with owner/handler Jon Izant. Look forward to reading about their work in the fall newsletter.



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