

The Flatcoat Times

The Northwest Flat-Coated Retriever Club

Blowing Coat by Gary Simpson

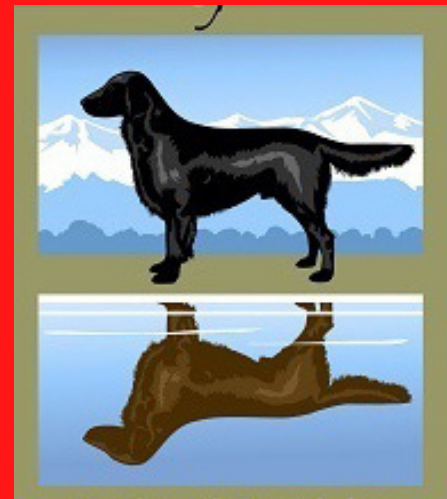
Those of you that have flat-coats, and, considering where you're reading this, that's probably all of you, are familiar with the concept of blowing coat. Hair coming off the dogs in handfuls, carpets covered in dog hair, hair balls the size of wolverines hiding in the corners, hair bunnies taking flight when the furnace starts. The flying hair bunnies can be especially treacherous.

Recently I was watching a movie with a friend where some people were making their way down a hall where you knew the guy with the chain saw was hiding. Just as the tension reached its peak a large floating hair bunny settled on the back of my neck.

I'm not sure what startled her more, the blood curdling scream, or the sight of her date hanging from the ceiling by his finger and toenails. It's a revolting sight to see a grown woman rolling on the floor laughing, even when you know her sweater is going to be covered with flat-coat hair.

The interesting thing though, is that even though the dogs blowing coat shed enough hair in two days to rehair another entire dog, THEY NEVER LOOK ANY DIFFERENT. They can apparently instantaneously regrow all their hair. Think of the benefit to science if they could figure out how they do that, not to mention the benefit to people suffering from male pattern baldness. I don't know if it is because they eat kibble, or lick their....ah...have a rather casual view on acceptable grooming practices, or something else, but we need to get some research started. Instantaneous hair regrowth, there's a Nobel prize there for someone. The flat-coat cure for male pattern baldness. We could make millions.

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Upcoming Events

Coming very soon to your inbox:

***Ballots for election of Board members (sent by Recording Secretary)**

***Dues notification (sent by Membership Secretary)**

March 10,11,12

Silver Falls All-Breed Show in Salem with Supported Entry on Saturday. Show Superintendent is BaRay.

In the meantime, with all the flat coat hair floating around I think we should start collecting flat-coat shed to make wigs for less fortunate dogs. Labradors for instance. You know Labradors are secretly jealous of the beautiful feathering flat-coats have. If we could produce artificial feathering wigs it could help their self confidence and improve their self image. Noble goals that I'm sure it would be a benefit to all canine kind.

Well, back to sweeping and vacuuming before the furnace turns on aga.....too late....oh look, there's one that looks like a dragon.....and that one floating there looks like.....

Gary (who designed a successful fishing fly using flat-coat fur) is owned by Penny, (Coastalight Tlakwa Money Penny JH, WC) and Blaze (Coastalight Blaze the Trail JH, WC)



A Message From the Editor

Composing my last newsletter gives me the chance to reflect on our club and our dogs. It has been uplifting to receive your brags, pictures, and articles, reminding me again and again what wonderful dogs we have. In one edition, we may have a dog winning the breed at Westminster, another finishing a MACH, and another dressed in a silly costume. Competing, hiking, swimming, cuddling...what great companions share. I have loved getting to know you and your dogs and sharing your joys and sorrows with the rest of the club.

I believe I have edited this newsletter since 2011 or 2012; obviously since some weak moment in my life when I told Jeanne, "Sure, I'll do that." Thank you all for accepting whatever I threw out there and forgiving my mistakes as I stumbled along.

We have created wonderful camaraderie in this club and the challenge now is to keep it going. Keep reaching out and supporting one-another, keep planning activities and adventures for all to enjoy. Keep talking to each other at shows. Keep asking those silly questions like, "What's the best vacuum for this hair?"

I offer my best wishes and support to the next newsletter editor.

Now, to quote a once-famous football player, who when asked what he was going to do next, I can truly say "I'm going to Disneyland." Tuesday.



Our Dogs

From Jon Izant: I was asked to do an article for the UK Flatcoated Retriever Society's newsletter on Lincoln and flatcoats in search and rescue. A bit embarrassing actually because Lynda Spangler is the real expert. It seems they only do a printed version so I don't know when it will come but it's fun that a NW flatcoat is getting some attention in England.



From Karen Dolphin: The Dolphin Pod had a busy summer/early fall. Ciri (Wingmaster Witchers Ward RN JH OA NAJ NF WC) progressed along in agility, earning her open standard, novice jumpers, and open fast titles. She debuted in rally novice and earned her title with good scores (99, 99, 100) and placements in all classes. She also continued her beaver antics, hauling limbs out of the woods to turn the back yard into an obstacle course. Attached is a picture of her in action with one of her smaller branches. And on her first tent camping experience she revealed a talent for shoving Craig and me off our sleeping pads so she could rest comfortably between us.

Little Kaya (Wingmaster X Games RN JH NA NF) finished her junior hunter in August and began her agility career, where her nickname is 'little black missile.' Like her uncle Tag (Ch Wingover Ready Or Not CDX RM SH AX MXJ MXF WCX HOF) she believes faster is better when it comes to running a course. She also made her rally debut and surprised everyone by actually beating her 'sister' Ciri in two out of three trials. The baby seems determined not to be overshadowed by the bigger dogs. She has managed to refrain from dancing on tables lately (mainly because the humans keep all the chairs pushed in), but has proven to be an efficient apple sauce pot licker (photo attached).

Tag still enjoys training with the girls and doesn't seem to mind that his 'job' now consists of keeping an eye on them. He does wish that his niece would kiss his face a little less vigorously, but he likes her fine. And his Ciri can do no wrong in his eyes.



Ciri



Kaya

Our Dogs

From Gayle Sackett: Our journey started in July 2021 at the Puyallup shows. It was a five show weekend and Hunter exceeded all my expectations by earning his Championship. He was already enter in August shows where he gained more points. He was not shown again until this year. He completed his Grand Championship in May and in October completed his Grand Championship Bronze. This was all with limited showing and numerous Best of Breed awards. The icing on the cake was a Group 4 at Skyline Dog Fanciers of San Mateo County.

This has been quite a ride. Thank you to his breeders, Keli Martin and Kerry Forni; handlers Collen and Hanna Stone; and all the judges that recognized his outstanding qualities. When I brought this precious black puppy home in August 2019 I never thought that this was our destiny. Love the big black dog!



From Diana Rush:I want to introduce Shasta Citrus Hill Shield Maiden Brynhildr. She competed in the Southern Oregon Kennel Club Show. She's 7 months old and earned her first major.



Our Dogs

From Susan Kravit at Swiftwater: We have had a busy year with our dogs. Last year we added Kira (Blacfriar Dark Crystal at Swiftwater) to the Kravit-Smith family and she has been working as a therapy dog and taking agility, classes hoping to compete next year. As of this writing she has also earned 12 points towards her championship, including both majors. She keeps Gracie (Blacfriar Grace of Swiftwater) on her toes! Gracie will turn 11 in January.

Salem (Swiftwater Brilliant Disguise), owned by Zachary Erz, earned both his Bronze and Silver Grand Championships this year. Along the way he won Sporting Group placements 1,2,3 and 4. He has been in the top ten ranked flatcoats all year. He also sired a litter on the east coast. Two of those pups now live in WA, Ebonaire King in Black “Royal”, went Best Beginner Puppy in Show at the Enumclaw show this summer and followed that with a couple of Pup Sporting Group 1s. At his first show weekend in Ridgefield he went reserve to the major both days, and at his second show weekend in Monroe he was winners dog both days earning two three point majors at just 7 months old! Royal is owned by Zack Erz and Chelsie Elliott and gets to live and play with his dad. His brother Bodie (Ebonaire Star Lord-Guardian of the Galaxy), owned and novice handled by Vaughn Ballew, took a BPUP Sporting group 1 at the Chehalis show and was reserve to the major at Monroe on Sunday. So nice to see this next generation growing up.

And best of all, as a breeder, is hearing from puppy owners all year about how wonderful their pups are: sweet, loving, smart, athletic. It makes all the hard work so worthwhile.



Salem



The stork brings Salem's son from the east coast.

Our Dogs



Susan Kravit and Kira



Royal

Our Dogs

From Lura Dunn: Bueller (CH Wynclyff Taking the Day Off NAP TKN) won a Best of Breed, NOHS Group1, and a NOHS Group 3 at he Southern Oregon shows in Central point 11/4-6/22. Now we need to enter an agility trial so he can get his last Q and earn his OAP so he won't be taking a NAP!





Rainbow Bridge

SHR Victory's My Name In Lights BN,RN,CDX,JH,WCX,HIT

"Roxie's favorite thing on earth was to retrieve, all day long if she had her way! Together we learned about field and in four short months entered our first test (and passed). Earning her WCX at the 2019 was so special, we trained so hard for that, often just the two of us.

She had a great summer with lots of swimming and hiking, never knowing it would be our last together. Our home will never be the same without our shoe stealing bumper obsessed girl."

Roxie,
owned and loved by Mary Kirkness and Dan Rotter



Shasta Flat-Coated Retrievers is
proud to announce

Cooper

Cooper is the Master!!

Passed the 2022 AKC
Master National with
no handling on any
marks.

2019 FCRSA Steady
Singles Winner



CH GRHRCH Shasta's Barrel of Laughs, MH WCX QAA HOF

Cooper will be bred to CH Shasta Demitasse, RN NA OAJ, the
product of 5 generations of HOF dogs, late Fall 2022

Bred by Joyce Brackney, Shasta FCR
Owned by Chris Sprout ~ Handled by Chris Jobman

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