

The Flatcoat Times

Autumn 2021

The Northwest Flat-coated Retriever Club

Snake Wrestling: The New WC/WCX Event?



Co-chairs Pete and Kate Szilard planned and staged another smoothly run WC/WCX test in Monroe, Washington on September 18th. . It was also a very successful test for our flatcoats! Six entered, six passed!

The day started off humorously, when Kate tried to move a large irrigation hose (AKA the snake) by herself. She struggled; everybody else looked on and laughed. Once Kate was rescued and the hose relocated the event cruised without mishap.

The club thanks co-chairs Pete and Kate Szilard, gunners Boyd Ulsh and Ron Colyer, marshal Jo Chinn, ribbon/award chair Mary Kirkness, and bird boys David Kerschner, Dan Rotter, and Steve. Chinn. We also thank the judges, Sharon and Chuck Hilton.

Eighteen dogs ran the two tests. The entries included eighteen Golden Retrievers, eight FCRs, and one Irish WaterSpaniel.



WC/WCX Results



Blaze proves that a big bird isn't too much for a young dog. Blaze is owned, trained, and handled by Gary Simpson. His big-boy name is Coastalight Blaze The Trail WC.



Mary Kirkness and Pete Szilard show off the "Best WC/X Ribbons Ever." Mary received many compliments on her color choice.

Congratulations to our members who passed the Working Certificate test:

Karen Dolphin, with Wingmaster Witchers Ward (Ciri)

Gary Simpson with Coastalight Blaze the Trail (Blaze)

Lura Dunn with Wyncliff Taking the Day Off (Bueller)

Mary Kirkness with Victory's Ready for the Spotlight (Lola)

Linda Givler with Itzawhat's Make Mine a Double (Daniel) and BrdztheWrd Welcome to Shangri La (Trapper)



ibbon Ever."

President's Message

I think we are seeing a small light at the end of a very dark tunnel with reduced restrictions on dog conformation and sport event competitions!

Our club organized an agility trial in the Medford area and on the same weekend held a supported entry at the Hurricane Ridge Kennel Club show in Sequim. A social event hosted by Steve and Jo Chinn was held at their house with many members in attendance! It was the NWFCRC's turn to host the WC/WCX test for FCRs, Goldens and one Irish Water Spaniel. Our first ever supported entry in Boise area was held at the Idaho Capital City Kennel Club in October.

A huge thank you to Joyce Brackney, Pat Boydston, and Lynda Spangler for all the work that goes into organizing and hosting an agility trial especially one held during Covid restrictions. Thanks to the Chinnns for opening their home to club members for a successful social. And without Pete & Kate Szilard, past FCR owner Boyd Ulsh, and our cheery marshal Jo Chinn, our WC/WCX test could not have been the success that it turned out to be despite the warnings of a torrential downpour that didn't happen until the test was over. Lisa Anderson and Kevin Malloy deserve a round of applause for organizing the supported entry in Boise and an informal gathering of members at a local restaurant. THANK YOU to all of you to for taking the time to organize these events! One of my favorite volunteering quotes is from Elizabeth Andrew and sums up the efforts from these members: "Volunteers do not necessarily have the time; they have the heart".

Elections for NWFCRC Board positions will occur in December so watch your email inbox for a ballot! 2022 will bring the implementation of our Board structure as described in our new By Laws and Constitution. The Committee chairs of each Sub Regional committee will hold at large member positions on the Board. Three members have volunteered to organize and chair our three sub regional committees to get us started with our new structure. Lynda Spangler will chair the Oregon/Northern CA sub regional committee, Ron Colyer will chair the Western WA subregional committee and Kevin Malloy will chair the Eastern WA, ID and MT sub regional committee. More information on how to get involved in the sub regional committees will be sent out in the new year.

I hope you all keep safe and healthy, and love on your pups! A happy holidays wish for you all!

Lura Dunn



Bookin' It

Need some winter reading material? Bedtime story for your best friend? Your flatcoat friends offer their favorites:

From Birgit Knudsen: ***No Better Friend*** by Robert Weintraub.

Birgit writes: "Non-fiction WWII account of an RAF flight technician and a pointer who survived battles, bombings, a ship sinking, and prison camps in the Pacific. Some reviewer summed it up better than I ever could: it's like a canine version of *Unbroken*.

I don't know why nobody's made a movie about this yet."



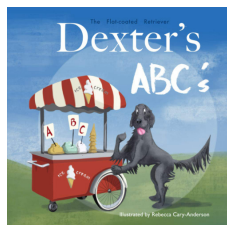
Several readers suggested ***The Art of Racing in the Rain*** by Garth Stein.

Karen Dolphin wrote "I loved 'The Art of Racing in the Rain' by Garth Stein, even if it did make me cry all the way through the first 8 pages."

Chris Cornell comments: "The Art of Racing in the Rain", Seattle author Garth Stein (2008). I read mostly non-fiction, but this novel just got to me. Engaging, funny and sad. I could not put it down.



Kevin Malloy recommends a book written family friend Rebecca Cary-Anderson, ***Dexter's ABCs***. According to the Amazon listing, "Dexter, a large Flat-coated Retriever dog, is center stage as he travels through the alphabet doing everything from baking banana bread to water skiing. In beautifully illustrated pages, Rebecca adds a light hearted touch to an ABC book that will surely bring a smile to readers of all ages."



Kevin Malloy also recommends ***Flatcoat Funnies*** written by Hilary Hughs and illustrated by Rebecca Cary-Anderson.



Maggie Minetti writes to recommend "the best dog agility book ever", First of all, best agility book ever is ***Dogged Pursuit*** by Robert Rodi.



Elizabeth Knight recommends several non-fiction titles:

Adam's Task: Calling Animals by Name by Vicki Hearne. This collection of essays on the ethics and responsibilities that we engage when we engage with our dogs was a revelation to me when I read it in graduate school. Although I now take some exception with her training methods, Hearne's stance towards dogs is that of a philosopher and trainer deeply concerned with the depth of our relationships with dogs. She is also a wonderful writer and these essays are infinitely readable.

Bones Would Rain From the Sky by Suzanne Clothier is a somewhat autobiographical account of Clothier's life as a dog trainer. Like Hearne, Clothier is most concerned with the "personhood" of dogs, and how training enhances our relationship, while acknowledging that personhood, and confers rights and responsibilities to our dogs. Clothier mentions Hearne, although she abhors her training philosophy.

Perfect Puppy in 7 Days by Sophia Yin DVM is the book I recommend to anyone with a new puppy. Yin is the creator of the "Low Stress Handling" system for veterinarians. This book addresses housetraining and general all around manners we need to teach puppies. Most valuable are her discussions of how our body language translates to dogs. The pictures of her working with puppies are invaluable.



Bookin' It

Another of her books, *How to Behave so your Dog Behaves*, is an extension of this.

The Other End of the Leash by Patricia McConnell is a wonderful book about the body language of dogs, what it means, and how best to communicate having that knowledge. Her focus is that primates and canines use very different physical cues.



Pamela Smith Hill sends this recommendation: *The Twelve Days of Christmas Dogs* by Carolyn Conahan. The book may be out of print and hard to find, but it's well worth the search. Carolyn Conahan is a Portland writer/illustrator and she dedicated the book to the dogs she knew and loved, including two of my flat-coats—Kate and Bess. Best of all, a troupe of flat-coats, resplendent in Esther Williams swimwear, appear as the book's "seven splashy swimmers."



Jo Chinn: While this book is about dogs, not just FCRs, I enjoy giving it as a gift to flatcoat friends. Below is my favorite poem from the book, a comparison of dog and human noses. The book is *The World According to Dog* by Joyce Sidman. The poem is "Noses."

Mine	Yours
is an afterthought,	is the main event:
a molehill,	a long, elegant,
a period between	labyrinthine
two sentences of eyes.	echo chamber of smell.

I	You
might detect	are sorting out
wet earth,	the relative age of
rank fists of marigolds,	squirrels
the distant tsunami	that passed this way
of skunk.	last week.

I live	You're sifting
for bright quilts	the mystery
of color,	of invisible breezes,
the inflection of voices,	messages
ciphers on a page.	from hoof and beak.

Wouldn't it be fine	And I could dive
if,	through
for a moment,	that ocean of smell,
we could switch places?	finding answers to
You could see	questions
the distant stars.	I've never asked.

Hurricane Ridge Supported Entry



A happy crowd gathered in Sequim on the last weekend of July for the Hurricane Ridge Kennel Club. Saturday night's BBQ featured a "Flatcoat Showcase" that featured our dogs' special talents.

For example, we learned that Karen Dolphin's Kaya is super talented at standing on the dining room table, which earned her the title "Table Dancing Fiend." Mary Kirkness's Lola jumping like a jumping bean, while the Chinn's Valley also jumps, earning her the nickname Valley Roo.

Twenty flatcoats entered conformation, several ran FastCAT and four partied in the Beginner Puppy ring. Below, John and Mary Aykens' puppy Gypsy poses for a picture at her first club event.



SUPPORTED ENTRY CONFORMATION RESULTS:

BOB/OHBOB/OHG1

CH Arctic Sun Whispering Words at Moonlight, owned by Robin Briganti/Lori Mihm-Kunz/Rici Neumann/Stephanie Johannesson

BOS

GCHS CH Wycliff's My Heart's On Fire owned by Dinah Baggenstos/Richard Baggenstos/Jeanette Mueller/Jo Dennison

Select Bitch

GCH CH Flyway Farms Down in the Valley CD BN RE JH TKI FD owned by Jo Chinn/Steve Chinn

Select Dog

GCH CH Swiftwater Tom Foolery owned by Jude Fritts

Best of Winners & New Champion

Coatlight Road to Gondolin owned by Christopher Butler/Sandra Butler

Winners Dog

Waunarun's You Put A Move On My Heart owned by John Aykens/Mary Aykens

BPB/BPG3

Rainshadow We Shall Overcome owned by Jo Chinn/Steve Chinn

Capital City Supported Entry

Boise, Idaho: Both Winners Dog and Winners Bitch Finish Their Championships, Best of Breed Winner Earns Owner Handled Group 2 and Sporting Group 4!

A pack of Oregon and Washington dogs joined their Idaho buddies for an entry of 19 dogs at the supported entry in Boise on Oct. 16. The Idaho dogs prevailed in the ring with Lisa Anderson's Revan winning Best of Breed, Marina Korzh/David Well's girl finishing her championship and taking Best of Opposite Sex, and Lisa Anderson's Wick named Winners Dog.

Eight class girls vied for Winners Bitch, all but one was owner-handled or "friend" handled. Pictured below are handlers Kevin Malloy, Olivia Shingleton-Blasko, Marcello Winslow, Jo Chinn, Ann Richards, Marina Korzh, and Adora Lanphere.

Supported Entry Conformation Results:

BOB/ BOBOH/G4/OHG2

Wingover's Potentium Philosophy UD BN RN SH OA OAJ
NF CGCA, owned by Lisa Anderson

Best of Winners and BOS

Moonstone Flying Over the Black Sea, owned by David Wells

Select Dog

GCH CH Wynclyff's Lock Up Your Daughters RN JH
BCAT SWN SHDN DEX2 DMA AMX2 HDM CGC
TKN, owned by Susan Shingleton and Jennifer Blasko

Select Bitch

GCHS CH Wynclyff's My Heart's on Fire, owned by
Dinah Baggenstos/Richard Baggenstos/Jeanette Mueller/Jo Dennison

Winners Dog

Wingmaster With a Pencil, owned by Lisa Anderson.



Fun Day in Southern Oregon

Lynda Spangler sent these pictures of the recent Fun Day in southern Oregon. She said eight humans and twelve dogs enjoyed a “super-fun stress-free day, and everyone wants to do it again soon.”



And from southern Oregon, Karen Giesse sends us this picture of her dog dressed for Halloween. This is “Morgan the Lioness.”



Our Dogs

From Salomeja Garolis: At the Sherwood Obedience Trial Gracie (Headliner Double Save) got 2 legs toward her Graduate novice title.



From Linda Givler: Brdz the word Welcome to Shangri-la, Trapper, passed the WC test on 9/18/21 judged by Sharon and Chuck Hilton.

It's A What Make Mine A Double, Daniel, also passed his first WC test at the same event.

Many thanks to the judges and Committee members Pete Szilard, Nancy Light, Ron Colyer, Sheila Colyer, Jo Chinn, Steve Chinn and Kate Szilard for making this such an enjoyable event. We managed to finish just before a huge rain storm hit.

It's A What Make Mine A Double, Daniel, also earned his Junior Hunter title on 8/28/21 under judges Darlene Prado and Cat Martini- Rashid.

Daniel is a wild and crazy Flatcoat but not at all dominant so when another much bigger dog got loose, ran to the water and took Daniel's bird from him, poor little Daniel just looked at me as if to say, WHAT? He re-ran that water retrieve which Daniel probably thought was great.

To the right, you'll find Trapper's and Daniel's pictures.



Our Dogs

From Susan Kravit-Smith:

Swiftwater has had quite a year, with Lincoln (Swiftwater Jude's Phoenix continuing to achieve as a SAR dog, Salem (Swiftwater Brilliant Disguise) finishing his GCH in July and close to finishing his GCHB as of this writing. Out of 21 shows Salem attended this year he was awarded BoB in 15, BOS in 1 and Select in 5.

Rollie (Swiftwater Tom Foolery was awarded Select Dog at the Sequim show. And Pai (Swiftwater Redwing Blackbird) raised a litter of puppies. Fred (Swiftwater Steadfast Fool) also sired a litter of puppies in British Columbia. And of course there are all the Swiftwater dogs who have brought love and joy to their owners through this hard couple of years.

We have also added a new little one Blacfriar Dark Crystal as Swiftwater "Kira" joined us from New York State. She is more fun than a barrel of monkeys, and often sounds like a barrel of monkeys playing with Gracie, who is nearly 10.

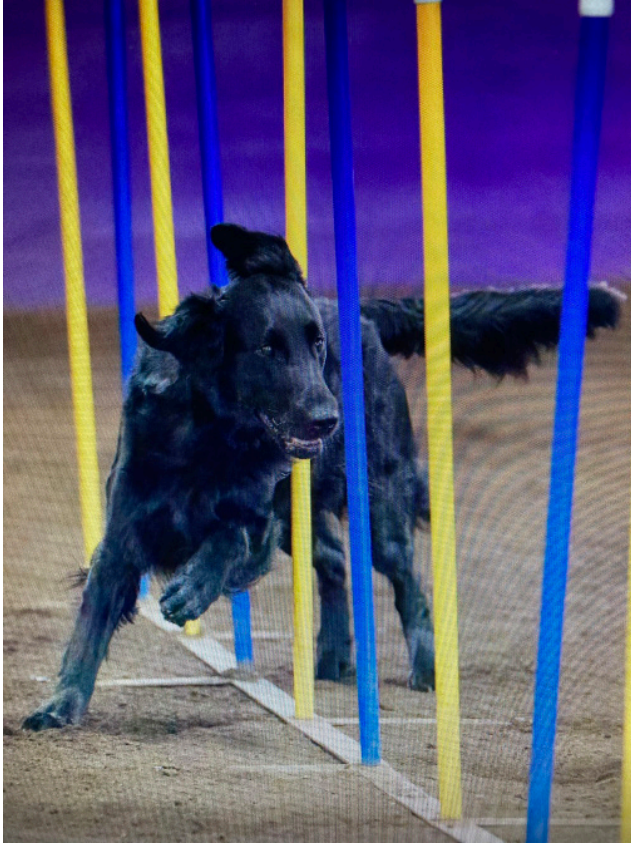
Right top: Salem, Swiftwater Brilliant Disguise was Best of Opposite Sex and Best of Breed in Portland finishing his Grand Championship in just three weekends of showing.

Right bottom: Susan with Rollie (Select Dog) at the Hurricane Ridge Supported Entry in Sequim.



Our Dogs

From Maggie Minetti: Gigolo earned his MX MXJ in Sept., luv this boy and forever grateful to have him.

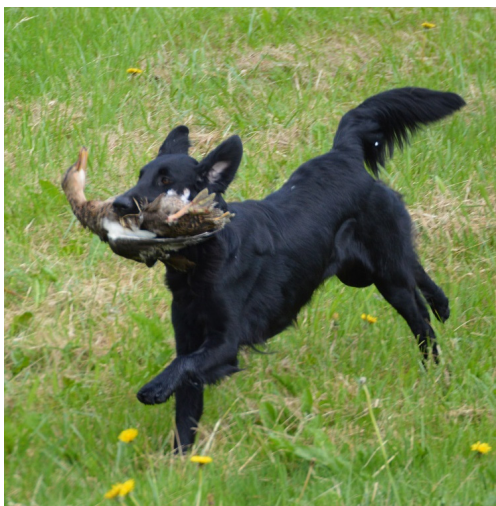


From Karen Dolphin: The Dolphin pod has been enjoying a return to more competition activities this year. Tag (Ch Wingover Ready Or Not CDX RM SH AX MXJ MXF WCX) finished his rally master title in June, which gave him the final points he needed to be Hall of Fame eligible. It's been a fun journey with a great dog and I hope there's still more to come for us. He had a particularly good time getting to be the WCX land test dog at the club test in September and showed off his fine marking skills.

Ciri (Wingmaster Witchers Ward JH WC) jumped into the hunt test game this year, finishing her JH in 4 straight tests then going on to get her WC at our September test. She's a high flying extrovert eager to take on her next training and competition adventures and I'm having a ton of fun with her. She's also the pack's Chief Ear Licker - there are no dirty ears at our house!

Little Kaya (Wingmaster X Games), Tag's niece, has spent the year looking cute, learning to be a good dog (table dancing incidents notwithstanding), and is loving her field and agility training. Fun times ahead! She picked up her first point in the breed ring on Halloween at the Vancouver Kennel Club show.

Karen's pictures are below and below left.



Our Dogs



From Lura Dunn:

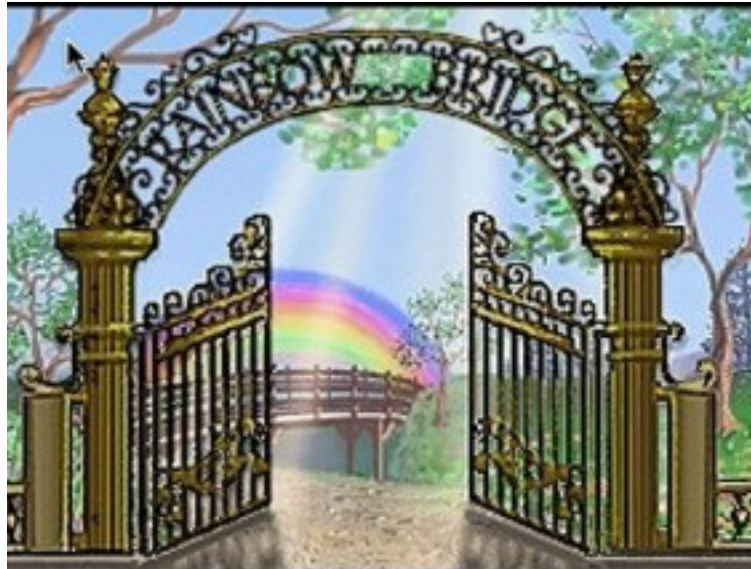
Braggs!

Bueller (CH Wynclyff Taking the Day Off TKN NAP WC) keeps me challenged in the field as well as in the conformation and agility rings. In March he earned his conformation Championship, over the summer he earned two JH passes and his WC and in October he earned his Novice Agility Preferred title! We're learning to work as a team in all events and we hope to add more titles next year!

Coulson (CH Wynclyff's Agent of Shield JH BCAT RATO DMA AM NAP NJP TKN WC RN) has really stretched my field experience as we work on his skills for a Senior Hunter title. He also keeps me on my toes (sometimes literally!) in the agility ring! We had to take a few months off due to my shoulder surgery but we are back competing intermittently and hope to move out of the Open class someday. We took a dip into the Rally world and he earned his Rally Novice while we were on the road at some shows in Oregon.

Below, Coulson demonstrates how exhausting life on the road can be.





CHCG Shasta's Western Samurai JH CA DS WC HOF "Ronin"
left us to cross the Rainbow Bridge on July 21, 2021 at the age of 12 ½ years.

He was the dog that brought us back to competing in the conformation ring and introduced us to field work. Everyone has that special dog and Ronin was ours.

He loved when people applauded for him in the conformation ring and especially loved the chicken used as bait. Ronin was introduced to the field at the age of 8 and earned his JH at 10 years old. He loved to swim and often took his duck for a swim even if it was a land mark. He knew how to find water! When traveling cross country, he was introduced to fireflies and spent hours looking for them and jumping to catch them.

He is missed terribly by his humans and two adult pups.
Goodbye our sweet Ronin. You left deep pawprints on our hearts.
Lura Dunn and David Kerschner



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