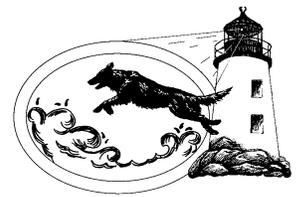




THE FLAT-COAT FILES



A Quarterly Newsletter of the Northeast Flat-Coated Retriever Club

Fall 2013

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The holidays are fast approaching!
Have fun with your Flat-coat buddies.

President's Message

As we go into the darkest of winter months with these high energy Flat-Coated Retrievers, I want to remind all of us the fun of the fall's events.

The WC/WCX on September 21 was a huge social success and the modest financial loss was covered by FCRSA. Judge Janet Ciarico's note summarized the event well: "The club did an excellent job organizing the event and ensuring that all went smoothly. Special thanks to **Joe Juza, Chris McCluer, Don Bierer, Bunny Millikin** and **Ruth Sumner** and to all your volunteers and workers for their incredible efforts! The party ended the day perfectly. Good food and friends make your club extra special and bringing people back to your events year in and year out."

The Supported Entry at the Big E was also a time of good food, friends and lots of tail wagging FCRs. A huge thanks to **Kristen Sobanski** and **Beth Brock**. **Margaret Uminsky** did a smashingly great job with the trophies. Jars, mugs and small metal license plates with FCRs framed in an orange fall color theme were coveted by all and won by the few. Although we didn't break our record of last year, there were 56 FCRs entered. Where would we be without **Sue Stilwell** cordoning off space on Wednesday night? Would we have had fun without a faithful flock of the membership entering and many others coming to cheer us on? The discrete pot luck was well attended and very tasty. Check out **Bruce Flanagan's** pheasant chili recipe on page 16.

Save **March 8, 2014** for the Annual Membership meeting at **Tails-U-Win in Manchester, CT**. Pizza, salad and soda will be provided. The emphasis will be on fun and socializing. **Cookie Kelley** and others will be doing grooming demonstrations. **Kate Horgan-Burke** is going to lead us in some fun people/dog games. Your Board of Directors is meeting in late January to finalize a revision of the bylaws for your review and vote.

Walk safely on the ice and snow as you watch the bounding "Peter Pans of Retrievers" in your keeping over the next several months. See you in March.

Sally Young

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Newsletter Advertising Rates:
Quarter-page or litter announcement \$5.00
Half-page (no photo) \$10.00
Full-page (no photo) \$15.00
Full-page with photo \$25.00

Calendar of Events

Winter Meeting March 8, 2014 Tails-U-Win
Manchester, CT

Web Site

Check out our website (NEFCRC.org) for results, events, and photos. Webmaster **Terry Uminsky** (webmaster@nefcrc.org) is leaving his position as webmaster but we hope to have someone to fill his shoes soon.

Help us find someone willing and able to take on this interesting and vital communication link to our membership.

Address Changes

Please direct all address, e-mail, and phone changes to **Don Bierer** at bierer@comcast.net or (508) 653-0028.

Deadline for submissions for Winter issue is Feb. 5.

Please send newsletter submissions to:
E-mail address: rusumner@mac.com
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Member Brags

Kristen Sobanski reports success for two of her Flat-coats — one in the show ring and the other in agility.

Encore (Breezy Hill's Give My Regards To Broadway CGC) went Reserve Winners Bitch to the 5-point major at the Supported Entry.

Lyric (Broadway's Singular Sensation OA OAJ CGC) earned her first AX and AXJ legs at the Thanksgiving cluster (Sunday).

Carlee Ogeka's two Flat-coats excelled in field this summer.

Parker a Knightcastle boy and BB a Fieldday girl both earned their JH and WC this year! BB was just 8 months and 2 days old at the WC test!

Ruth Sumner is very proud of Gotcha and Punch for their September field accomplishments.

At the NEFCRC WC/WCX test Sept. 21 at West Thompson Lake, Gotcha managed to stay steady on his honor at the water's edge and earned his WCX. He is now Breezy Hill's Grand Slam JH WCX. What a good boy!



Gotcha



Punch

Punch earned his Master Hunter titled at the Yankee Golden Retriever Club AKC test Sept. 28 2012. He is now CH Breezy Hill Christmas Punch MH WCX and I'm thrilled. Thank you, Sue Stilwell for breeding this sweet, wonderful, talented boy.

Sue Stilwell says —

What a wonderful Supported Entry weekend the dogs of Breezy Hill had!

We couldn't be more proud of Shaylee (Breezy Hill How Sweet It Is)! Shaylee and Samantha competed in the Bred-By Exhibitor class at the Supported Entry on November 23rd and won Winner's Bitch for a 5-pt major! Shaylee also picked up another single point (WB) on

More Brags

Stilwell (cont.)

Shaylee



November 21st. Our young girl just needs one more point to complete her CH title. Shaylee is out of our '12 "Zen" (CH Breezy Hill's Find Your Focus) x "Brynn" (Breezy Hill Beachcliff Legasea) litter.

We are also proud of our specials, "Zen" and his sister, "Windy" (CH Breezy Hill Fourth Element). They made the cut in a strong Best of Breed class on both Saturday and Sunday, with Windy winning Best of Opposite Sex (for a 5 pt. major towards her GCH) on Sunday. We rarely show in Best of Breed, focusing more on our class dogs, and it was a treat seeing them so competitive at that level.

I want to send a special "Thank you" to my kids, Samantha and Daniel, who showed our dogs beautifully and who did so much to help make the weekend a success. Ribbons and points are great, but the time spent at dog shows with my children, watching them blossom, is priceless. I'm taking home amazing memories from the Supported Entry weekend!

Joe Juza

Joe has several fall field successes to report as well as a big supported entry brag. First AI (Fisher creek's All Spice) completed his Junior Hunter title at the Maine Retriever Club test.



AI then went on to qualify at our NEFCRC WC/WCX test in West Thompson, CT making him Fisher creek's All Spice, JH WCX !



More Brags

Joe Juza (cont.)

Al was followed by Bella. Prairielight Walkin After Midnight WCX SH earned her Senior Hunter title at the Maine Retriever Club test. “I could not be more proud of this girl!”



Not to be outdone, Prairielight Gem of My Heart (Miss Ruby) was judged Best Veteran at our Supported entry and went on to take a Group 4 in the Veteran's Class!!!!

Many thanks to Theresa Kuchinos for her excellent handling and help.

There were several other dogs and handlers that deserved some bragging —

Kate Horgan-Burke
Beth Brock
Jill Kuchinos
Cookie Kelley
and others.

I hope they send their pictures and news in for the Winter issue. It won't be old news because it is not that far away! The deadline is Feb. 5th so that it will be in your mailboxes well before the Winter Meeting March 8th at Tails-U-Win in Manchester, CT

In Memory

From Elaine Van Briggie -

In loving memory of Hannah
(Windfall's Lone Star SH WCX)
5/30/03 - 11/3/13



I lost my Hannah in early November. Hannah was a very special girl. She was a singleton pup. She was also the youngest puppy, at 4 weeks-old, to have major heart surgery. Hannah was a therapy dog visiting my local nursing home and enjoyed field work as well. Together we were able to achieve her Senior Hunter title, her WCX and one leg toward an MH. More important than any of these things, she was a loving companion with the sweetest character, always there with me. I miss her every day.

Article

What is the USDA up to?

Sally Young asked Kurt Anderson to write a short piece on the new USDA rules regarding licensing and pet sales. Here are some excerpts from the article he wrote. For Kurt's complete description, contact Sally for a copy of the PDF file.

The rule expands the USDA oversight of pet breeders to include people who maintain more than four "breeding females" of any species and sell even one pet "sight unseen" by any means.

Since proposed May 2012, the rule has been the subject of extensive objections by the AKC and other groups and individuals concerned about the future of responsibly bred dogs and small/hobby breeders. The final version of this rule remains largely unchanged and will go into effect Nov. 18.

How do I know if this rule applies to me?

— This rule applies to those who maintain more than four "breeding females" AND sell a puppy as a pet "sight unseen" or sell to a third party (wholesale). This means that the buyer must actually see the puppy in person prior to the purchase.

— If you are concerned about buyers coming to your home, you may arrange a location to meet the buyer and allow them to see the puppy,

— If you have fewer than five breeding females, and/or allow buyers to see the puppy in person prior to purchase, then this rule does not apply to you.

— If you wish to own more than 4 "breeding females" and sell the offspring as pets and do not wish to be regulated, you may avoid regulation by selling all your dogs in a face-to-face transaction. A face-to-face transaction includes one where the seller and buyer are physically present and the buyer has the opportunity to observe the animal before taking custody of it.

999

The Only Thing Constant is Change

By Sally Young

This is a time of many changes in the leadership in our Club:



“A friend in need, is a friend indeed.” **Richard Silpe** stepped up to be President of our Club last March, but none of us expected the **Silpes** to sell their house so quickly! Now they’re in Georgia. Richard resigned as President on November 19, 2013 at our most recent Board of Directors meeting and also resigned from the Board.

Another board change since our last newsletter is that our former treasurer **Anne Cotton** has resigned: “After all, I am over 80 you know!” I suspect that all of you remember sending in membership applications and dues to South Hadley, MA. She worked tirelessly as the NEFCRC Treasurer for over a decade; a post that is now ably filled by **Don Bierer**.

Deb Westcot who technically was off the board when Richard resigned has also decided to step off the board. **Deb** has left the Club with comprehensive binders for the secretary and the president. For years, she and **Bob Westcot** have carted, cleaned and cared for a large inventory of field equipment. They were the time keepers and reminders of countless deadlines to keep this club running smoothly and looking effortless. I, for one, owe her a huge thank you.



Just before our Board meeting **Terry Uminsky** indicated that he would help anyone take over the job of **Webmaster**. Business and family commitments require that he resign this important NEFCRC post. Please notice on the next page of this newsletter an ad for this position. It doesn’t have to be a NEFCRC member. It could be a son or daughter or even grandchild who has the skills to keep this all important window on the internet world open for families in search of puppies and information for our membership.

Kate Horgan-Burke is our new Vice President. A long time member who has tried her skills at conformation, obedience, and field and breeding FCRs, she is a well-rounded officer on your board.

As I said in the President’s Message, all clubs like ours depend on our membership to run smoothly. Thank you to all those who have served in the past and are currently serving. Our membership has many varied talents and skills, I encourage any of you to contact any of us on the board, if you are interested in working in a particular area.



WANTED!

NEFCRC Webmaster

Terry Uminsky is leaving his webmaster role after nearly 7 years of NEFCRC webmaster service.

This provides an opportunity for someone to step up and lend his/her skills and ideas to the task of managing the website.

Terry will provide transitional guidance.

We want

YOU!

Inexperienced? Don't worry. Terry says it is simple to change and add information to the established website and he is happy to guide you.

Experienced? Great! You can develop the website your way and have fun with your own creativity.

Terry has bought a software program called WebEasy which is a simple one that gives the webmaster basic formats to use. He also said that there are websites that have free software available to be used with web applications. A person with experience might have software he/she prefers to work with and that is fine, too.

The new webmaster doesn't have to be a member. Do any of you have one of those techno-wizard teenagers in you life that might like to take this on, perhaps for a school computer course.

Terry has lots more information to share with the person willing to take on this interesting aspect of our NEFCRC communication system. He wants the transition to go smoothly and is very willing to help make it happen.

Thank you, Terry, for your service and your consideration.

Adele Yunck Obedience Seminar

Thanks to the hard work of **Nancy Triou** and **Chris McCluer**, our club sponsored an Obedience Seminar with Adele Yunck on Sept. 8 and 9 at Tails U Win. Adele is an FCRSA member, author (*Competitive Obedience, A Balancing Act*) and flat-coat owner well known for her obedience successes and expertise within and outside our special breed.

The following is a description written by NEFCRC member **Tina Mohr** about the highly successful event.

“I live in the far Northeast corner of Vermont and, as a good friend in NJ likes to tell me, it is the Back of Beyond. She and I feel a bit differently about that since I think living here, for the most part, is not a negative thing. I must confess, though, that one drawback of living so far off the beaten track is that there are few options for training and showing dogs in any venue. Understandably then, when I received the e-mail from Nancy Triou about the upcoming Adele Yunck seminar being sponsored by the Northeast Club and to be held at Tails-U-Win in Manchester, Connecticut, I was overjoyed. I haven’t asked her, but I might have won the award for being the first person to sign up!

I was definitely not disappointed. Most of you who have trained at all for competitive obedience are probably familiar with Adele’s book, “*Competition Obedience: A Balancing Act.*” For most of us, though, interpreting what she has written can’t compare to seeing the exercises performed (correctly). Adele not only writes well, she runs a good seminar. Lots of demos and lots of actual work for those of us participating. Over the two days, we covered just about all the obedience exercises from Novice thru Utility as well as practicing our footwork, working on getting our dog’s attention and keeping it, and trying out methods for generating enthusiasm in our canine partners. At the end of the day on Sunday, most of us, humans and dogs alike, were exhausted!

One thing that struck me was that most of the attendees were involved in more than one activity with their dogs, from conformation showing to agility to freestyle to field and even to barn hunts. Over the course of the weekend I think we all came to recognize that a foundation of obedience training helps with all those activities.

Nancy and **Chris McCluer** made all the arrangements for the seminar and did an excellent job of making sure everything ran smoothly. In addition to Nancy and Chris, several club members (**Bruce** and **Betsy Flanagan**, **Kris Sobanski**, and **Kate Horgan-Burke**) provided enough home-baked goodies and snacks to feed us for a week—not just a weekend.

Of the eighteen working teams, eleven were club members. Skill levels ranged from those who had never done any competition obedience training at all, including one member—who shall remain nameless—who hadn’t a clue as to what it involved, to a couple of attendees who had put OTCHs on multiple dogs. Adele was able to make the seminar interesting and valuable for those of us at all levels. I also have to compliment the more experienced participants among us who were so encouraging and helpful to those of us who were not as knowledgeable.



I now can only hope that more seminars will be scheduled—to educate us, to motivate us to develop new interests and skills, and to provide us with an opportunity to meet and get to know our fellow club members.”

Supported Entry

Another highly successful club event was this year's Supported Entry in West Springfield on Nov. 23. As Sally Young said in her President's Message (page 1), this could not have happened without the hard work and dedication of organizers Kristen Sobanski and Beth Brock along with Margaret Uminsky's knack for finding just the right trophies to commemorate the day. Top that off with a superb potluck and you make everyone smile to be with old and new friends enjoying our dogs.

Supported Entry Results

SWEEPS: Judge: Susan Foster

BEST IN SWEEPS: BRIGHTMOOR SNOW PATROL (MC CLELLAN)

BEST OF OPPOSITE IN SWEEPS: ALIDAR HI TIMES (SPETLA/OLSON)

BEST VETERAN IN SWEEPS: CH BEACON'S RUM RUNNER SH (WILLIAMS/TILLEY)

REGULAR CLASSES: Judge: Mrs. B. Alderman

WINNERS DOG/BEST OF WINNERS AND NEW *CHAMPION*: FISHERCREEK'S GOLD, FRANKINCENSE & MYRRH (5 PT MAJOR) (KUCHINOS/HARRISON)

RESERVE WINNERS DOG: TIMBERBLAC'S CALL TO ARMS (MARTIN)

WINNERS BITCH: BREEZY HILL HOW SWEET IT IS (5 PT MAJOR) (STILWELL)

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH: BREEZY HILL'S GIVE MY REGARDS TO BROADWAY (SOBANSKI/STILWELL)

BEST VETERAN/VETERAN GROUP 4: PRAIRELIGHT GEM O'MY HEART CD, CA, JH (JUZA)

BEST OF BREED: GCH FOSSILCREEK MAPLE SUGER MERLIN (FLANAGAN/O'DONNELL)

BEST OF OPPOSITE: GCH BERTSHIRE'S LIGHT AS A FEATHER (BROCK/HOLSINGER)

SELECT DOG: CH FISHERCREEK'S KISS MY BLARNEY (KELLEY)

SELECT BITCH: CH TIMBERBLAC PLUNDERS OF THE HEART (MARTIN)

OBEDIENCE: (QUALIFIER/*HIGHEST FC IN CLASS)

OPEN B: GAMESKEEPER'S UP THE ANTE UDX2, OM, GO RE, AX, MXJ (195.5)* (D. Zirwas)

BEGINNER NOVICE A: BERTSHIRE PHOENIX RISING FROM ASHES (COURSER/HOLSINGER) (189, 4TH PL)*

BEGINNER NOVICE B: GCH BERTSHIRE LIGHT AS A FEATHER (BROCK/HOLSINGER) 185.5

BEGINNER NOVICE B: GROUSEMOOR SPRING LOADED SH (MCCLUER) 199, 1ST PL.*

RALLY: NO PARTICIPANTS!

AGILITY: (QUALIFIERS)

MASTER EXCELLENT STANDARD: GAUGE, (MCCLUER) 24" (100)

MASTER EXCELLENT STANDARD: KRASH, (MCCLOSKEY) 24" (100)

MASTER EXCELLENT JUMPERS: KRASH, (MCCLOSKEY) 24" (100)

NOVICE JUMPERS PREFERRED: DAZZLE, (UMINSKY) 20" (3rd PI/100)

WC/WCX

September 21, 2013 marked the day of another Flat-coat event, our WC/WCX at West Thompson Lake, N. Grosvenordale, CT. The weather grudgingly cooperated with an overcast day, moderate temperatures and a few sprinkles of rain to keep us guessing during the water series. It was actually perfect weather for fieldwork and having fun.

Christine McCluer and Joe Juza did an excellent job of organizing this event making it seem effortless to the participants but we know better. They worked hard as did the marshalls, stewards, gunners, winger operators, lunch delivers, BBQ grill master, raffle organizers and many more. Bunny Milliken was our official chairperson which only seems proper because she has always been a steadfast supporter of our WC/WCX tests and a cheerleader to those who participate.



Our WC was dedicated to Joyce Stewart for her years of devotion and active involvement in our club. It was particularly wonderful that Joyce was able to



join us for the event and encourage all participants, especially the WC entrants. She loves to encourage new dog and handler teams. The WCX was dedicated to the memory of Paulette Swartzendruber for all the training help and inspiration she generously offered through her long association with NEFCRC and its members. How appropriate that her dog, MACH Foxcreek HOB-B's Jett Sett, handled by Susan Klein, was a qualifier in this year's event!



We had wonderful, friendly, judges who created a relaxed, pleasant, and encouraging atmosphere in which to test our dogs. Audie Gould drove down from Herman, Maine and Janet Ciarico, an NEFCRC member, drove north from Knoxville, MD to judge our test.

Photographer Jeremy Kezer was there with his equipment, expertise and ready willingness to lend a helping hand. He has wonderful photos of our event and our flat-coats on his website < jeremykezer.com >

The end of the testing brought us all back up to the pavilion for a free hot dog and hamburger barbecue with all the fixings. Kate Horgan-Burke's husband, Russ, manned the grill. Animated conversations, smiles, and camaraderie were everywhere with lots of laughter and congratulations all around.



WC/WCX (cont.)

There were 39 entries, 35 ran the test. 22 of the starters were FCRs, 10 were golden retrievers and 3 were Irish Water Spaniels. 18 of the 22 FCRs qualified. This list is also on our website www.NEFCRC.org



Qualifiers

WCX

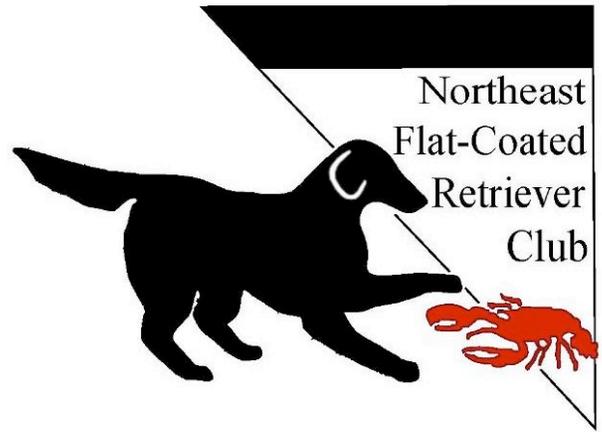
CH Knightcastle Modi D'Avignon, Rn, MH, CGC	Modi	Philip Dewey
Grousemoor Spring Loaded	Gunner	Christine McCluer
Breezy Hill's Grand Slam	Gotcha	Ruth Sumner
CH Coastalight Holds All The Ace, SH	Dylan	Philip Dewey
CH Bertschire Good Grief Gromit CD, RA JH WCX, CGC	Wallace	Beth Brock
Fishercreeks All Spice WC	Al	Joe Juza
Quillquest Tallahassee Temptation JH, WC, CGC	Kate	Liz Handlewich
Prairielight Walkn Aftermidnite JH WC	Bella	Joe Juza
Windfall's On Line, SH, WC	Derby	Elaine Van Briggle
Coastalight Hya Wingover Teal	Teal	Elizabeth Millikin
BISS GCH Blazin's Joie de Vivre CDX, JH WCX	Rudy	Don Bierer
Mach Foxcreek Hob-B's Jett Sett	Jett	Susan Klein
CH Windfall's Miata MH, WCX	Mia	Elaine Van Briggle

WC

Knightcastle Sir Isaac Newton	Parker	Carlee Ogeka
GCH Ch Fossilcreek Maple Sugar Merlin WC	Merlin	Bruce Flanagan
Quilquest Voyages of Valor	Apollo	Liz Handlewich
Fieldday Free and Easy	BB	Carlee Ogeka
James Brook Drop of Onyx Sun	Barry	Kate Horgan-Burke

If you missed our field event this year, be sure to come in 2014. You won't want to be left out again.

NEW PROJECT!!!



2015 NEFCRC Flat-Coated Retriever Calendar

How many of you can say that your dog is a pin-up model?
Some of you will be able to!

Time to start reminiscing through your photo albums! We are looking for submissions of photos of your past and present Flat-Coats to use in our upcoming NEFCRC fundraiser.

We are now looking for candid photos of NEFCRC members' Flat-Coats! The more photos we receive, the better our calendar will be! Get creative – pictures of litters of puppies, dogs in costume, muddy dogs, hunting dogs, agility dogs...there are so many possibilities...

Photos should highlight the dog, preferably with no people in the photo where possible. As we are looking to fill our calendar, photos with all seasonal backgrounds (snow, floral, fall leaves, beach scenes, etc) are appreciated. Photos that show the versatility of our breed are also ideal (agility, tracking, field, obedience, conformation, etc).

Photos **MUST** be **no smaller** than 300 dpi, preferably in a .jpeg format (non-compressed), and we **MUST** have permission from any professional photographer to reproduce their photos in our 2015 calendar (photo credit will be given where applicable). Photos that are too small will become grainy or blurry when resized for the calendar – please keep that in mind when you are looking for submissions.

All submissions should be e-mailed to Kris Sobanski (percussion98@juno.com) – please only send **one photo per e-mail**, but feel free to make as many submissions as you would like! Please put 2015 FCR Calendar in the subject line, and include your dog's registered name (with all titles), owner(s) name and home city/state, breeder(s) name (you may include a breeder(s) website address too, if you'd like), and any photo credit where due in the body of the e-mail.

Calendars will be available for purchase in October – just in time to get a few Christmas and Hanukkah gifts for your friends and families! Watch for an order form in a future NEFCRC newsletter!

Photos must be received by July 30th to be considered for the 2015 Flat-Coat Calendar.

VERSATILITY AT ITS BEST !!

It was a perfect November day to hunt at Markover Preserve in Danielson, CT. Blue sky with a light wind and a high of 45 degrees. Bruce Flanagan with Merlin and Don Bierer with Rudy arrived early to air the dogs so they could get acquainted on lead. There is a lot of testosterone between these two boys and we were a bit concerned how they would get along in the field. As it turned out we need not have worried, but pheasants should beware!

We set off with a guide to our dedicated fields salted with a dozen pheasant. Merlin, an experienced hunter, quartered tirelessly taking Bruce's casts through cover and wooded area. This was Rudy's third time out and by the second half of the hunt the idea of



Four tired boys

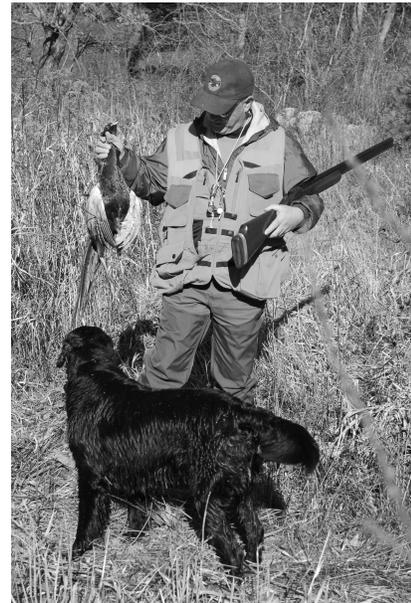
search and flush definitely had kicked in. In the end, Merlin and Rudy flushed and retrieved 14 birds, most downed with one shot. The only flaw of the day was when Bruce shot a hen over Merlin that flew into the woods and Rudy came back with a rooster! "Hocus pocus," said Merlin the magician. "What a magical way to end a perfect day at Markover." Well, Merlin didn't really say that. Bruce and Don did.

That next week we all met again, this time in the show ring for the NEFCRC supported entry. Flat-Coats were the second largest breed entry that weekend. Trading honors once again, Merlin went BOB on Saturday and Rudy took BOB on Sunday.

Now that is versatility at its best!



Don Bierer and Rudy
BISS Bronze-GCH Blazin's Joie de Vivre CDX JH WCX
2014 HOF Inductee



Bruce Flanagan and Merlin
Gold-GCH Fossilcreek Maple Sugar CD JH WC
#1 FCR in 2011



Pheasant Chili

by Bruce Flanagan

Shared at the Supported Entry Nov. 23, 2013

- 3 pheasants
 - 2 packets of Taco Mix for Meat
 - 3 - 15 oz. cans of kidney beans
 - 3 - 8 oz. cans of tomato puree
 - 1 - 8 oz. can of diced tomato with jalapeño pepper
 - 1 or 2 red bell peppers
 - ¼ pound of mild uncooked sausage, crumbled very finely
 - 1 package of Chili Mix for Meat
- (I only use 1/4 packet of CHILI seasoning because I do not like HOT CHILI.) Feel free to season to your liking.

Boil three pheasants in water with **only one** packet of Taco Mix for Meat for 1 to 1 ¾ hours until tender. Take off heat. Cool meat by running cold water right in the pot. (The spices have already cooked into the pheasant so flavor isn't lost). Separate the meat. Shred by hand. **Set aside in separate bowl.**

Mix in a Crockpot: Three - 12 oz cans of kidney beans. (Use full contents of 1 and drain extra liquid from remaining 2 cans of beans.) Add the three 8 oz. cans of tomato purée and one 8 oz. can diced tomato with jalapeño. Add 1 or 2 bell peppers cut into small cubes. No onions but add between ¼ and a whole packet of chili mix (according to your HOT preferences) and the remaining packet of medium Taco meat mix. Crumble/separate 1/4 pound of mild uncooked sausage in fine bits. In a crockpot, combine everything **except pheasant meat**. Cook on high for three and half hours. Cook for additional three hours on medium.

Squeeze any remaining water from the pheasant meat then add it to the crockpot. Heat through and serve.

Do You and your Flat-Coat Qualify for a NEFCRC Versatility Award?

Please read the qualifications, and if you are eligible to receive this award, send the following information to:

Sally Bridges
285 Forest Street
Methuen, MA 01844
skywalkFCR@verizon.net

Name of Dog and Titles earned (as it is to appear on the award)

Dates that the Titles were earned.

NOTE: Deadline February 15th

Northeast Flat-Coated Retriever Club's Versatility Award

The Purpose:

This award is to encourage NEFCRC members to train, work, and show their dogs in more than one area of interest. This award will honor the dog who has proven his ability as a multi-purpose dog. At the same time, it will give the owner incentive to pursue new areas of interest and stretch the dog's talents. Although the Flat-Coat is a breed that prides itself as a multi-purpose dog, we are in danger of splitting into two groups (show vs. working lines). This award is one small effort to try to keep the breed together, and foster exchanges in expertise among club members. Although most useful for motivating new owners, this award will hopefully inspire more senior members to continue to work with their dogs in multiple venues.

To Qualify:

The Flat-Coat must have earned AKC titles in two separate areas, and the Owner must be a club member in good standing during the time the dog has achieved the two required titles. For first-time qualification, the club will award a Versatility Plaque. Thereafter, the club will provide add-on plates as the dog continues to earn titles.

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!!!

AKC Title Areas That Qualify:

Conformation Championships (**CH, GCH**)
Obedience Titles (**All current AKC titles**)
Field Titles (**WC, WCX, All current AKC
 Hunt/Field Trial/Upland Titles**)
Tracking Titles (**All current AKC titles**)
Agility Titles (**All current AKC titles**)
Therapy Dog (**All current AKC titles**)

Title Areas that Do Not Qualify:

American Temperament Test
Canine Good Citizen Certificates

To receive a plaque or add-on plate, please fill out the form on back of this page, and return it to the designated person. The plaques and add-on plates will be awarded at the winter meeting.

Please PRINT CLEARLY!

Versatility Award Eligibility Form

Please PRINT CLEARLY!

Full Registered Name of Dog (including all titles)

Dates of Titles Received:

Title: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Owner of Record:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please circle one:

Need Plaque (for initial award); Need add-on Plate (for additional titles)

Full Registered Name of Dog (including all titles)

Dates of Titles Received:

Title: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____ Date: _____

Owner of Record:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Please circle one:

Need Plaque (for initial award); Need add-on Plate (for additional titles)

Return by FEBRUARY 15th to: Sally Bridges 285 Forest Street Methuen, MA 01844
skywalkFCR@verizon.net

Board News

In an effort to encourage membership, the Board recently voted, effective January 1, 2014, to waive the new member application fee and **dues in the year of application**. So, if you know of Flat-Coat owners who are not members please encourage them to apply. Also, it's a great incentive to bring prospective puppy people to our club. We have a lot to offer.

Our membership application is always available for download at our website — www.NEFCRC.org It opens on the Home page. Click on “Contact Us” at the extreme right of the bar at the top of the page. The Contact Us page will appear. Click on the flat-coat in the center of the page. It is titled Membership Application PDF. It will open the application for printing and mailing.

Friend in Deed Award

This is an award that has been overlooked in recent years but it is still available. It is designed to reward actions rather than titles. Has your dog done anything heroic? Or have special training in detecting disease or the onset of a seizure? Is he a search and rescue dog that has performed a service?

There is a form on the Contact Us page of our website (see how to find that page in the Board News above.) On that page, click on the flat-coat in the center right of the page (Friend in Deed Award Application PDF). The contact information is incorrect and needs to be changed but fill it out and mail to a Board Member listed on page 2 of this newsletter for Board discussion and evaluation.

Although it is included in this newsletter on pages 17 – 18, the website Contact Us page is also the location of the **Versatility Award Application** (lower right hand flat-coat.)

Reminder

Annual Dues

A copy of the 2014 renewal notice is included as an insert with this newsletter. It is also available on our website, www.NEFCRC.org — When it opens to the Home page, click on Calendar (yellow button in the top bar). Calendar opens showing “NEFCRC annual membership renewal deadline:” in the upper left corner of the listings. There is an elongated blue/purple rectangular button below the announcement. Click on that and it will take you right to the renewal form.

ggg

WC/WCX Flat-coats?



These are the three Irish Water Spaniel entries at our WC/WCX. They were eager retrievers and fun to watch. One was Jeremy Kezer's girl, Selchie. The other two were dogs belonging to Jeremy's friends.



Jake
March 29, 1999 – May 20, 2009
Cancer study participant
Histiocytic Sarcoma

You CAN Make a Difference!

If you have a dog with cancer,
please consider participating in our cancer studies.

Contact **the Cancer Studies Support Team** at:

FCR-Cancer-Support@yahoogroups.com

Or contact any Team member directly:

Gay Coffin	jcoffin121@gmail.com	828-877-4499
Gen Dever	gendever@aol.com	612-251-5872
Maggie Minkiewicz	maggiemink03@yahoo.com	770-532-0942
Patti Skorupa	patti@skorupa.com	510-438-9109