

FLAT-COAT FILES

Newsletter of the Northeast Flat-Coated Retriever Club

Fall 2015

In This Newsletter

Calendar of Events	2
Kevin McCormack's story	3
WC/WCX Test	4-6
Jennifer Martin article	7
Morris & Essex Show	8-9
Henry Stoczek's story	10
Let us brag for you!	11
The Supported Entry	12-14
John Nys Agility Workshop	15-16
Field Lending Library	17
2016 Calendar order form	18
2017 Calendar submissions	19
Tidbit	20



President's Message

This beautiful fall has been packed with NEFCRC events sponsored with other dog clubs.

Prime organizers **Tina Mohr** and Donna Sickles of Mid Atlantic FCRC jointly hosted a brunch at the Morris-Essex Dog Show. Sweeps were ably judged by **Neal Goodwin**, former FCRSA President, who has moved back to CT. **Jill Kuchinos** and **Kurt Anderson** were there fashionably dressed in the period of the original show!

The October 10th WC/X was our largest entry in recent memory with a total of 48 dogs. Many workers, including **Joe Juza**, **Christine McCluer**, **Ruth Sumner**, and **Jeannine Vieten**, as well as numerous NEFCRC gunners including **Bob Westcot**, did a fantastic job. The Yankee Golden Club hosted a yummy BBQ with a lucrative raffle run by **Gary McManus**. Judging was in the hands of the experienced: **Bunny Millikin** and **Charlie Lanagan**, with **Sally Bridges** as Marshall.

On November 21st the Supported Entry with **Kristen Sobanski** at the helm hosted one of the largest entries at the Thanksgiving Cluster in West Springfield, MA. **Sue Stilwell**, a member of the hosting club as well as our club, joined Kris in coordinating things on the ground.

Susan Klein organized a very popular club sponsored Agility Workshop for Novice and Advanced handlers and dogs with John Nys on November 7, 2015.

Please save **March 12, 2016** to attend the NEFCRC Annual meeting at Tails-U-Win for a grooming event, our famous raffle and traditional potluck meal following a brief business meeting. Members who have grooming tables and "implements", please contact **Kate Horgan-Burke** to help out. The rest of us should come with our hairy dogs for a day at the spa!

2016 will mark the 40th anniversary of the NEFCRC

We will be sponsoring special events throughout the year including an FCR family get-together.

Please save the weekend of **September 10 and 11, 2016** for a Fun-filled, Family-friendly Fortieth Anniversary celebration in Cabot, VT. **Andy Leinoff** and **Wendy Jones** have offered their beautiful property for this event. Details to follow.

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Newsletter Advertising Rates:

Quarter-page	
or litter announcement	\$5.00
Half-page (no photo)	\$10.00
Full-page with photo	\$25.00

Calendar of Events

Annual Meeting - Mar. 12, 2016 - Tails-U-Win, Manchester, CT

Field Training Sessions - TBA

Pat Burns Field Seminar - Aug. 5 - 7 - Harrisville, RI

40th Anniversary Celebration - Sept. 10 & 11 - Cabot, VT

Website

Check out our website (NEFCRC.org) for results, forms, events, and photos.

Webmaster **Kristen Sobanski** can be contacted at
percussion98@juno.com

Address Changes

Please direct all address, e-mail, and phone changes to
Don Bierer at don@bierer.me or (617) 510-8963.

Newsletter Deadline

Spring Deadline — February, 15, 2016

Please send newsletter submissions to:

E-mail address: rusumner@mac.com

Mailing address: Ruth Sumner
146 Cow Hill Rd.
Clinton, CT 06413

Telephone: (860) 669-6959

Cancer Studies Support Team

There When You Need Us

FCR-Cancer-Support@yahoogroups.com

Or contact any Team member directly:

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Long Island Dog “Meet & Greet” at Mud Creek

Long Island Dog is a non-profit organization dedicated to increasing access to public parkland for Long Island dog owners and their dogs. One of their events this past summer was a "meet & greet" at the Mud Creek Dog Park in Patchogue, Long Island. Mud Creek is a non-gated off-leash park that is located right on the Great South Bay with access to lots of beachfront and swimming.

The event was attended by well more than 50 dogs of all sizes and breeds, many of whom were getting to “swim” for the first time. Proudly so, the highlight of the day was the presence of my four Flat-Coats: Cooper, Brogan, Madison & Merry, who spent 90% of the day in the water - *where else would they be?*

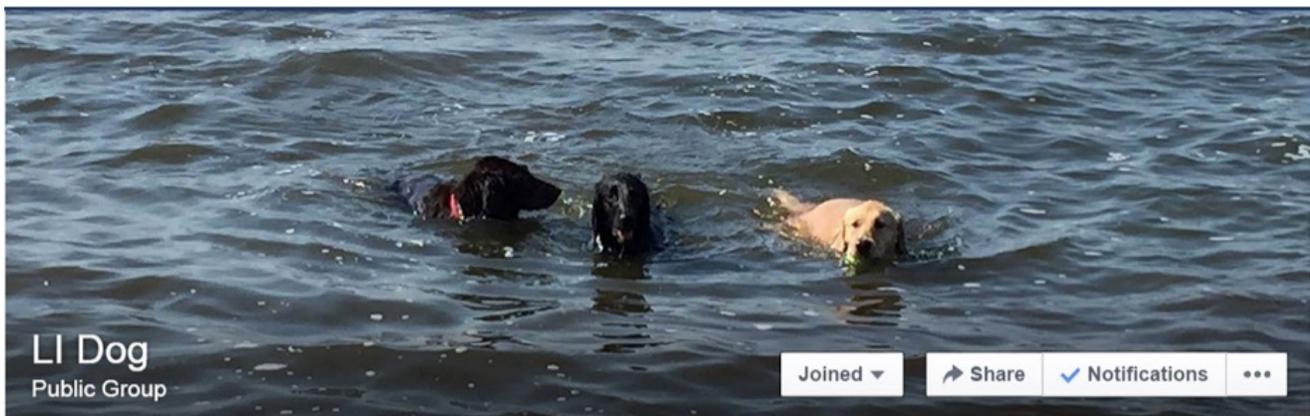
The four became the party coordinators for the day, as they would coax other dogs into the water for the first time, despite owners claiming, “... *my dog never goes in the water...*” Also, they became the surrogate retrievers for the countless dog owners whose puppies just don’t play fetch. The four were kept busy all day playing ball with people they had never met before.

Of course, I was greeted with the normal “seeing a Flat-Coat for the first time” responses of:

- “My God, that’s the most beautiful dog I have ever seen.” (*You just can’t hear that enough*)
- “Is that a black Irish Setter...or black Golden... or long-haired lab?”
- “How come they are so well behaved and friendly?”
- And of course, “Where can I get one?”

Honestly, as I’m sure you all experience, the reaction to a Flat-Coat’s look and demeanor makes us all very proud to share our lives with the best dogs in the world.

LI Dog chose to update the cover photo on their Facebook Page, which now includes two of my puppies, Cooper and Merry swimming with a Yellow Lab who befriended them, and was one of the dogs who “never goes in the water”.



Check out the LI Dog page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/27846761502/> (Editor’s note — the picture on FB has changed with the changing seasons since this article was submitted.)

WC/WCX Test



Our 2015 WCX was held on October 10th at West Thompson Lake, CT in partnership with the Yankee Golden Retriever Club. Our judges were Bunny Millikin and Charlie Lanagan with Sally Bridges as the ever efficient marshal. It was a perfect, sunny fall day with autumn colors decorating the landscape.

It proved to be a wonderfully successful event with 48 entries (the most in recent memory) and plenty of willing helpers. There were three breeds represented — golden retrievers, flat-coats, and Irish water spaniels. Of the entries 18 were for the WC and 30 were in the WCX. The FCR qualifiers were —

WC

Jenn Tower Sailor
Slip Stream Sailed The Ocean Blue, JHU

WCX

Christine McCluer Gunner
Grousmoor Spring Loaded
Annie Catterson Maude
OTCH HRCH Victory Fair at Anahorish UDX, OM2, MH QAA
Ruth Sumner Punch
CH Breezy Hill Christmas Punch MH, WCX
Joseph Juza Bella
Prairielight Walkn Afrmidnite SH, WCX
Susan Klein Hunter
Hob-B's Thrill of the Hunt SH, WCX
Ruth Sumner Gotcha
Breezy Hill's Grand Slam JH, WCX
Susan Klein Jett
MACH2 Fox Creek Hob-B's Jett Sett SH, MXG, MJS, CA, WCX
Sally Nettleton-Smilas Splash
SHR Grousmoor Almosteden 1st Splash of Spring
Sally Bridges Ditto
Fossil Creek Destiny A New Skywalker



WC/WCX Test

This year's test was dedicated to the memory of George Smilas. He had that smile for everyone.

George would have loved the equipment trailer and Joe Juza's shelving organization as well as his dedication to maintaining the contents. Everything is always ready to go.

On to the lake for the water series that completed the tests. There was a double for the WCX dogs and two singles for the WC.



Our totally unobtrusive, friendly photographer, Jeremy Kezer took some amazing photos of the whole test. You can find them on his website, <http://www.jeremykezerphotography.com> We are the second link in the left-hand column of "recent event proofs." Look for the running FCR.

WC/WCX Test (cont.)



At the end of the test, the tired and hungry group packed up equipment and headed to the pavilion where the grill was humming. There was lots of conversation between old friends and new — such an important part of these events!

Our barbecue was followed by words from our judges, the announcement of qualifiers and the awarding of ribbons. Many of the participating dogs had their photos taken on the mum-decorated bales of hay provided by Joe Juza. An exciting, fruitful raffle mc'd by Gary McManus capped off the day.

Next year we hope to see a duplicate day of wonderful fall weather and even more participants to enjoy it.



Jennifer Martin's Morris & Essex Experience

I was excited to be able to attend this epic dog show with over 4100 entries and to step back in time with exhibitors dressing in period outfits. It was a huge experience, my first M&E show at a park just 4 miles from where I grew up through my school years. A big thank you to the clubs for providing hot coffee and pastries ringside, a welcoming and appreciated effort to make that happen. Even the weather cooperated as best it could, the rain holding off until most Group judging was completed.

The Flat-coat entry was fantastic. It was fun to watch all, from the young, uncoordinated puppies to the elegant Breed Champions... all in all a collection of beautiful dogs, and good-spirited competition from the exhibitors.

My story is about one boy, who at the end of judging, with the remaining competitors was dismissed from the ring. People watching from the outside probably never noticed that the dogs earning Awards of Merit were not in the lineup for ribbons. It's only at Specialties and Supported Entry shows where these awards are possible and I'm overflowing with pride that my boy achieved this honor at the Morris & Essex show. It means so much to me for all the hard work he's done, to the people who have helped me with his training and showing, and because Teague is my boy.



Teague is a true versatile Flat-coat, a great ambassador of his Breed. I'm so proud of his achievements and want you to get to know a little about him. Teague turned 7 years old this summer, veteran status, and as many flatties do, he loves ducks! He started late into training for hunting but he can sit in the blind for hours on a real goose hunt as well as run a JH test. It's part of his instinct. Hunting and retrieving is something he didn't have to learn, he just needed guidance on doing it better. Recently, Teague started work on agility equipment and loves it. His first introduction was about five years ago but he remembers each of the stations without fears.

For M&E, Teague was fresh out of hunt training. After a bath at Petco in Piscataway, he showed in the ring like the Gold Grand Champion he is. Teague was entered in Working Dog class and placed 1st... I was thrilled. The other entries were no slouches. In the final judging, Dr. Elliot More chose Teague for an Award of Merit. I am so proud for recognition of his work alongside his love of being in the show ring... isn't that a typical Flat-coat? He's such a ham!

Next week Teague tests at West Thompson Lake, CT at the FCR supported WC/WCX event on Saturday, and is entered at Augusta, NJ at the Harvest Cluster FCR supported entry on Sunday... in Working Dog class, of course!

Morris and Essex Show described by Jill Kuchinos



Photos on this page by Jill Kuchinos



Someone once told me that, if you make a bucket list of dog shows to attend, the list should include the Morris and Essex Dog Show. What? I'd never heard of it. After checking into it, I found out that Morris and Essex is an outdoor show that is held once every five years in Somerset, NJ. It is a dog show with a rich history including a tribute to Geraldine Rockefeller Dodge and to dog shows of the past with exhibitors wearing vintage-inspired clothes, all rings stopping at noon and box lunches being served to exhibitors.



When our club decided to support the entry, I called some friends and decided to make the trek. Aply called the World's Greatest Outdoor Dog Show, the day transformed the standard dog show experience as it took on a Kentucky Derby style class with a stunning array of hats, ladies' attire that spanned from elegant field gear to 1890's formal gowns, and men dressed in suits of every era, bow ties, bowlers, and even spats. There was elegance in and out of the ring as over 3500 dogs competed.



The competition was divided into 28 show rings, each with an adjoining grooming tent. The rings were set up with a very wide aisle in the middle. And, the center of the show boasted a beautiful trophy tent with wall lined with antique-inspired silver trophies. A 1940's Rolls Royce Limo sealed the vintage look and feel as it was set up with a completely outfitted, perfect reproduction of an open air picnic tent.



Morris and Essex Show (cont.)

The highlight for our breed was that it was (as far as I know) the first time that the NEFCRC joined with the MAFCRC to support an entry. There were Puppy Sweepstakes, Veteran Sweepstakes and Breed Competition including working dog classes with a total entry of 67 flat-coated retrievers.



Photos by Sally Young

It was such a fun day with so many of our breed there, seeing so many flattie friends that I usually only get to see at the National, and seeing the whole show experience transformed by vintage ladies and gentlemen.

Having checked the Morris and Essex Dog Show off my bucket list, I might put it right back on for some more fun in five years!



Member Brag from the West Springfield Thanksgiving Cluster

Cookie Kelley announced that Heirborn Law and Order at Donibruk, owned by Cookie, Jill Kuchinos and Theresa Kuchinos, captured a 4pt Major win at the Thanksgiving Cluster in West Springfield, MA. Bred by Heirborn Kennel.

Congratulations!

Swede Becomes Mohawk

Pretty little Fritzzy, a Petersfield Flat Coat, produced eleven puppies. Pat DeBree stayed the night at our house through the birthing. Her experience, a balm of comfort to Cookie for whom the adventure was a first, calmed nerves by telling stories and focusing on happy outcomes yet hours away. Eggplants—Pat said that Flat Coat babies look like eggplants.

Having to work the next day, I missed the birthing and retired to bed. Beauty sleep to my thinking, but critics suggest in my case that over years it failed, a circumstance unfathomable to me. Yet undaunted spirit prevails, and on that felicitous morning there were puppies. To prove my usefulness, I sprang to the task of naming them based on first impressions. The puniest fellow became Nine-Ounce, and the largest, Big Tilde. Fritzzy had the customary ten tits and Tilde found the gushers. Nine-Ounce, invariably in a wrong direction, found nothing. Amendment was necessary. Cookie popped seemingly satiated suckers with swelled bellies off by turns arranging Nine-Ounce in the empty slot. It worked and in days he began to thrive.

I kept coming back to one individual, a handsome boy notwithstanding his snout hair like a mashed down meadow after a square dance. He presented in a bright, curious and happy fashion, but something about him seemed subdued. The vet said he had a suspicious *boompa* in his heart and a late or absent testicle. Not good news and possibly bad news. Because of his symmetry and appealing looks, a Scandinavian stereotype perhaps, I called him Swede. His longevity remained dubious. When it was time for shots, a vet asked if we were sure it was worth it. Cookie bristled and Swede got his shots.

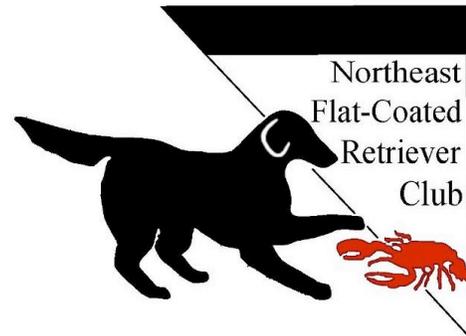
In time, happily, the heart sound became a barely detectable murmur, his second testicle dropped, and the disorganized swatch of snout hair picked itself up from eyebrow to nostrils. Swede became Mohawk, a classically handsome boy at that. He had been with us too long for my wife to part with him, and except for a delicate stomach, he had only the usual Flat Coat idiosyncrasies, something endearing that we were used to. So in a moment of joy finally after a vet's endorsement of his state of health, we dared to think that there might be glory in store for him.

Cookie, Pat and I sat at ringside and watched his experienced handler take him through the paces. No longer testicularly challenged, he fared well with an English judge who appreciated his sturdy but graceful build and a profile with minimal stop. Practically bursting, we entertained visions of championship, prominence and maybe immortality on the Flat Coat calendar as our pup stood in first place! We were presented with a lovely green lasso leash, a testimony it seemed to Cookie's nursing him through his tenuous puppyhood. Pat, ever realistic, said this was only a small first step and not to get ahead of ourselves. She was never more correct. The following day, a different judge had her eye on other dogs with features more pleasing to her. No prizes for Mohawk this time.

Though Mohawk is gone, he made it to eleven, his leash still hangs on the dog's hook ready to slip on when somebody goes to the vet or requires restraint on an out. It will never be called anything other than Mohawk's leash. What a good boy!



Picture combo from T. Kuchinos photo on Facebook



Did your dog earn a new title or special award in 2015? Let us brag for you!

We would love to hear your accomplishments for the 2015 calendar year. A list of newly earned titles and special awards will appear on our website for all to cheer for you. Did you earn a HIT? How about a BIS or Group placement? A new MACH, PACH, OTCH? Great! Earn a Barn Hunt title? How about a CGC, CGCA, CGCU, or Star Puppy? Perfect! New obedience, rally, agility, field, tracking, or conformation title? We want to know!

Please send all of your brags, including the registered name of your dog (including titles), their call name, the names of the owners on record for the dog, and a list of their accomplishments for 2015 to our webmaster, Kris Sobanski (percussion98@juno.com) so that we can share your success! Brags are not limited to AKC titles, but please include the venue (ie. USDAA, UKC, etc) if you have earned a title outside of the AKC.

All submissions will appear on the brags page of our website. A sample can be viewed here: <http://www.nefcrc.org/brags.htm> .

Congratulations on all of your accomplishments this year!



2015 NEFCRC Supported Entry

The NEFCRC Supported Entry was held at the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, MA on November 21, 2015. We had one of the largest entries in the entire show.

Our sweepstakes judge was Deirdre Dunbar. She did a lovely job judging, and had a wonderful time seeing all of our puppies and veterans.

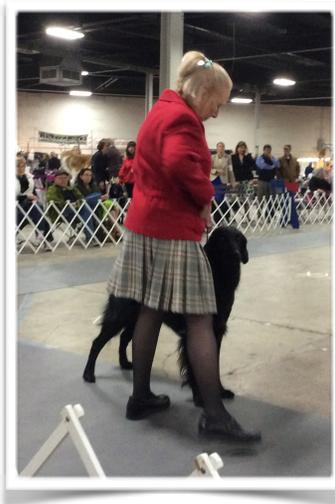


The Sweepstakes results were as follows:

Best Puppy in Sweeps: Breezy Hill's Keeping Abuzz (Stilwell)

Best Veteran in Sweeps: GCh. Bertschire Light As A Feather BN (Brock/Holsinger)

Best Opposite Veteran: Ch. Blacnflat Green Acres CGC (Camardello)



Video by Sally Young

2015 NEFCRC Supported Entry (cont.)

The Regular class judge was Mrs. Betsy Horn Humer. The results were as follows:

Best Of Breed: Ch. Alidar Criminal Type (Camardello)

Best Of Opposite: GCh. Timberblac's All Hands On Deck RN BN CD JH WC CGC (Martin)

Best Of Winners: Valhala Illuminata (Schlink/Doheny/Anderson)

Select Dog: Ch. Breezy Hill's Find Your Focus (Stilwell)

Select Bitch: GCh. Bertschire Light As A Feather BN (Brock/Holsinger)

Winners Dog: Valhala Illuminata (Schlink/Doheny/Anderson)

Reserve Winners Dog: Slipstream Seeds The Day (Tower)

Winners Bitch: Valhala Down By The Seaside (Foley/Doheny)

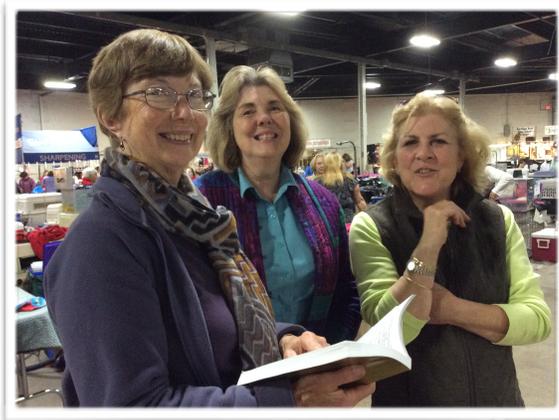
Reserve Winners Bitch: K'Mander Light Of The Moon (Anderson)

Working Dog: GCh. Timberblac's All Hands On Deck RN BN CD JH WC CGC (Martin)

Best Veteran: Ch. Alidar Criminal Type (Camardello)

Best of Breed Owner Handled: GCh. Bertschire Light As A Feather BN (Brock/Holsinger)

Best Veteran (Non-Regular): GCh. Bertschire Jolly Holiday CD RA JH SHU (Tower/Holsinger)



2015 NEFCRC Supported Entry (cont.)



Again this year, the extraordinary trophies were provided by Kristen Sobanski. We had many compliments on our trophies from other breed clubs – some were extremely jealous of the things we had to offer!



During the lunch break (before the breed judging was completed) we had a “discrete” pot luck for our NEFCRC members back in the crating area. Thank you to everyone who brought food to share – everything was delicious!

John Nys Agility Skillbuilding Workshop

NEFCRC members as well as several from other breeds participated in the Club-sponsored “Agility Skill-Building Workshop” held at Dogs Rule Canine Center in Hanover, MA on November 7th. The workshop featured world-class agility instructor John Nys, whose accomplishments both here in the U.S. and in Europe have made him one of the most respected competitors and sought-after instructors in agility in the country. I think that NEFCRC members Nancy Triou, Julie Parker and Pam Czekanski will join me and the non-Club members who were lucky enough to fill vacant spots in declaring the workshop a resounding success.

Between the morning session reserved for rank beginners and novice handlers and the afternoon session designed for handler/dog teams training or competing at a more advanced level, the day



In both workshops, John emphasized the importance of two fundamental skills—the “come to heel” and the “wrap” maneuver—as the basis for many, if not most, of the other moves required to negotiate any agility course. We learned that “come to heel” is essential in getting and keeping the dog’s attention as well as directing it on to the next obstacle, while “the wrap” aids in cueing the dog for a change in direction and helps to tighten turns, shaving seconds off course time. In addition, mastering these two skills is a key element in being able to handle at a distance, a goal that virtually all of us had for the workshop.

John Nys Agility Skillbuilding Workshop (cont.)

In explaining each of the skills, John broke it down into its component parts, first simulating in slow motion how the handler performs it and then, with his own dog, demonstrating how it is applied in negotiating a designated series of obstacles. One by one, we tried to navigate the sequence he demonstrated and, with John's coaching and positive encouragement, each of us was able to build confidence and competence.

An important theme throughout the workshop was that "dogs follow movement," a mantra learned years ago from our own Paulette Swartzendruber. As John explained it, this plays out in many ways. If we stop, the dog has a tendency to stop as well. Dogs, as former animals of prey, are keyed into the movement of many parts of our body, not just the hand we are using to direct them. The direction in which our feet are pointing tells the dog where we, the handler, is likely to be going next, and maybe not as obvious but particularly important in providing direction for tricky turns is the way we move our shoulder. Something to consider in lots of other things that we do with our dogs.



We all came away from the workshop with a whole list of things to work on at home. Most of the participants wanted to know when we were going to have Jon back for another workshop. If we do, you are all very much encouraged to join us. In the meanwhile, those of us who got to benefit from John's expertise this time would like to thank the Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America (FCRSA) for the generous grant which helped to subsidize this fabulous workshop

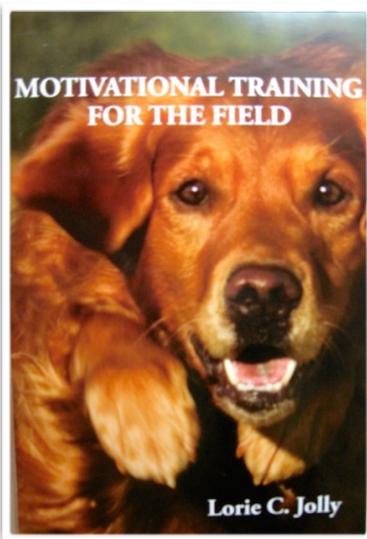
An Under-used Resource

The Field Lending Library is a wonderful resource provided by FCRSA. Items can be borrowed for six week intervals. The library is well-stocked with current popular videos as well as classics. The same is true of the instructional books available. The only cost is return postage by Priority mail and the only requirement is FCRSA membership. Try it . . . you'll like it!

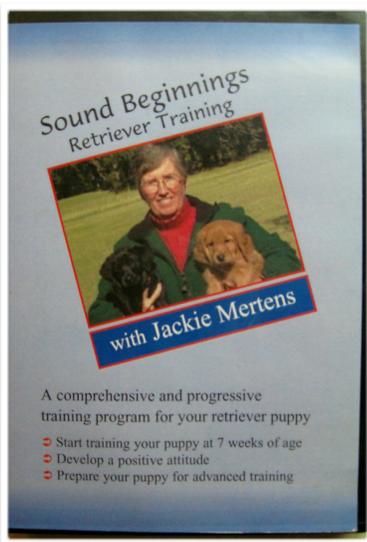
FCRSA Field Lending Library

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

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 rusummer@mac.com

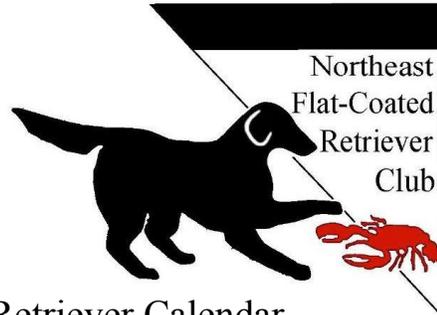
Phone: 860-669-6959

2016 Flat-coat Calendar . . . Going, going, going . . .

Our 2016 NEFCRC Flat-Coated Retriever Calendar has been a huge success. Did you forget to order one?

Sally Young reports that there are only 12 left so your opportunity to get one is passing quickly. They make great holiday gifts. Order now using this form (or a written note) with payment.

FUNDRAISER!!!



2016 NEFCRC Flat-Coated Retriever Calendar Fundraiser Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone : _____ E-mail: _____

Qty: _____ x \$15 + Shipping Total _____ = \$ _____

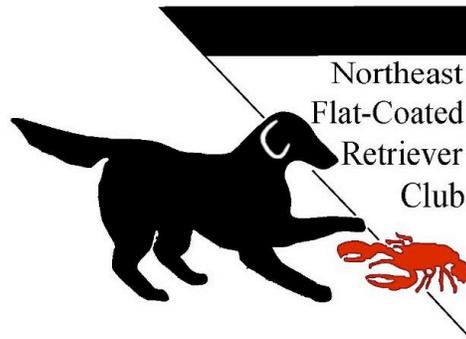
Shipping will be \$6.10 USPS Flat-Rate for up to 4 calendars.



Mail completed order form and payment to:
NEFCRC c/o Sally Young – PO Box 626, Burlington, VT 05402-0626

Submit **your** dogs' photos now for the chance
to be featured in the 2017 calendar.

FUNDRAISER!



2017 NEFCRC Flat-Coated Retriever Calendar

Did you enjoy our 2016 Calendar? What? You didn't order one???
See the link below to order one....but in the mean time...

We are looking for submissions of photos of your past and present Flat-Coats to use in our next 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 .jpg format (non-compressed), and we **MUST have WRITTEN PERMISSION** from any professional photographer to reproduce their photos in our 2017 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 2017 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.

Photos will be accepted until August 1, 2016, at which time all submissions will be considered for use in the printing of the calendar.

A copy of the 2016 calendar can be ordered here – remember, quantities are limited and will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis:

http://nefcr.org/2016_NEFCRC_FCR_Calendar_Order_Form.pdf

Tidbit From Pat DeBree's Attic

When Pat DeBree was packing for her recent move to a new apartment, she found this tidbit to add to the newsletter.

A DOG'S BILL OF RIGHTS

I have the right to give and receive unconditional love.

I have the right to a life that is beyond mere survival.

I have the right to be trained so I do not become the prisoner of my own misbehavior.

I have the right to quality food and medical care.

I have the right to fresh air and green grass.

I have the right to socialize with people and dogs outside my family.

I have the right to have my needs and wants respected.

I have the right to special time with my people.

I have the right to some time and space all my own.

I have the right to be foolish and silly, and to make my person laugh.

I have the right to earn my person's trust and to be trusted in return.

I have the right to be forgiven.

I have the right to die with dignity.

I have the right to be remembered well.

