

FLAT-COAT FILES

Newsletter of the Northeast Flat-Coated Retriever Club

Spring 2018

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Kristen Sobanski's pup

President's Message

I never would have predicted in 2011, when I resigned after 16 years as an NEFCRC Board member, having served 2 terms as President, that I would be writing another President's letter, but here goes. For those of you who don't know me, I was introduced to Flat-Coats almost 30 years ago by Pat Carlson. Since then my husband Ken and I have shared our home with 9 Flat-Coats. At present we have 10 year old Ella, 4 year old Lucas, and Lucy, our Portuguese Water Dog. My dogs are first, my wonderful companions, but I also enjoy competing in conformation, tracking, obedience, Rally, agility, and freestyle.

It was wonderful to see many of you at our meeting on March 17th. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to Sally Young, who served for years as our dedicated President. Huge thanks also go to both Sue Stillwell and Ruth Sumner who, after years of serving on the Board, have decided to resign. Susan Klein has decided to turn over the responsibilities of Treasurer/Membership Secretary, to Lisa Foley. I would like to welcome our new Board Members; Jennifer Tower, Tina Mohr, and Ingrid Sarelus. I look forward to working with Sally Nettleton-Smilas as Vice President.

The Board has a number of exciting opportunities planned including our Summer Fun Day on Sunday September 9th, field training days, a new Supported Entry show, and an obedience seminar with Adele Yunk. You will find details on those events later in the newsletter and on our website. Please plan to join us for some or all of these events.

The club has decided to co-host the 2021 FCRSA National Specialty with the Mid-Atlantic Flat-Coated Retriever Club. This is a huge undertaking and we will need lots of help! We are fortunate that Jill Kuchinos and Margaret Uminsky have agreed to co-chair the event. A committee has been formed to investigate potential sites for the Specialty. We will keep you informed as the planning progresses. This will be very exciting and will take lots of volunteers to make it the huge success that we want it to be.

I hope that those of you who went to the Specialty had as much fun as I did! We had wonderful representation from the NEFCRC in all venues. Congratulations to all! Whether you came home with a ribbon or not, you came home with the BEST dog!

Nancy Triou, President

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Calendar of Events

Upland Training Seminar w/Pat Perry June 16 & 17
Buck Shope Training Seminar July 14 & 15
End of Summer Gala—Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018, Thompson Rod
and Gun Club
WC/WCX— Oct. 6, 2018, West Thompson Dam,
N.Grosvenordale, CT

Web

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

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In The Dark

By
Henry F. Stoeck Jr.

What does Huckleberry think about flashlights? The dark is different for him than for us. We close our evenings with a routine—the final out before bed. Both dogs dance in front of the door while Cookie and I don boots, jackets, hats according to the time of year, and equip ourselves with respective after dark accoutrements—a quaint little pail of bird feed and flashlight for me, a poop bag and flashlight for her. Oh, don't give me the stink-eye about who gets the badder job! She is a perfectionist—far better than me in thorough, conscientious, and attentive to detail departments. Never whines about it like lesser mortals, either.

Briefly, let me confess that, besides the need for that bag in the “watch-where-you-step” category, one of our dogs, despite respected FCR lineage, has developed a disgusting habit concerning “waste.” Especially true in winter, that waste acquires an uncanny attraction for, um, this respectfully unnamed family member. A critical pattern develops: “Pick it up, or risk it being scarfed up, and then puked up in some regrettable location.” That silk *American Oriental* rug in the hallway springs to mind. Life can become a hell for the merest of reasons, and with much trouble being avoidable, well (ahem), that is how I acquired bits of wisdom, I think, over my allotment of years.

The bird feed, by the way, is for...well, for birds early in the morning. We live in the woods. The homely pine beside the house has been the feeding station for extensive varieties of avian fauna since we built the place. From amongst the menagerie of God's poetic sky travelers, we are fortunate to have many gracing our surroundings more for the seed than for our eyes, but how else to attract them? And, can favorites be fed while the “undeserving” denied? I don't like cow birds, assassins, “black bird” impersonators among the migrating flocks of red wings, grackles, and starlings, but I look the other way when they take their turn. Same with turkeys, red squirrels, and their bug-eyed “flying” nighttime cousin. And, if the deer do not snitch seed beneath the homely pine at night, they simply show up in the daylight chasing away finches, and waxwings, and rose breasted gross beaks in happier weather.

Sadly, woodland creatures cannot read. I have considered signs declaring: “No deer, raccoons, flying squirrels, red squirrels, turkeys, foxes, weasels, crows, or Cooper's Hawks need apply!” They come, because it's not “The Ritz” with valets and bouncers screening out riff-raff.

So, on our final out, nocturnes wait off in the woods. Huckleberry announces them with rumbling irritations from deep in his chest. Elsa catches his drift and, in accord, doubles his warning. There is reassurance in those measured alarms. Once again, like ancient shepherds, having a dog in the dark is half as good as having two dogs in the dark. We see and sense nothing beyond the house lights. Flashlight beams pierce openings off between crowded trees where, sure enough, ungulate eyes glow eerily, pearlescent like glass jewel reflectors. One time, there were redder ones, local bears, but not for a few years, now. The hunters in the neighborhood cleared them out. I guess we are thankful. They can be dangerous, I guess, especially for good natured dogs.

Inside at last, boots, jackets and hats are stowed, flashlights put away. Time for last treats—homemade biscuits, pats on the head, then lights out for Flat Coats. Humans attend to ablutions, and then off to bed. Out in the dark, the nocturnal shift is undoubtedly skimming off some seed. There will be some left for morning when everything to do with feathered and furred friends begins anew for another day.

Attention!

No skunks! No bears! No deer! No fox!

No gluttons allowed!



Member Brags

Jenn Tower

There's always something happening with Jenn!

Quintas — Ch Slipstream Seeds the Day CGC finished his Championship with a 4 pt major at the Merrimack Valley Kennel club shows in January 2018.

Windy — Fair Winds and Following Seas at Slipstream BN CD RE, earned her BN and CD in July 2017 all in one weekend. Also, since Jan. 2018, she has earned 11 pts toward her championship, including both of her majors. She now needs just 1 point to finish. Not bad for a 7 year old.

Sailor — Slipstream Sailed the Ocean Blue BN RE SHU, earned his BN in Nov. 2017 and has 2 legs on his CD as well. At Capital Regions & NEFCRC supported entries in Oct. and Nov. 2017, he was Best of Opposite Sex in Veteran Sweeps at both supported entries.



File photo of Jenn with Joy

Beth Brock

Bran finished his breed championship on April 8, 2018 at the Trap Falls Kennel Club Show Under Judge Cathy Daugherty. He went Winners Dog out of the Bred By class. So he is now **CH Bertschire Black Bird TKN**.



Member Brags (cont.)

Don and Susan Bierer

“Cody” Ch Victory’s Kodiak Grin and Bear It CDX JH WC, was eager to earn his Companion Dog Excellent title on April 28, 2018 at Hampton Roads OTC, VA under Judge Ted McCall. Cody says, “no more group stays for me!”



Susan, Don and the Bierer Boys love living in Pinehurst, and Pinehurst loves us back! At our local all-breed show held by Moore County Kennel Club in Pinehurst, NC, Cody won Best of Breed for his first Grand Major on May 5, 2018. Not to be out done, Rudy went BOB the next day to add a few more points toward Gold.



Specialty Field Events



Gay Coffin, former NEFCRC president now living in North Carolina chose the only way to approach this scene — laugh!



The Specialty actually started not in York, PA but at Rebel Ridge in Elkton, MD on May 18th with the field events. This is the scene that greeted the eager participants. Our weather reservation must have been misplaced! This is NOT what we ordered!

Happily the “What me worry?” spirit of the breed prevailed. Everything worked. Our club members respected all the rules for parking and driving around the grounds so the Rebel Ridge grounds were not destroyed in the process as had happened a few years ago with a different club. The clouds and rain did not dampen the spirits of the participants. We had fun!



Have Dogs, Will Travel!

Specialty Field Events (cont.)

Unsteady Singles B



Bob Coffin with Gamekeepers Crimson and Blue waiting their turn at Unsteady Singles B. They passed.

Specialty Field Events (cont.)



Chris McCluer is taking Tiger for a walk before running Gunner in Master.

Bunny Milikin has Teal's rapt attention while waiting to run her in Master as well. Both dogs earned an additional Master leg!



Saturday's Field Banquet looked a little iffy early in the day but was highly successful with lots of laughter and animated conversation— and thankfully, no downpours.

Specialty Field Events (cont.)

NEFCRC Results of the Field Events at the 2018 FCRSA Specialty

Our regional club was well represented in the Field Events at the Specialty last month in Elkton, MD. The weather could have been better as it rained much of the three days. Intrepid handlers and dogs were highly successful:

Qualifying

OTCH Grousemoor Spring Loaded UDX MH	Christine McCluer	2 nd place
GCH Coastalight Holds All the Aces MH WCX	Philip Dewey	3 rd place

Master Passes

Fossilcreek Destine A New Skywalker SH	Sally Bridges
CH Coastalight Itza Wingover Teal MH	Bunny Millikin
Coastalight Anahorish Quinn UD SH WCX	Annie Catterson
OTCH Grousemoor Spring Loaded	Christine McCluer

Senior Passes

Coastalight Ignites the Dawn	Philip Dewey
Flatgold's Divertimento in D JH	Janet Ciarico
SHR Breezy Hill's Grand Slam	Ruth Sumner
GCH Darkflame Mountain Meadowrue GN CD CDX BN RE JH WC	Valerie Bernhardt
SHR Stormwatch Nor'Easter BN JH OA OAJ DS CGC WCX	Joe Juza

Junior Passes

GCH Fishercreeks Take A Chance On Me DS	Jill Kuchinos/Theresa Kuchinos
Gamekeepers Crimson and Blue	Bob Coffin/Gay Coffin
CH Victory's Kodiak Grin and Bear It CDX JH	Don Bierer
CH Blazin Miles of Tidalflats JH WC JHU	Cliff Williams

Steady Singles

Fossilcreek Destiny A New Skywalker SH	Sally Bridges	JAM
GCH Darkflame Mountain Meadowrue GN CD CDX BN RE JH WC	Valerie Bernhardt	JAM

Unsteady Singles B

CH Meadowrue Two to Tango JH WC	Valerie Bernhardt	JAM
Cape Sandflats Black Coral Reef JH WC	Susan Klein	JAM
CH Victory's Kodiak Grin and Bear IT CDX JH WC	Don Bierer	JAM
Gamekeeper Crimson and Blue	Bob Coffin/Gay Coffin	

Specialty Field Events (cont.)

Working Certificates

GCH Blazin's Joie de Vivre CDX JH WCX	Don Bierer
CH Victory's Grin and Bear IT CDX JH	Don Bierer
GCH Fishercreeks Take A Chance On Me DS	Jill Kuchinos/Theresa Kuchinos
Gamekeeper Crimson and Blue	Bob Coffin/Gay Coffin
CH Blazin Miles of Tidalflats JH WC JHU	Cliff Williams
GCHB Fishercreeks Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh CD RN CGC CGCA TD	Jill Kuchinos/Theresa Kuchinos
Coastalight Ignites The Dawn	Philip L Dewey

Working Certificates Excellent

Coastalight Itza Wingover Teal MH	Bunny Millikin
SHR Breezy Hill's Grand Slam JH WCX	Ruth Sumner
GCH Darkflame Mountain Meadowrue GN CD CDX BN RE JH WC	Valerie Bernhardt
Flatgold's Fly Me To The Moon JH	Janet Ciarico

Special thanks go to Doris Ehret, RN and T. Lynn Warthan MD who ably assisted our own Ruth Sumner when she collapsed with dehydration during the long walk back from the WCX. Also going above and beyond were Gay and Bob Coffin who ferried Ruth to Lebanon, NJ where Kit and her son could safely return her to their home.

No matter what happens in the field, we all go home with the best dog(s) but more specifically, we are surrounded by the Flat Coat Family with all our other various skills, generosity and talents.

Sally Young, NEFCRC Field Coordinator

Tina Mohr's York Specialty Review

With much anticipation, I drove to York, PA, for the FCRSA national specialty. I've probably gone to at least a dozen specialties in the past 28 years since I got my first Flat Coat. They offer a chance to meet up with old friends and make new ones. Wanting to make the most of the event, I bravely (or foolishly) entered my boy Banjo in the two rally trials, obedience, and conformation. I use a handler for the conformation part so can sit back and relax for that, but the obedience and rally require that I actually get out there and show my dog. I was not expecting great things, especially since I had only begun seriously training my boy a few months ago, but the nice thing about competing at a specialty is that the competition is more relaxed than at an all-breed trial. At a specialty, anyone who has done even a little training with their dog gives it a shot. Why not? If we embarrass ourselves, we know we won't be the only one and will be among friends.

When I arrived, I was delighted to find that the facility was perfect! I don't think we could have asked for a better space. There was enough room for the 3 rings and tons of crating space. It was away from the agility/conformation room but only a short walk down the connecting corridor. It was quiet and cool. And there was plenty of parking almost right at the doors. As a bonus, all three judges were well respected in the obedience world. And they were kind! I can't say that I should have qualified in our first rally trial—but I gladly accepted that green ribbon! Nancy Withers was so sweet, telling me that I was on the right track and had had some great moments. And I wound up doing much much better in the second trial (a 3rd place) and in my obedience class. The praise went a long way for sure.

I was pleased to find so many of my fellow NEFCRC members had travelled to York and many had also entered the obedience and rally events. Fellow Vermonter, Wendy Jones, set up with me and had entered pretty much the same classes as I had. She ran two of her boys and qualified in everything she entered. Valerie Bernhardt was also with us and took a 1st place in Rally Advanced A in both trials as well as getting a 2nd place ribbon in Beginner Novice obedience. Joe Juza was there and took a 2nd place ribbon with a very respectable score of 96 in Novice B with his boy, Granite. Jennifer Martin was there with Dover who qualified in both rally trials as well as in Beginner Novice obedience. April Senseney also did great with her girl, getting qualifying ribbons in rally and obedience. Jen Tower qualified in both Advanced B and Excellent B rally and Dawn Buttion took a 3rd place in rally Intermediate in the 2nd trial. Don Bierer, and Jill and Theresa Kuchinos competed as well and got some qualifying scores. All in all, our members made a very respectable showing for sure! And I do apologize if I've missed any of you. Nancy Triou was there but hadn't entered either rally or obedience. She assured me she regretted that omission after seeing how much fun we were having! Next time, Nancy.

Sure, there were a few things that could have gone more smoothly, but overall this specialty was so well organized and the venue just terrific. Thanks to all who worked so hard to put on this event. I'm sure they're now enjoying a well-deserved rest.



Member Update - The Silpe's



The Youngs go south and visit NEFCRC members

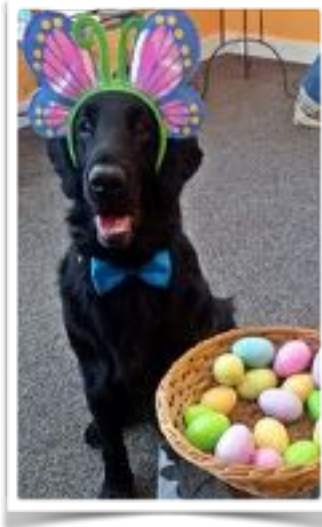
Bill, Sally and the Killyglass clan went to Georgia to train with the Blackgamin group in late March for three days. Wendy has designed a most unusual house in Whigham, GA in the midst of an old pecan grove. We thought that the pecan grove would be like an apple orchard. Not so! These nut trees are nearly a century old, brittle and 20-30 feet tall. Andy and Wendy are planting a new grove underneath the old trees. The small trees which are grafted onto a sturdier root balls are protected by white Nalgene pipes. All the transition dogs were having a devil of a time with some of the lining drills with so many white stakes out in the field. Two of the days we trained at a property that belongs to the Tallahassee Retriever Club. Since the water was warmer in GA than in NC we reintroduced Otter to that medium. "Like a duck to water," he was. Bill and I were quite relieved. Wish ya'll could have been there to watch us texting each other at "dark-thirty" in the morning to let the various family groups out in series to be aired!

Our route back north to visit yet-another-cousin of Sally's in Brevard, NC; led us right by Christine and Richard Silpe's in Hartwell, GA. She was busy readying the house for Passover but gregarious Richard was happy to invite us down to their place on Memory Ln. He reports that their street sign is pilfered at least once a year. Richard met us at the I81 intersection, so I drove down to their place and caught up with them while Bill drove the Jeep with the dogs. I took a picture of his spiffy, used red Volvo convertible with license plate "METSIEH" as well as their place. We took the dogs out to do a couple of walking singles, hugged each of them, patted their dogs and off we went. Our visit was less than an hour. Long before we reached my cousin's I learned from Safari that "metsieh" is Yiddish for "a thief's bargain!" Sally Y



Member Story - from Jill Kuchinos

Last Saturday, King and I were invited as a therapy team to help at a nearby community-wide Easter Egg Scavenger Hunt. We would be a "Clue Spot" inside a downtown building. We greeted families, hinted to have them find their their clue, and and off they went.



During the day, there were lots of special little experiences as we met so many children and their families. One child loved King so much he tore open his candy egg and tried to share his Snickers with King. I politely told the youngster that candy wasn't good for King. Inspired by the scavenger hunt theme, I later discovered that the determined boy had "hidden" the candy for King to find. There were also kids who met their first "big dog" or first black dog. A young special-needs girl was very brave as she made King the first dog she had ever touched -- her reaction was priceless.

While it was busy, there were also quiet moments. In these, I realize why we were there as a therapy team. A high school girl shared deeply with King and me about her problems at school and her concerns for the future. Lots of children shared stories about their animals (or stuffed animals). A young boy wanted to trade his mom's passion for breeding fish for just one dog. I was informed who was the dog lover and who preferred cats. I found out who was allergic to which kind of critter. And, of course, the children shared all kinds of interesting tidbits that no one outside their family should really know.



And, then, a young family arrived for their clue. As they turned the corner and saw King, the boys were first surprised and then very excited to see a dog at their clue spot. King and I had been greeting lots of different types of families so a mom with her three active boys (7, 4, and 2yo) didn't seem unusual. The boys were energetic and crowded closely around King patting him and talking to him. Then, like magic, they just sat right down on the floor and settled in next to King. They talked to King just like he understood everything which of course all dogs do. As they sat there, the oldest son looked over and said, "We used to have a black dog too...[very long pause]...he died in our fire." At first, I thought I misunderstood the boy with all the commotion, so I looked over to the mom who nodded her head and was now teary. My heart instantly ached for all of them.

I listened while she said that they had a terrible house fire a few years ago and that they lost everything including their black lab. Mom shared how hard it had been for her as a single mom, how hard it was for her boys, how much they loved and still missed their dog, and how awful she felt that they had not gotten another one. All the while, her boys were talking to King and had started giving him kisses. The boys compared King to their dog. And, they cozied in to King who let them whisper their secrets in his ear. The mom explained that she really wanted to get another dog, but as a single mom she was just too busy. I told her that I respected that she was thinking of the dog knowing her life was so full, and that, when the boys were older, maybe the time would be right. And they stayed with King.

Other families came, found their clue for the scavenger hunt, took a candy egg, and left. The boys proudly introduced King to other children as they came in search of their clue. In between, the boys had complete conversations with King with the honesty that only children have. Then, the oldest boy told me with complete joy that King was the first dog he had spent any time with since their dog died. He got in front of King, gently held King's head in his hands, and looked King in the eye. Then, he told King that he loved him and that King was special just like their dog. It took everything in me to blink back my tears.

I didn't hurry them. They stayed until they were ready to move on. Then, without being told, each boy gave King a final pat and a smooch on the top of his head. Mom thanked me that we were there saying how much it meant to her and her boys. She told King that he really was a King because he helped heal her heart in a "royal way." As they left, they walked backwards all the way to the elevator. All the while, they waved goodbye, thanked King, and blew him kisses until the elevator door finally closed.

Friend In Deed Award

The NEFCRC Friend In Deed Award was presented to
Brenda Weeks's Onyx, CH Skylark Onyx Assisting Me RN, CGC, TT
at our 2018 Annual Meeting.



For any of those who were showing Flat-Coats around 2007 – 2008 in the Northeast, you probably saw Brenda and Onyx working beautifully as a team in either the conformation or Rally ring. Some of you may have admired from afar or casually said hi, others went out of your way to embrace them and welcome into the Flat-Coated Retriever community. You see, Brenda is in a motorized wheelchair – and the sheer elegance of her and Onyx as a working team is one to behold.

Brenda was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis approximately 25 years ago. The onset was sudden and the progression was quick. She has been using a power wheelchair for most of those 25 years and has been on a ventilator 24/7. These “bumps in the road”, as Brenda calls them, although having a huge impact on her life, have not hindered her from doing what she loves, which has always revolved around her love for animals. Prior to her diagnosis, Brenda was extremely active in showing in obedience and conformation with her Golden Retrievers, earning several High In Trials and working under a couple of professional handlers. She also became a certified Guide Dog instructor. She and her husband established a therapy dog program at their local hospital and area nursing homes and ran educational programs for elementary school children.

Once diagnosed with MS, Brenda originally thought that her days of dog showing were over...but anyone who truly knows Brenda, know that she wouldn't let the fact that she was in a wheelchair and on a vent stop her from doing what she loved – she would persevere. Merely another “bump in the road”! When she lost the ability to walk, Brenda was paired with her first Service Dog, a black Lab named Savannah who helped her tremendously in day to day activities.



In 2006, when Savannah was close to retirement, Brenda went to visit Kris Gustavson to help evaluate a litter of Flat-Coated Retrievers, not knowing that from that day on, her life was about to change! At the end of the litter evaluation, Kris and her friend Debi picked up a puppy and put it in her lap – this puppy would become known as Onyx, and would be Brenda's new Service Dog prospect, opening up a whole new world of possibilities for Brenda!

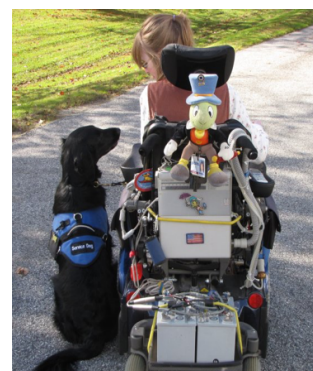


Onyx began her training at 9 weeks old. She had to learn to navigate around a wheelchair, learn both voice and hand commands, and learn to work with and independently of Brenda to learn tasks that would help mitigate Brenda's disability. Onyx quickly learned how to open and shut cabinet doors and drawers, retrieve dropped items, and help pull off jackets and mittens. She could also open and close the heavy refrigerator door for Brenda.

Through the Service Dog training process, Brenda aspired to work Onyx in Rally and Obedience trials as well, but had no intentions on showing her in conformation. As Onyx matured, Brenda was encouraged by several people to try her hand at conformation. Brenda and Onyx were now presented with a new challenge – learning to be a show dog and showing from a wheelchair (of course, they were successful). Brenda and Onyx were warmly welcomed by fellow exhibitors and judges alike, and in true Flat-Coat style, the other dogs were not at all concerned by the motorized wheelchair in the ring with them. In a total of ten shows, Onyx earned her championship at 19 months old.

Brenda and Onyx earned their Rally Novice title in 2008, and became a registered Pet Partners therapy dog team in 2010.

Now almost 12 years old, Onyx no longer is the one constantly by Brenda's side. Her successor, Buffy, a beautiful black Lab from Canine Companions for Independence, is now Brenda's full-time Service Dog. Onyx will still happily aide Brenda at home if asked (and she definitely does still enjoy “helping”), but she's enjoying her retirement years and basking in the sun, knowing that Buffy's got her mom's back.



Nomination for the Northeast Flat-Coated Retriever Club
Friend In Deed Award
For Meritorious Service

This award was created by the Northeast Flat-Coated Retriever Club to recognize Flat-Coats who have distinguished themselves through their commitment to providing service to their owners or to their community. Dogs nominated for this award should be highly trained in their area of service and have documented evidence of the service they have provided.

A **Friend in Deed** dog must be a Flat-Coated Retriever owned by an NEFCRC member. Nominations may be made at any time by the dog's owner or another NEFCRC member. Awards will be presented at an NEFCRC event.

Dogs eligible to receive this award include:

Certified Therapy Dogs with a minimum of 150 documented visits;
Certified Search and Rescue Dogs or Certified Detection Dogs;
Service or Assistance Dogs
Other dogs involved in special circumstances, e.g. acts of heroism.

Criteria for this award will be reviewed and set by the current NEFCRC Board of Directors. At that time, any additions or revisions will be made if necessary.

Please complete the information below and submit this application to the Secretary of the NEFCRC. All applications will be reviewed, and a member of the Board will contact the person submitting the application if further clarification is required.

Name of Dog (as it should appear on the award):

Please attach a brief description of the dog's accomplishments, specifying why this dog should be considered for the Friend in Deed Award.

Please attach copies of the documentation or certifications indicated in the award criteria listed above.

Owner of Record:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Nominated by _____

2018 Versatility Awards

Sally Bridges takes charge of these awards every year. Versatility Awards were presented at our last annual meeting in Manchester, Connecticut. They are given to dogs who show versatility by their accomplishments and training. The owner submits the dog's name and titles earned. Sally Bridges has these titles engraved on a brass plate. The first time a dog earns this award, the plate is attached to a wooden plaque suitable for hanging proudly! In subsequent years as the dog earns more titles in more venues, these new awards are added with a small plate hanging beneath the original wooden plaque making an impressive display and memory. Sally takes care of the whole process every year and is at the meeting to present them.

Owner:

Sally Nettleton-Smilas:

Add on plate for **Grousemoor Almosteden Ripple CD AX AXJ OF MH WCX**
New Titles added were: MX RN RA FCRSA Hall of Fame

Add on plate for **Grousemoor Almosteden 1st Splash of Spring CD RN JH WCX**
New Titles added were: NA NAJ OA RI

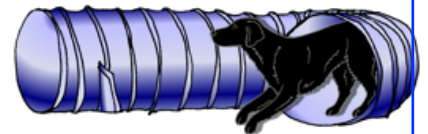
Kristen Sobanski, Susan and Samantha Stillwell

Add on plate for **CH Breezy Hill's Broadway Spellbound CD RA CGCA**
New Titles added were: TKN TKI TKA TKP CGCU

Joe Juzza

New Plaque for **SHR Stormwatch Nor'easter JH WCX BN OA OAJ DS CGC**

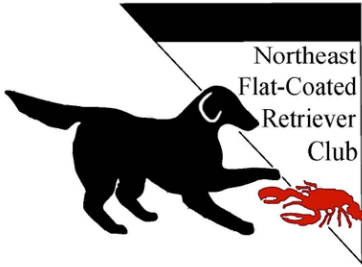
Congratulations to all. The awards show that we value the versatility of our breed . . . they can do anything including nourish the soul!



More Field News!

WC/X Hunt Test on October 6, 2018

The NEFCRC will be joined by the Yankee Golden Retriever Club to host a Working Certificate and Working Certificate Excellence on October 6, 2018 at West Thompson Dam, N Grosvenordale, CT.



We have two very experienced and delightful judges: Judith Erlanger and Rainer Fuchs! Soon you will be able to enter this event through an online entry service. Details on how to enter will be forthcoming in an eblast SOON! This is a fun event that demonstrates our dogs' natural abilities to do field work. Come join us even if you don't enter. Jeremy Kezer will be there to take photographs of you and



your dog(s). Bring an item to our raffle and join us at the fall BBQ at the end of the day!

And More Field News!

Pat Perry Upland Seminar

...took place June 16 and 17



Here the group is observing the "Pat Perry touch", a gentle hand on the dog's chest to let him know he is doing it right. So simple and effective.



The platform is a great training tool that shows the dog the proper position beside the trainer and limits his choices.



Next some water work and pattern blinds on water. It was a good time to cool off and our flat-coats always share the wet with us with a quick shake/shower.

Here Pat surreptitiously places a live pigeon for the dog to find and flush



.....a very exciting moment for these dogs with no upland training. They caught on readily and enthusiastically.



Pat Perry (cont.)

Pat Perry working with Sally Nettleton-Smilas and Splash who showed he has the right stuff.
We're sure George is smiling down at his wife who is continuing the family tradition. She has embraced field since George passed and is earning titles and everyone's respect for the effort she gives and the joy she experiences.
She also works in obedience, agility and conformation.



At the end of the day —

We were more than happy to break out the hotdogs and hamburgers, and luscious salads. Bill Young was our very able and accommodating cook. Pat Perry provided a grill and a shady pavilion. Perfect.



Deb Westcot looks like she has spied the dessert table.
What an array!



—Happy Diners!—



Good appetites and happy conversation.

Pat Perry (cont.)

Pat was highly complimentary to our **NEFCRC gunners** pictured here. Good shooting made for smooth running instruction.



Club members Gene Tuccerri,



Bill Young and Bob Westcot.



Sam Mitchell,



Ruth Sumner receiving a pigeon from Gotcha's successful blind retrieve.



Gary McManus lining Zuzu up for her water blind.

2018 Field News

Buck Shope announces two exciting one-day seminars for more advanced field training opportunities! He supports us. Now it's NEFCRC's turn to support him. These seminars are going to be widely promoted among several retriever clubs, so sign up early.

Buck Shope

www.swiftriverretrievers.com

Swift River Retrievers
205 Pail Factory RD
Templeton, MA

July 14 and 15, 2018

Saturday, July 14	Transition/Senior Blind Work (dead birds only)
NEFCRC members	\$200
Non-Members	\$220

This workshop is intended for teams that have finished a Working Certificate or Junior Hunts or equivalent. The focus will be on teaching blinds and transition work towards Working Certificate Excellent or Senior level work.

Sunday, July 15	Senior/Master Marks & Blinds (dead birds, 1 live flyer)
NEFCRC members	\$230
Non-members	\$250

This workshop is intended for teams that are entering Senior and Master Level Hunts or equivalent. The focus will be on Senior and Master level marks with the addition of appropriate level blinds. There will be a live flyer this day.

Auditors are welcome either day for a fee of \$60 per day.

Buck Shope has been a professional retriever trainer for over 20 years and given generously to the NEFCRC by allowing us to use his property on several Tuesdays during the spring and summer. We have held other workshops as well on his land. Last but not least, he allows us to leave the NEFCRC trailer on his property all season for our use. Thank you, Buck!

Use the registration form on the next page to enter —

Registration Form for Buck Shope Seminars

**Saturday, July 15, 2018. Transition Training – blinds and steadiness
(dead birds only for the day)**

For JR and WC teams contemplating SR or WCX

Fee: \$200 for NEFCRC members \$220 for Non-members \$60 for Auditor

Sunday July 16, 2018. Senior/Master Marks & Blinds (dead birds & 1 Flyer)

For teams entering Senior and Master level tests

Fee: \$230 for NEFCRC members \$250 for non-members \$60 for Auditor

Circle one fee for each separate day indicating your membership status for the day that you want to attend. Make out your check(s) to “**Swift River Retrievers,**” mail check(s) and registration form to: **All registrations must be postmarked by July 5, 2018:**

Sally Young, PO Box 626, Burlington, VT 05402-0626 before May 1, 2018

Sally Young, PO Box 1, Cabot, VT 05647 **after May 1, 2018**

Dog: _____ Call Name: _____

Color: _____ Sex: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Current level of training/
accomplishments: _____

What would you like Buck Shope to focus on with your team? Problematic behaviors? New skill?
Buck would like to tailor-make the seminar to meet your individual needs:

_____ use reverse side of this page if needed.

Owner: _____ Handler: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Cell or best phone # _____

Questions: Sally Young

Email: sally.young@uvm.edu

cell: 802-324-3292

The FCRCSA Lending Library has the Dennis Voigt dvd “Training Alone” available to loan to FCRCSA members.



JUNE 1-3, 2018 DENNIS VOIGT RETRIEVER TRAINING

RETRIEVER TRAINING WORKSHOP

Dennis will teach us procedures and philosophies that have produced top competitive dogs with both style and control in field trials in the US and Canada. Dennis will briefly review early puppy work, Basics steps and then pursue more advanced topics with a focus on Transition challenges leading to Advanced work. He will demonstrate some things with his own dogs, but selected participants at various levels will be chosen to run set-ups and drills to best illustrate various lessons. This will allow us to discuss handling and training issues.

There will be sessions on ways to improve the handlers' teamwork and developing and maintaining standards. Day three will focus on problem-solving and addressing your special concerns. Our goal will be to help advance your dogs to be the best they can be!

Bridget Bodine of DeCoverly Kennels is the Workshop organizer. This 3-day workshop will cost \$300 with no additional fee for those chosen to run their dog.

Contact Bridget for applications for the limited entry.

Bridget Bodine decoverly@discoverlykennels.com 578-378-3357

DISCOVERLY KENNELS, 175 DISCOVERLY LANE, FALLS, PA.
WWW.DISCOVERLYKENNELS.COM

Canadian Dennis Voigt has over 45 years' experience in training, hunting, field trialing and judging retrievers all across Canada and the United States.

Dennis has trained 9 Field Champions and won 3 National Championships while training alone the majority of the time. He hunts waterfowl and upland game with all his dogs.

Dennis occasionally does training and judging workshops and has teamed up in the past with Mike Lardy, Pat Burns, Ray Voigt and Andy Attar on some.

Dennis has produced two DVD's, **Training Retrievers Alone** and **25 Essential Retriever Training Drills for Handling**.

(www.ybsmedia.com). He published Retrievers Online magazine for 25 years- one of the most comprehensive sources of retriever training information available today. His new website has much valuable information (www.retrieveronline.com)

This workshop will have much content for training with and without e-collars and geared to hunt tests as well as field trials!!

