

FLAT-COAT FILES

Newsletter of the Northeast Flat-Coated Retriever Club

Summer 2016

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Kris Sobanski's puppy from her Broadway's Opening Night litter.

President's Message

The summer held a couple of memorable events: The excellent Pat Burns Workshop was ably organized by Joe Juza on August 5, 6, and 7 in Harrisville, RI on Michael Coutu's property with many club members helping out over the three days. Thank you, Joe, for all your work.

The Gala Fun Filled Fortieth Anniversary was a great success! Over 50 people, all with dogs, came to the Thompson Rod and Gun Club to honor the beginning of our club and Anne Cotton's years of service and support to the club. Thank you, all members of the board and other club members: Chris McCluer, Wendy Jones, Tina Mohr, Kurt Anderson, Neal Goodwin, Donna Gilbert and April Senseney for all the preparation, work and offerings. The Canine Emergency tubes that were made by Susan Klein and April Senseney were well received and can be purchased for \$10 for additional cars and club members. Sally Bridges ran the traditional Scurry as well as orchestrating "The Contest", Kissing Contest and Wagging Contest which drew howls of laughter. Raffle items from major donors and a huge house-purging of doggie equipment from Priscilla Johnson resulted in a fantastically successful raffle orchestrated by Gary McManus. Kudos to Susan Klein for the many business donations she obtained, for the multiple trips to the site and for organizing the day and the schedule. It wouldn't have happened without her.

Don't forget the WC/X on October 8, 2016. "Day of" entries are WELCOME. Joe Juza, Ruth Sumner, Chris McCluer and Kate Horgan-Burke have a great day planned with a Raffle and BBQ. Our own Sally Bridges and Priscilla Johnson are the judges.

Last but not least, enter and/or come join us all at the Supported Entry on November 26, 2016 at the Big E in West Springfield with our Sweeps Judge Judy Byers. The Supported Entry this year is in memory of Pat DeBree and organized by Kris Sobanski.

Sally S. Young, President

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Newsletter Advertising Rates:

Quarter-page
or litter announcement \$5.00
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Calendar of Events

NEFCRC WC/WCX - Oct. 8 - West Thompson, CT

NEFCRC Supported Entry - Nov. 26 & 27- West Springfield, MA

Website

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

Webmaster **Kristen Sobanski** can be contacted at
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Address Changes

Please direct all address, e-mail, and phone changes to
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Newsletter Deadline

Fall Deadline — November 15, 2016

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GCH Fossilcreek Maple Sugar Merlin JH WC CD TDI



Nine and a half years with this boy was a ride we will not soon forget. We fell in love with Merlin the minute he came off the plane from Ohio. Merlin had the most amazing blue eyes, he was a beautiful puppy. We bought Merlin for Bruce to be his hunting buddy, but soon plans changed.

Our daughter Cassidy started conformation classes with him, and Betsy started obedience classes. Bruce watched and waited patiently to start training his hunting dog. Merlin excelled at everything he did.

He started his show career on August 25, 2007, and won with a second place in his class. Merlin finished his CH on April 27, 2008 from the twelve to eighteen month puppy class, we were so proud! Bruce again thought, " I get my dog back for hunting."



Cassidy continued to show, with the help of Betsy, Merlin achieved his CD. Again so very proud! Merlin started his "special" show career with Stacy November 11, 2010. Team Stacy, as we loving called them, hit the ring for the first time and it was instant magic!

Merlin retired from his full time show career on February 13, 2012. Team Stacy had 185 shows together, 1 BOS, 110 BOBs, 15 group 4's, 6 group 3's, 11 group 2's, 3 group 1's, and placed as select dog 34 times. Merlin and Stacy finished the 2011 show season with Merlin being the number one Flat-coat in the country and number two all breed! Merlin did everything in style, WTG team Stacy!!!

Merlin finished his show career one week before he passed away winning a BOB with Betsy at his side. The day of his passing Merlin was still ranked 9th in the country, with 16 Champion points, and 450 GCH points. Merlin received a total of 264 awards in his lifetime! What a ride!

Bruce did get Merlin on what he called "his weekends off." Merlin and Bruce did get to work in the field. They traveled for training, and he loved to ride shot gun on our their training excursions. Merlin excelled at retrieving and was forced fetched very fast. He would pick up anything and return to Bruce's side. Sometimes this included dead frogs, fish, a glove, or a boot or two. They hunted together many many times, if Bruce's count is correct, he shot 58 pheasants with only one bird getting away! He shot a slew of ducks and a chucker or two over Merlin. He was an amazing bird dog and retriever. Merlin was always willing to share his hunts and talents with other hunters and dogs.



Merlin was magic, whether in the show ring, hunting or just being a pal, he rocked!

We love and miss you buddy.

Bruce and Betsy Flanagan

There's a new kind magic
in the Sporting Group

Introducing
the Multiple
Group Placing...

OUR THANKS
TO GROUP JUDGES
MR. GARY
ANDERSON
&
MS. PHILIP
WOLFE
FOR THEIR RECENT
GROUP HONORS

Handled by
Stacy & Michael Work

FOR OWNERS
Bruce Flanagan &
Betsy O'Donnell

Breeders
Sandra Fleming &
Deborah A Edwards
sbfleming@ohiovalley.com

America's Number One F.C.R.

GCH Fossilcreek Maple Sugar

MERLIN

Wingmaster's Jamaican Me Crazy JH, WCX

February 4, 2006 - March 26, 2016

Shirleen Roeder

I said good bye to Keegan (Wingmaster's Jamaican Me Crazy JH, WCX) on March 26th of this year. Keegan epitomized everything that made me fall in love with Flat Coats more than 20 years ago. He was exuberant, boisterous, fun-loving and goofy– all of these things in the extreme!!! I will always be grateful for his affection, love and companionship, his generous face licks, the many times he made me laugh and the immeasurable joy that he brought to my life. Life is not be the same without him, but he will live on in my heart and in my memories forever.



Member Brags

Another Victory Lap for Cody!

On the heels of his Junior Hunter title in April, Cody finished his Championship on May 28 at the Hendersonville KC Show in Fletcher, NC. Cody came to our new home in NC with 8 points earned in the Puppy Classes with Deirdre Dunbar. He entered his first Open Class last November in Winston-Salem taking home a 3-point major and a Reserve to Major, now handled by Amy Wall. Cody's next outing was in March in Raleigh where he earned 1-point for Best of Winners and came so close to finishing that weekend with another Reserve to Major. The next opportunity for his second major was in May where Cody finished on the money with 15 points!



Don and Susan Bierer, with
“Cody” CH Victory’s Kodiak Grin and Bear It JH, and
“Rudy” BISS RBIS GCHS Blazin’s Joie de Vivre CDX JH WCX HOF



Highlighting a member

In coming issues of this newsletter we will be featuring long-term members of our club and their contributions and histories.

Bunny Millikin

by Kate Horqan-Burke

What is almost as good as spending a day in the field training Flat-Coated Retrievers with Bunny? It is spending a couple of hours listening and learning about her life with Flat-Coats. Elizabeth Milliken, affectionately known to members of the NEFCRC as Bunny, has been involved with Flatties for many years.

Her love of dogs started as a youngster in Kentucky. Her family had hunting dogs, an English Setter and later a much loved Labrador. Attempts at breeding were not successful until a local farm Collie visited and a beautiful litter of puppies, resembling Flat-Coats, hit the ground. Bunny took one of those pups and loved her look. Years later, Bunny was looking for another dog and found a book about farm animals. Inside, there was a picture of a Flat-Coat, and as they say, the rest was history. The picture looked just like her old girl so Bunny set off on a quest to find a FCR.

There were few breeders in the United States at that time. Eventually Bunny purchased a bitch imported from England. Stolford Black Queen was purchased in 1964 and to quote Bunny from Joan Mason's book, The Flat-Coated Retriever Today, "She was an extraordinary dog especially in the field and led us into field trials, with the ensuing roller-coaster ride of emotions and experiences which we enjoy to this day. Bunny found a field trial club to learn retrieving and then became one of the earliest members of the National Club. "I wasn't one of the original five but I joined very shortly after that"! Training for field has changed dramatically according to Bunny. It is much more humane, now. Everyone brought their children who played while the adults trained and everyone loved it.

But field is not the only activity she does with her dogs. Many have their championships and good structure is crucial. Bunny also said that when she chooses a puppy she looks for good brains but also stressed great "livability". They must be dogs you can live with as all of her dogs are also pets and members of the household. Bunny's late husband Dudley trained Labs for field work and blamed Bunny's flatties for influencing the Labs to be nicer dogs with a better sense of humor. What a compliment to our breed!

After more than 50 years raising, training, and showing Flat-Coated Retrievers, Bunny Milliken remains an advocate for them. She has actively supported the Northeast Flat-Coated Retriever Club in many ways, including teaching others and generously giving financial support, all with a wonderful spirit and a great sense of humor. With indefatigable energy, she is always ready to give help as well as learn from others. What a gem this Field Goddess is!



Flat-coat Health

NEFCRC member Valerie Bernhardt sent this article with the admonition “This needs to be shared immediately far and wide!”

I couldn't agree more because bloat strikes without warning. This article is about Great Danes but applies to our Flat-coats as well . . . that deep-chested silhouette contributes to this problem. I almost lost Punch when he bloated at age two and a half! He was saved by Sue Stilwell (with Dan Stilwell and Samantha) who rushed him to emergency surgery just in time to surgically correct the twist what was cutting off the blood supply to his vital organs. He was and still is (at nine and a half) a perfectly healthy dog. There were no hints that this could possibly happen.

This article highlights the research being done in Great Danes which may also help our special breed.

Canine Bloat Study Untitled

Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Michael A. Harkey

Beverly Torok-Storb

3/15/16

Bloat, known to veterinarians as gastric dilatation-volvulus (or GDV), is an acute, life-threatening condition that occurs at high frequency in many large and giant breeds of dogs. Great Danes are unusually susceptible to this condition. About 37% of Great Danes will experience bloat at some time in their life, and the majority of them will die without immediate medical intervention. Other large and giant breeds are also way too prone to this condition. Yet the causes of this condition have remained a mystery for decades. The goal of our study is to identify the causes of bloat. This information could then lead to diagnostic and therapeutic strategies to minimize the occurrence of this deadly condition.

Our effort over the last two years has been supported by donations from generous pet owners who care deeply about dogs and want to find a cure for bloat. This study could not have happened without the help of all the Dane owners that enrolled their dogs, answered lots of questions, and sent samples for testing. We focused on Great Danes, because the high frequency of bloat in this breed guaranteed a large group of affected animals and increased the statistical power of the analysis. This effort has already produced results that will profoundly affect the community of Great Dane owners, who deal with this disease constantly. Hopefully, these results will soon translate to other breeds.

Importantly, bloat correlates strongly with an underlying condition of inflammatory bowel disease (IBD), suggesting a possible pre-existing state in the gut that contributes to bloat. We hypothesized that, since IBD and bloat are co-existing conditions, they may have the same root causes. In both humans and dogs IBD is linked to specific genes of the immune system. It is thought that molecular variants of these genes (alleles) cause changes in the bacterial population of the gut (the gut microbiome), which in turn, sets up an unhealthy condition in the gut. This unhealthy microbiome contributes to chronic, low-level IBD. According to our hypothesis, it also predisposes a dog to bloat. While the causes of bloat are not clearly understood, several risk factors have been described in the scientific literature, including age, dietary, behavioral, pre-existing health and genetic factors. The most significant risk factors appear to be genetic, since strong correlations with bloat exist for breeds, families and gender. The best way to

to combine all of these factors is envision a genetic predisposition in some dogs, and a non-genetic trigger, such as stress, that sets off the bloat event.

To test this hypothesis, we enrolled two groups of Great Danes, a “bloat” group in which all members survived bloat through surgical intervention, and a “control” group that had never experienced bloat. In a genetic study, five immune genes were sequenced from each dog, looking for genetic variations that associate with bloat. In a microbiome study, the gut bacterial population of each dog was analyzed from stool samples, looking for particular species that are unusually low or high in the bloat group.

We have just submitted the genetic study to the scientific journal, PLoS one, to be reviewed for publication. We have established three genes that contribute to bloat in Great Danes. For each of these genes, several alleles (molecular variants) are found in the Great Dane population, and in other breeds. One allele from each gene was found to significantly increase the risk of bloat in Great Danes. As shown in the graph below, those Danes that carried at least one of these risk alleles had a 3-fold higher risk of bloat. In fact, 62% of the dogs carrying a risk allele had to undergo emergency surgery to survive a bloat episode. This information will be crucial for owners and breeders that are trying to decide if preventative gastropexy surgery is appropriate for their dog, or if their dog should be bred. For this reason, we have designed genetic tests for these risk alleles. The tests will be offered to owners and breeders of Great Danes.

The second study, microbiome analysis, should be completed in the next couple of months. Since the genetic side of our hypothesis proved to be true, we have reason to expect to see specific microbiome abnormalities in the bloat group. If we do discover that bloat is caused by specific imbalances of the microbiome, then a whole array of therapeutic strategies will be available to combat the disease. For example, probiotics or specific dietary changes may be used to re-balance the microbiome, and thus, prevent bloat.

As you can see, the study has already generated some very significant results and we are excited to push forward with the next phase. We could not have done this without the generous support of our sponsors, and the efforts of all the Dane lovers who contributed their time, information and enthusiasm to this study. Thank you!!!

Many questions still remain: Will the findings for Great Danes carry over to other breeds? Are additional immune genes involved? Did we miss risk factors from very severe cases that were not survived? Will the microbiome data point to therapeutic strategies? All of these questions can be addressed in future studies, if we can find additional funding. We are asking the AKC to help us with the next phase.

For more information, contact:

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The NEFCRC 40th Anniversary Celebration

Dedication by Virginia Shreve
Anne's devoted friend and long-time NEFCRC member

We dedicated this celebration of the 40th anniversary of the NorthEast Flat-Coated Retriever Club – the oldest regional FCR club in the country – to longtime member Anne Cotton. Many of us are familiar with the names and stories of founding members Pat DeBree and Pat Carlson, and with our much-esteemed original “Field Goddesses,” Bunny Millikin, Margot Brown, Sally Bridges, Priscilla Johnson, and Becky Whitmeyer. Far fewer of us are acquainted with some of the stalwart pillars of our club who more quietly, but no less importantly, sustained and shaped our club for many years. There is no finer example of this than Anne Cotton.

First, a short history of Anne, BFC (Before Flat-Coats).

After being graduated from Smith College, Anne - well, hold onto your hats, folks – let's turn to either the Italian or German versions of Wikipedia, the entries on novelist Thomas Pynchon, translated loosely thusly:

At the end of his sophomore year, Pynchon left Cornell for the U.S. Navy. He spent part of his two years in the service at the naval base in Norfolk, Virginia, and during that period he kept company with Anne Cotton, a young woman who worked for an intelligence agency in Washington, D.C. He introduced her to jazz at Washington nightclubs, while she stimulated his interest in opera, an interest that would later manifest itself in his fiction.

Yes, indeed, that was our Anne! Additional reportage from an interview with David Cowart in 2012 (The Writing Disorder):

"A less sensational romantic attachment was with Anne Cotton, a woman he dated when he interrupted his college education to do a two-year hitch in the navy. She later became registrar at the Harvard Graduate School of Education. I had a nice correspondence with her, but it ended shortly after she mentioned having some letters from Pynchon that she would send me. She probably got in touch with him, and he told her not to deal with these publishing scoundrels."

Subsequently Anne moved to New York City where she worked for the Metropolitan Opera. During that time, she was occasionally called upon to fill in for small roles; our favorite is that of “Strumpet on the Stairs” in *Der Fledermaus*...she also wrote an instructional booklet for them on how to get into the performing arts. Anne's love for theatre, music, and literature have carried throughout her life. She held Board positions both in the Wodehouse and Sherlock Holmes Societies, penning many playlets and parodies, and inhabiting the roles of countless daunting Aunts.



The Gala! - (cont.)



When Anne took the position of Registrar at Mount Holyoke College (where, according to Professor Sam Mitchell, she was “beloved by students; feared by professors”), she moved into the realm of the NEFCRC. Her first flat-coat stole her heart in the 1980’s; she joined the club shortly thereafter. Her Flat-Coat loves included Que, Molly, Merlin, Emma, and Chase, several of them from Pat DeBree. Always an active member, volunteering sometimes perhaps “not wisely, but too well,” Anne was indentured as club treasurer for over a decade (we would NOT let her go!), regular contributor to the newsletter for over a dozen years from 1998 to 2011. Yet perhaps her most important contribution to the club was her unwavering support and clear-eyed vision as to what was important, and her willingness to work with many factions. Although Anne’s particular interests were obedience, therapy work (which she performed for many many years), rally-o, and elaborate clever costumes to benefit numerous good causes and charities, Anne was a staunch champion of field work and providing opportunities to engage in same. She was

invaluable in supporting the creation of the Field Committee, the Field Training Sessions, and the Field Fun Days, among other ventures. We could not have created or produced the very highly regarded Gamekeeper’s Dog historical calendar as fundraiser for the 2009 National Specialty without her. She attended local dog shows, every supported entry, even without a dog in the ring. Every meeting, every club-supported event would find Anne there. We could always always count on her.



And so, Anne, we dedicate this 40th Anniversary Gala to you. We probably didn’t appreciate you as much as we should have – but we appreciate you more than we can say.

The Gala



Things looked a bit ominous in the early morning hours. It did rain but it started clearing by 9:30. Things continued to brighten both in the sky and in everyone's spirits. What a wonderful celebration we had!

So many friends came together. New or old didn't matter . . . we were all connected by our wonderful dogs.



Our own energizer Bunny.



Jill Kuchinos and Priscilla Johnson catching up.



All five Princesses!



Ruth, Chris and Becky walkin' and talkin' probably about field.



Anne was keeping an eye on us and enjoying the spectacle.



Tina Mohr



Anne enjoyed the flat-coat attention!



New members, the Kenin family!

Activities and Opportunities



Kristen Sobanski gets to take a break from teaching CGC classes and then running the tests. CGC stands for Canine Good Citizen. Passing it shows the dog has the ability to act responsibly in public. It is not an easy award to earn, especially with our exuberant FCRs. Kristen's efforts provided the opportunity for four FCRs to earn this title.

New CGC titles holders

Gwenyth Jones & Andrew Leinoff
"Blackgamin Jacob JH"
Andrew Leinoff & Gwenyth Jones
"Ch. Wyndhams Notorious Brown SH
RE BN WCX"
Kate Horgan-Burke
"James Brook Drop of Onyx Sun"
Kate Horgan-Burke
"James Brook Climb Every Mountain"



In the Conformation Match, Judge Neal Goodwin awarded first place to Sophie Brock and second to Abby Cartisser.



Nancy Triou demonstrated freestyle dancing. You can see how much her FCR enjoys it. Isn't that so typical of the flat-coat personality?

Ruth Sumner's boys won the scurry and the much-coveted, outrageously large, attention getting ribbons for proof. Gotcha won the open division and Punch won the Veteran's. The ribbons declare they are the "Fastest Flat-coat in the World" and "Fastest Veteran" . . . slight hyperbole here.



Dana Crevling preparing a Nose work demonstration with the help of Abby Cartisser.

The Grand Costume Parade!



The judging team which consisted of the entire audience came to its decision based on applause for each costumed team. It was unanimous! First place was a five-way tie. Everyone won . . . including the audience with smiles and laughter all around.



Thanks to all who made the effort and costumes to participate in this event. Special thanks also to the audience for their impeccable judgement.



More Activities



Kurt Anderson gave an excellent talk on Flat-Coat structure. He has years of experience as a breeder as well as a judge. His pictures were especially helpful in understanding conformation.



For some reason I have no pictures except for the tiny one below of Sally Bridges who was central in several activities. She ran the “Scurry” with Priscilla’s bumper throwing assistance. I think she is the originator (at least at our events) of the “Kissing Contest,” “Tail Wagging-contest,” and the “Treat-catching” contest — always good for a lot of laughter. Above are winners Kate Horgan-Burke (Tail-wagging) and April Senesey (both Kissing and Catching) — actually their dogs won!



Sally Nettleton-Smilas awaits the next contestant in the scramble. She brings all the fencing and all sorts of items to be retrieved . . . sometimes even a small lampshade! The dog who fetches the most items wins. It is a timed test.



Sally Bridges and Priscilla Johnson are always ready to help beginners pursue an interest in field. Their instruction and encouragement have given them, along with Bunny Millikin and Becky Whitmeyer who were also in attendance, the name of “The Field Goddesses.” Here they are working with Rich Morongell.

Anne enjoyed a flat-coat greeting with April Senesey and Virginia Shreve.



Here's Jeremy taking a break from photographing our event. You can see by the strap over his shoulder that he is always ready to snap a candid shot.

Be sure to check Jeremy Kezer's website for great pictures of the day. They are up on his website now at <http://www.jeremykezer.com/events/2016/20160911-NEFCRC/index.html>

He will be the official photographer at our WC/WCX on October 8th. His photos of the dogs at work are action packed shots that give you a new perspective on what your dog is doing way out there. The photos will surprise and delight you. We will be taking "Day of" entries before the test begins on the 8th so you still have a chance to enter and enjoy a beautiful fall day with your dog.

The Raffle

With his usual efficiency and good humor, Gary McManus MC'd the Raffle. However, I have no pictures. The reason is clear — this was such a great raffle that everyone was too busy checking their ticket numbers to even think of photos. The items offered ran the gamut of dog must-haves. Priscilla Johnson brought a car-load of items — crates, bowls, mats, leashes, a winger with a remote . . . amazing treasure trove. She is selling her home and downsizing. She chose to donate to our club's benefit. Susan Klein donated a chair with our 2009 Specialty logo on it that belonged to Paulette Swartzendruber. I can't single out other donors because I have memory leaks. Everyone was very generous. There were attractive gift baskets of dog goodies. Toys. Dog beds. Too many items to list even if I could remember. And then came the corporate gifts listed on the next page.

Raffle Prize Contributors

Tritronics/Garmin:

Combo e-collar/bark collar (\$250 value).

Purina:

6 Finisher Blind Bags (each \$43.50 value)

Avery Outdoors:

6 ASD Dogsoyabs (microfiber drying cloths),
2 EZ Bird Mallards (each \$23.50 value),
12 ASD handler's caps,
12 ASD window stickers,
12 ASD lanyards.

Clean Run:

\$25 gift certificates (4 draws)
plus 100 discount coupons (15% off)

Mitch White – 1 hour private lesson (\$50 value)

Jeremy Kezer – 1 free 8 x 10 print of picture taken at the Gala (\$22 value)
www.jeremykezerphotography.com

Performance Plus:

Gift certificate 7-week Perfect Pup class for puppies 8-18 weeks (\$185 value)

Thanks to all. It was a great raffle and lots of fun to watch and sometimes win.

It was quite a day.
Time to start planning for the 50th!



A Long Time Gone



If your dog has ever disappeared, run away, or been purloined, you already know all about it. Terror can confuse and shame you. It creates a knot in your stomach, and an ice-cube in your brain. Soon, unreason will run crazy between cold fear and hot anger—someone, somewhere, you say through clenched teeth, has caused this travail. Once reason returns, you look for the strings which must lead to resolution. Keep your head, soon all will be well. Hah!

Fritzy and Mali were old hands at treks to Pataconk State Forest at the spot where the headwaters of the Deep River Stream emerge. Cookie and I began including the new pup after his legs grew sturdy, and he could take cues from whomever he followed, human or canine. A spurt of confidence blossomed after an instance at the beginning when, while crossing the icy overflow where the lake spills into the Deep River, the pup fell in. Only Mali, his designated aunt, was close enough to turn back, grab his neck scruff, and pull him out. It seemed like one of those metaphysical glimpses behind that proverbial curtain. Flat Coats sense “life and limb” and exhibit concern when an immature arrival falters! We witnessed this little miracle and marveled. And thanked God, too.

So, I had no trepidations about taking the pack of three on the afternoon hike the day Cookie would get home late. What could happen? I could handle them. Whatever the girls did, the pup did. Wherever they went, he was no more than a step or two behind. Hadn't it been proven that he had guardians—perhaps even a higher power—watching over him?

By police order, no one parked on the gravel pit property, but permission from the adjacent neighbor, Jack Malcarne, allowed us a place to park. When I cracked open the Ford Explorer's tailgate, Fritzy and Mali bounded out. The pup, after getting a hand, ran to catch up. Three black streaks began their dailies with customary smelling, snorfling and peeing on everything that did not move. The world seemed good.

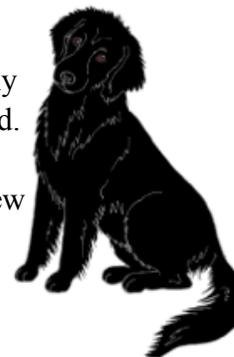
Yet something interfered. An animal—a coyote, a deer, a moose or even a bear—might have come through. The girls were beside themselves. They ran about, disappeared, returned, and I failed to interest them in chasing balls. How rarely did that happen? Their frenetic activity made me cross, and the worst happened. Well, it did not dawn on me at once. After seeming to keep up with his mother and auntie, the pup vanished. Surely he had just gotten mixed up in the tall reeds. I looked and called. My search became a panic. Why wasn't he coming? The girls were to blame. Damn that stupid animal, whatever it was, that left the suspicious scents.

The volume of surrounding water scared me the most. If he fell in, the conclusion was devastating. I urged the girls to help me find him. He had been saved once—would it be too much to ask for a second miracle?

The quarter mile trudge back to the car had never been so long or so bleak. Cookie would be home by now, and we must come back to search. Her favorite puppy in the world—the vet had said he would not live, but she had saved him—was lost, and I had done it. Could she forgive me?

Member Story (cont.)

The car was uphill from the end of our trail, and the girls were balking at the premature end to their fun. I made my legs pump up the rise as quickly as I could. A thought, unrealistic and too much to expect, crowded into the blob of fear between my ears. As I approached the top of the rise, the bumper and wheels of the Ford appeared. And something else—a small black creature from beneath its undercarriage emerged and jumped against the door. My relief cannot be overstated. The girls said they knew he was probably there the whole time. He, of course, just wanted to go home.



Field News — The Pat Burns Seminar

NEFCRC sponsored a three day Pat Burns Field Seminar on August 5, 6, and 7 on Mike Coutu's fabulous property in Harrisville, R.I.



Pat Burns begins on time and at full speed. He is very well organized, friendly, open, observant and patient. Most importantly, he has an analytical eye and years of experience behind his observations. Pat comes fully, electronically prepared! He sets up a 50 inch monitor under his large EZ-up, wired to his mike, speakers and iPad. He films everything that takes place within range of his setup. This means

The Pat Burns Seminar (cont.)

that when the dog and handler come to line the video and audio recording begins. The audience can clearly hear the instructions to the handler and the handler gets to see and hear his performance later.



Pat taking video of a dog and handler team.



Bill Young and Carrie waiting at the line for “dog”!



Jeannine Vieten asking questions and getting suggestions for working with Josie.

Bunny enjoying it all!



The Pat Burns Seminar (cont.)



Chris McCluer: "I loved it! I learned quite a few handling tips, I love that everyone, regardless of level got the same amount of working time and attention."

Annie Catterson: "Learn?-where some of the 'holes' in my training are. Yes to \$ worth. Best part: Individual attention - focus on each dog in setup addressing specific issues."

Bunny Millikin: Pat Burns makes a strong point of working with each person and their dog, no matter what the weakness is (man or beast). One of the best benefits of the workshop is seeing how problems of the other dogs are worked out. I tip my hat to all who made this possible, especially Joe Juza whose energy was obvious everywhere."

Andy Leinoff: "High praise to Joe who orchestrated the event and certainly worked his butt off."

Bill Young: "Great grounds, well organized, picked up some good advice from presenter and others."

Ruth Sumner: "I was very satisfied with the Pat Burns workshop. He gave excellent critiques without making us feel too foolish. The sound system meant we all were standing with Pat at line, hearing his instructions. Just great!"

Valerie Bernhardt: "I learned quite a bit about handling which I didn't really know. I watched my dog get better with each setup."

Sally Nettleton-Smilas: "I enjoyed observing various teams working with Pat, the time spent with each team individually and the chance to observe teams working on specific issues and problem solving."



The Pat Burns Seminar (cont.)



Everyone appreciated the beauty and challenges of Mike Coutu's training site. Few of us noticed that it also has a spot of historical significance.

The sign reads:

RHODE ISLAND
HISTORICAL
CEMETERY
Burrillville

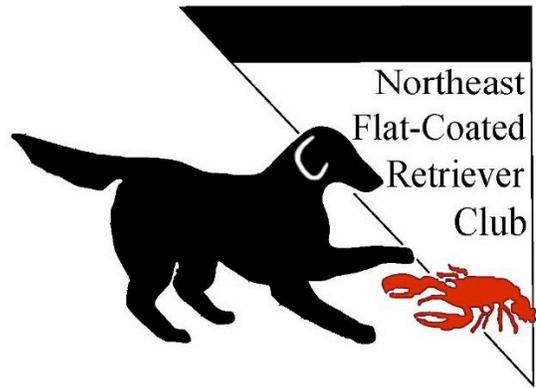


This picture shows at least five stones peeking out of the grass. On the one in the center of the foreground, you can still see a few letters carved. The hardest stone to notice is the one leaning behind the tree in the left background.

One stone takes center stage in this photo. I magnified it in my photo program and the closest I could get to reading the letters was "in Memory of Emelia." There are four more parts of stones in this shot. I love puzzles.



It was a lovely area of calm beauty in the midst of our activities.



Please join us to celebrate the 40th Anniversary of the NEFCRC at our Supported Entry

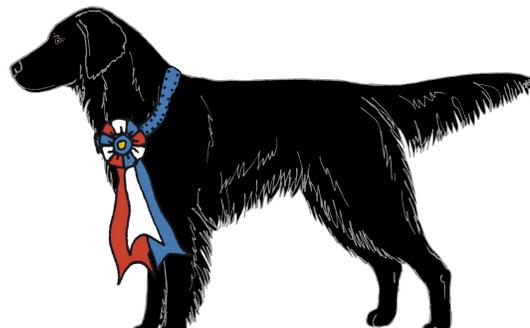
As this year marks our 40th year as a club, this year's Supported Entry will be a special one. Being held in memory of Pat Debree (Petersfield Flat-Coated Retrievers), we hope to make this event even more successful than past years!

The NEFCRC is known for drawing the largest entry in the entire cluster, and we cannot do this every year without each and every one of you! This year, we have divided our Supported Entry into two separate days in order to allow our members to participate in multiple venues. Conformation will be supported on Saturday, November 26th, and Agility/Obedience/Rally will be supported on Sunday, November 27th. This year, our Breed Judge is Ann Yuhasz and our Sweepstakes Judge is Judy Byers (Inglis FCRs).

Entries close on November 9th, and links to the online entry forms can be found by clicking the link on our website calendar page: <http://www.nefcrc.org/calendar.htm> . Agility entries can be found here: <http://www.pawprintrials.com/site/trials/201647A/index.html>.

We have some fantastic trophies to award, friends (both new and old) to share our love of our breed with, and (as always) a delicious pot luck after breed judging on Saturday! Please bring something to share!

We hope to see you there!



Supported Entry Sweepstakes Judge

Judy Byers' Bio Inglis Kennels

Judy, along with her husband, Brent, breed dogs under the kennel name of Inglis Kennels. They started with English Setters in 1980 and added Flat Coated Retrievers in 1988. They saw their first FC in the fall of 1980 when they were showing their English Setters in conformation. This dog was Can Ch Butterblac's Cruise Control WCX that turned out to be the grandsire of the Byers' foundation female, Am/Can Ch Parkburn Kountry Race WCI CD, which they purchased in 1988 from Moira Jewell in British Columbia. Race was Brent's hunting companion. She was highly successful in the conformation ring and was No. 1 FC female and No. 5 F/C in Canada in 1990. Race was bred three times and her progeny are in homes across Canada and the United States. A daughter from her first litter (sired by Am/Can Ch Windwhistle Fraser) - Am/Can Ch Inglis Victory Lane WC JH (owned by Jeff and Jennifer Andrews, Syracuse, NY)- was Winners Bitch as well as attaining her WC and a JH leg at the FCRSA 1993 Specialty. A Race son and daughter from her third litter (sired by Ch. Almanza Wet or Dry at Prairielight WC CD) - Ch. Inglis Prairie Solstice WC CD and Ch Inglis Prairie Race WC CD - went Best of Breed and Best of Opposite Sex at the FCRSC 1999 Specialty. Race had produced numerous show champions and titleholders in a wide range of other activities. After a short hiatus from the dog world while their daughter was involved in many extra-curricular activities, Judy and Brent are back involved with FC's. Many of the Inglis Kennels FC's are have made their presence felt in conformation, obedience, and the field as well as in rally, tracking, agility, search and rescue, other competitive dog sports and as hunting companions in addition to being appreciated family members. Judy and Brent feel that it is important to produce healthy dogs with good breed type and temperament. They are dedicated to breeding for the original purpose for which the breed was developed.

In her "other" life, Judy is retired from the Saskatoon Public School Division after 34 years first as a classroom teacher and then as an Instructional Consultant. Judy and Brent have one daughter, Katelyn, in her fourth year of the Bachelor of Nursing program. They live on an acreage just outside of Saskatoon and enjoy many outdoor activities and country living with their dogs, cats, and horses.



Summer is over —



Kris Sobanski's puppy from her Broadway's Opening Night litter.

Autumn is here —

Winter is on its way —

Flat-coats always have a ball!