

The Live Flyer



The Newsletter of the Great Western Flat-Coated Retriever Club

March 2004
Edition

Upcoming Events

April 3-4 AKC Hunt Tests
May 2-9 FCRSA National
Specialty
May 29 - Supported Show,
Sweepstakes and General
Meeting
June 18 - Gonioscopy Clinic

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Contributions to the Live Flyer are appreciated. Contact the editor for more information. The deadline is the 20th of the month.

To publish litter announcements or ads you need to submit copies of OFA and CERF (or annual eye exam) certificates for both the sire and dam.

AD RATES

Page	Members	Nonmembers
1/4	\$2.50	\$3.75
1/2	\$5.00	\$7.50
Full	\$10.00	\$15.00



President's Message

Ed Ferner, GWFCRC President - March 2004

I chatted a bit with Peachie and Adrienne at our recent Silver Bay Kennel Club supported entry. I was telling them that if someone could solve the hauling-of-all-the-stuff-problem that I might actually enjoy conformation shows. At least for field-training, if you have a vehicle where you can pack all your training stuff in it, you get to drive it right up to where you need it and can unload it there. In my opinion the "unloading zone" at a conformation show just isn't good enough. You got dogs, chairs, grooming stuff, water buckets, X-pens, crates, blow dryers, drinks for yourself, and if we're having a potluck after the showing, then we've got everything that goes along with that as well. You get it all unloaded at "The Zone" and if you are lucky enough to have a partner with you, then one of you gets to wait with the stuff while the other parks and returns. After parking and hoofing it all the way back to "The Zone" there is a great pile of stuff waiting for you, along with the dogs and your partner. We are not even to the ring yet and I am worn out and ready to go home. Okay, enough whining. Peachie suggested that maybe some entrepreneur should start a rental business where you could put your order in for what you want to have waiting for you in a nice little reserved area adjacent to your ring so all you have to do is show up with the dog. That's really not such a bad idea. As I think about it, maybe a parking lot valet service could work as well. You pull up to the "Zone", grab your claim check from the kid with the valet cap and walk over to your ring with your dog. Within minutes you have a couple of hustling kids schlepping all your stuff over to the ring for you and all you have to do is slip them a little cash to insure a snappy pack-up when you are ready to go. Maybe you have one of those restaurant pager/buzzer thingys that you could use to buzz them when you are ready. What do you think?

All kidding aside, we had a great turnout at the Silver Bay show and it was fun to see everyone. Although not an "official supported entry", many people are planning on entering their dogs on Saturday, April 24th at the Lake Matthews Kennel Club show.

I NEED YOUR HELP! I hope that gets your attention. Our Hunt Test is April 3rd and 4th at the Prado Dog Park in Corona. If you are available to work one or both of those days, please call or email me as soon as possible. There are jobs available for everyone, many of which don't require interaction with dead birds, such as setup for the tail gate dinner, delivering lunches to the workers, making sure judges and workers have water and soda and setup and cleanup for

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the tail gate dinner. For those of you who can throw, or can shoot a popper, we need you desperately as well. **PLEASE CALL OR EMAIL ME AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**

Lastly, I wanted to give a brief introduction for an article about German Flat-Coat Gun Dogs which is published in this month's newsletter. The author of the article, Ralf Malz, is a friend that I made while in Germany on business. Ralf and his wife showed me great hospitality on what would have been a boring weekend for me. Ralf shares my passion for working Flat-Coats in the field and I enjoyed learning about how he trains and about what their tests are like. With my urging and apparently some urging on behalf of some of his Swedish friends, Ralf has written an article about working his dogs in the field. I hope you enjoy the article.

See You at the Hunt Test,

Ed**MISSION CIRCUIT PARKING**

The Premium Lists for Mission Circuit should begin arriving in early April. Applications for overnight parking are at the back of that booklet. I do not yet know what the prices will be for this year, but if it is the same as 2003, for an RV, the cost is determined by the length....\$100.00 for 4 nights if 35 Ft. and under. Over 35 Ft. is \$140.00. You have to book 4 nights even if you don't plan to be there for all that time.

If you have a Van and want to share the space with another Van, the cost is \$120.00 (\$100.00 for the first vehicle and \$20.00 for the second) so each Van owner would pay \$60.00 for all 4 nights.

One important note.....if you plan to share with another vehicle, both owners must complete a parking request form INCLUDING YOUR LICENSE PLATE NBR, NAME AND ADDRESS. I ran into a problem with this last year by having to contact those who had not furnished this information which caused lots of wasted time and energy.

We will have 5 spaces.....only 4 are available since the fifth is usually booked by the GWFCRC for our members to use for setups. Since many of us will be journeying north to Vallejo for the National in early May, I MUST RECEIVE ALL FORMS WITH CHECKS by APRIL 30th since I leave here on May 1st and the forms are due into the Circuit Parking Committee no later than May 7th.

If you have any questions, please email or telephone me. My land line is 909 926-7357 and my email is alpharetv@aol.com.

Karen Sack

Mission Circuit Parking Coordinator

Meet Our Sweeps Judge

DEBORAH EDWARDS OF BEACHCLIFF FLAT-COATS

Let's start with some personal information. I am a PhD. toxicologist and I work for the Global Remediation department of ExxonMobil Corporation (EOM). I am responsible for environmental cleanup at various sites around the world and have been with the company since 1988. I worked for EOM in New Jersey from 1988 until April 2001 when I was relocated to the Houston, Texas area. My expertise is in human health risk assessment (biochemistry, carcinogenesis and pharmacology).

Now onto the fun stuff, dogs! I have been involved with dogs both as pets and show dogs since my childhood. My parents started out in American Cocker Spaniels but discovered the breed had somewhat unstable temperaments along with a lot of health problems. They dabbled in several other breeds before finding the Miniature Schnauzer, which they have enjoyed immensely for the last 30 years. I also bred American Cockers while I was attending graduate school in the late 70's. Eventually the breed's poor temperaments and health issues proved to be too much for me as well. (I know, I should have listened to mom and dad!) After my last Cocker died in 1995 I went in search of a breed that would suit me better - enter the Flat Coated Retriever. To me it was the perfect package: beauty, style, grace and a phenomenal personality to boot! What more could a person ask for?

In May of 1995 at a dog show in New Jersey, I met Mari and Walter Galvin. They were grooming their Best in Show winning Flat-Coat, *Ch. Omega's Quiet Riot*, "Riot". We quickly became friends and I made the decision to get my first FCR from a breeding of Riot and *Ch. HiHill Beachcliff Dameisele* "Dixie". I chose Shadow, *CH. Beachcliff Alec "the Shadow" Baldwin CD JH OA NAJ*, who became my first Hall of Fame dog. Two years later Shadow's sister Demi, *Ch. Beachcliff Demi Wants Moore* entered my life. Shadow and Demi will be nine years old in June. I now breed Flat-Coats with Mari Galvin using the Beachcliff prefix.

In addition to Shadow and Demi, I share my home with *Ch. Beachcliff Celine Dion* "Celine" co-owned with Carrie Ryberg and *Ch. Beachcliff Flatwood Mac* "Mac" co-owned with Mari. Both are out of Demi and *Ch. Rainbow's Autumn Classic*. These two were from my first litter born in 2000. Celine and Mac are currently

training in the field. Celine is working on her Junior Hunter title and Mac is training for senior. I also own *Ch. Beachcliff The Divine Ms. M* "Bette" from my second litter of Demi with *Ch. Alpine Shadow Rider JH* born in 2001. And I have *Ch. Almanza's Play for the Gallery* "Player" a Swedish import out of *Almanza's Roundabout* and *Almanza's Playing with Fire*.

I currently co-own:

Ch. Beacon's Red Hot Chili Pepper "Topsey" with Becky Tilley in Oklahoma
Beacon's Shadow Keeper, "Cricket" with Sandy Reusing in Ohio
Ch. Blu Mtn. Flats the Medicine Man, "Doc" with Cheryl Fuller in Texas
Blu. Mtn. Flats Pocahantis, "Pokey" with Mike Cairnes in Philadelphia
Windsor's Sweet Black Angel, "Foxy" with Carrie Ryberg in Princeton, New Jersey

In my breeding program I focus on improving health and conformation while maintaining this breed's wonderful temperament. Easier said than done, right? No matter how hard you work at finding the "best dog", breeding is still more of an art than a science. The longer you are in dogs the more you realize how tough it is to continue to improve your line. As a breeder you face things like whether or not to breed your bitch with 5 performance titles even though she is far from correct when compared to the standard or whether to say "no" to another breeder who wants to use your #1 ranking stud dog when you think no improvement will result. Keeping in mind that being a breeder is a huge responsibility, only you can objectively evaluate your breeding stock and make the tough decisions that can truly influence this breed for the better. This is the type of breeder I strive to be.

I am so thrilled to be judging the Great Western Flat Coated Retriever Club's sweepstakes in May 2004! This will be my first sweepstakes assignment and in the future I hope to obtain my judges license in Flat Coats as well as other breeds. I look forward to seeing all of you and your Flat Coats in May!



UPCOMING LOCAL SHOWS

Date	Show	Breed Judge	Group Judge	Closes
March 13 Saturday	Coso Dog Fanciers of CA Ridgecrest, CA	Mrs. Linda Riedel	Mrs. George John Wanner, Sr	Feb. 25 (\$22.00) Bradshaw
March 14 Sunday	Coso Dog Fanciers of CA Ridgecrest, CA	Mrs. Judy Webb	Mrs Riedel	Feb. 25 (\$22.00) Bradshaw
March 27 Saturday	Kern County Kennel Club Bakersfield, CA	Mrs. B.F. Fox	Mr. E.M Gilbert, Jr	Mar. 10 (\$23.00) Bradshaw
March 28 Sunday	Kern County Kennel Club Bakersfield, CA	B. DiDonato	Lt. Col C. W. Ruppert	Mar. 10 (\$23.00) Bradshaw
April 24 Saturday	Lake Matthews Kennel Club Chino, CA	Mrs. A. Katona SFCWBP	Mrs. L.K. Davis	Apr. 7 (\$23.00) Bradshaw
April 25 Sunday	Lake Matthews Kennel Club Chino, CA	Mr. L.K. Davis SFCWBP	Mr. N.L. Patton	Apr. 7 (\$23.00) Bradshaw
May 1 Saturday	Rio Hondo Kennel Club Pomona, CA	Mrs. Paula Nykiel	Mrs. Nykiel	Apr. 14 (\$25.00) Bradshaw
May 2 Sunday	Greater Sierra Vista KC Sierra Vista, AZ	Mr. G.A. Anderson	Mr. Anderson	Apr. 14 (\$22.00)
May 2 Sunday	Rio Hondo Kennel Club Pomona, CA	Mrs. Sue Goldberg	Mrs. Judy Doniere	Apr. 14 (\$25.00) Bradshaw
May 3 Monday	Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America	Ms. Lori Mihm-Kunz Puppy & Veteran Sweeps		April 14 MB-F Inc
May 4-6 Tues-Thurs	Flat-Coated Retriever Society of America	Mrs. Brenda Phillips		April 14 MB-F Inc
May 9 Sunday	Shoreline Dog Fanciers San Juan Capistrano	Mrs. S. Brown	Mrs. M.M. Olmos-Ollivier	Apr. 21 (\$25.00) Bradshaw
May 15 Saturday	Cabrillo Kennel Club Rancho Santa Fe, CA	Mr. R.L. Byrd	Mrs. A Pardo	Apr. 21 (\$25.00) Bradshaw
May 16 Sunday	Del Sur Kennel Club Rancho Santa Fe, CA	Mrs. A. Pardo	Mr. Byrd	Apr. 21 (\$25.00) Bradshaw
May 22 Saturday	Kennel Club of Pasadena Pasadena, CA	Dr. J. Engel	Mr. L. R. Mapes	May 5 (\$23.00) Bradshaw

SFWBP - Some FCR's will be entered, Majors Possible FCRSA - Trophy Supported Entry

Point Schedule for California effective May 13, 2003: **1 pt** 2 dogs/2 bitches **2 pts** 4 dogs/5 bitches
3 pt major 5 dogs/ 7 bitches **4 pt major** 7 dogs/9 bitches **5 pt major** 10 dogs/12 bitches

Class K9 List

This is a list of some of the dogs & bitches currently working on their championship. Please contact the editor to update this list.

Dogs

Brewer (Kunkel)	Mrkunkel@earthlink.net
Grant (Goodwin)	doggone1mindspring.com
Jake (Hanover/Sizemore)	Nhanover@aol.com
Cowboy (Gray/Martindale)	Pgray@OMM.com
Howie (Ferner)	edcandy@tns.net

Bitches

Jules (Ayles)	ajholbert@flatcoat.com
Mieke (Ricketts)	Debricketts@adelphia.net
Gabby (Schneider)	SidekickFlats@Sbcglobal.net
Joy (Goodwin)	doggone1@mindspring.com
Lacey Mae (DeMars)	edemars@guhsd.net
Amy (Creamer/Ferner)	edcandy@tns.net



AN INTRODUCTION TO GERMAN GUN DOG CULTURE

By Ralf Malz

Edited by Ed Ferner

I'm not a great writer, but Britt-Marie Mallfors from Calebri's, the breeder of our Calebri's Coco Beautyfield Mousse "Vildsvin" {editors note: call name is Coco}, asked me if I was willing to write about Hunting Tests. I determined that this year I would write about them. She also asked if I would write a report on Coco's HZP test. Normally I wouldn't bother to take the time to do this, but she has told some friends about working Flat-Coats and I think some of them don't believe that a Flat will point, so I'll try to explain about the tests and about Flat-Coats pointing.

First a little about me. I am 36 years old and have a wife and 4 Flat-Coated Retrievers. I'm a hunter, dog trainer and, since this autumn, a judge of European Pointer Trials and of other hunting breeds. I have trained 4 dogs, 2 Flat-coats and 2 wire-haired pointers, for the German Master test with success in earning first prize.

My intention in the beginning was, that I am only to be a trainer in the hunting dog group of our hunting club. Our training leader convinced me, that it would be better to be a judge as well. Before becoming a judge it is necessary to lead {editor's note: lead = handle} 2 dogs in the Breeding Club tests through the master level with success and then you can take the training to become educated as a judge.

The turning point for me happened with my dog Dt.VDH & Club Ch. Camwood Randy the Copper Rebell, about 3 years ago at the VGP

(Versatility Working Test), the highest Hunting test in Germany for all sorts of pointers. In that test I had to handle my own dog because our Gun Dog Club told me that I've the right

dog hunting tests. There are 2 types of tests, the Breeding Club tests (German Retriever Club) and the tests of the German Working Hunting Dog Association (JGHV).



mind and character for a gundog judge and the first step toward that is to successfully lead a dog in a Breeding Club test and a VGP (full hunting working test). I had just seen a picture of Randy's Grandfather "Claverdon Raffles of Collyers" in Joan Mason's "Flatcoated Retrievers Today", on page 30 of the book, where he is standing in a pointing manner and I said to myself, "I'll try that", because Randy looks the same as the picture. We ended up getting first prize. We had quite a celebration. {Editor's note: At every test placements are given for 1st prize through third, but only the point score is what is registered with the club. This is similar to our obedience trials.}

But first an explanation of German

The Breeding Club tests (licensed by the German Retriever Club) are for the different retriever breeds. The first test is the JP/R. This test evaluates the dog's talent for hunting. It is for youngsters who are not older than 2 years. The second test is the BLP/R, which tests talent and obedience. This test includes searching, correct retrieves, steadiness, direct sending on two blinds and water work. There's no age limit for the dogs. The third test is the RGP/R, which is the Retriever Master test. It is nearly the same as the VPS (I later write about this). This test strictly evaluates obedience in hunting situations, like tracking 400 m {Editor's note: 1 m = 1 meter, which is equal to 1.09

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yards} on a track laid the previous night. It also evaluates retrieves on duck, rabbit, and fox; searching; water work; direct sending; etc.

The other type of tests are the Common Tests of the German Working Hunting Dog Association (JGHV). Most of these tests are constructed for German Pointer breeds, who were in the past the most popular dogs for German hunters. Since then, there are other breeds and clubs established and there is change in sight, I think. The Common Tests starts with the VJP (Association Youth Test) held in spring. This test is limited to dogs which are between the ages of 8 months and 1-1/2 years old. In this test the dogs work a fresh rabbit track. The judges evaluate how long and with what type of intensity do they track. The dogs also search for live game. The judges notice if they point, if they use their nose, and if they maintain contact with their leader. What is judged, is the talent. We tried this with our Coco and it's not a good test of the talent of a retriever.

The next test of the German Working Hunting Dog Association is the HZP (Autumn Breed Test). The dogs allowed to start, must meet the same age requirements as the VJP.

At this test, the talent and the obedience of the dog is tested. The leaders are tested also.

You have to do a search for live game like rabbits, pheasants or partridges. The first part of the judging is the type of searching. Is it fast and wide and are they using their noses? The second part is to examine if they point and the style of pointing if they found some game. Third, their will to please is evaluated. Fourth, their happiness in working is judged. Fifth: the searching of ducks in lake areas {Editor's note: Finding dead or

wounded ducks that may be around or in the lake even though the dog and leader do not know where they are. An activity different from a marked retrieve or a blind retrieve.} Sixth: the retrieving of ducks. Seventh: working with live ducks {Editor's note: The exact type of work done with live ducks is explained later}. Eighth: the working of a track made by feathered game over 150 m long, and the style of retrieving. Ninth: the same type of work, but with a rabbit track of over 300 m. And last, the obedience work over the whole test.

For the adult dogs we have the VGP. This test is for all types of dogs, who point naturally, or where the dog owner has encouraged the dog to point. We also have the VPS which is for the dogs who aren't naturally pointing dogs. The tests are nearly identical, except the Field parts, where the pointers have to do searches and have to show their pointing qualities.

Britt-Marie asked for a report on Coco's HZP test, but I think before I give the report it is important to understand the different types of tests. For the most part they are identical, the difference is the search and how to point. We all know, that our Flat-Coated Retrievers were originally bred from different breeds, like spaniels and setters. The setter is the important part for understanding where the pointing ability of a Flat-Coat comes from. But it is a good question to consider: If this talent from their ancestors is passed along, why not develop it? It is not my goal to breed pointing Flat-Coats. We will breed and train hunting dogs, but the easiest way to do this is in the area where you live. For us it is easier to train with people who are training pointing dogs. For most of the hunting retriever tests you have to drive

200 miles or more (for you Swedish people it is just around the corner, but for us it is a long distance and takes a lot of time, because of so many people with so many cars on the road). On the other hand, the infrastructure of the German Working Hunting Dog Association (JGHV) is so good that you have within 10 miles of your home the possibility to train in a Hunting Dog group. The most important thing is that we are working our dogs. Unfortunately we haven't the chance for shooting dozens of birds for our dogs, so we've to do with them all that they are able to do with what is available to us. So tracking, retrieving all sorts of game from pigeons to foxes, or racoons, and some times searching and pointing, is nice work for them.

So we started the training with our Coco from nearly the moment we brought her home from Gällivare, working on obedience, retrieves, and giving her much love. Based on dummy search, she learned to search an area using the wind correctly, first on a leash, then without.

We started pointing by using a wing hanging from a string attached to a pole. She tried to catch the wing and we would not let her get it, so that she finally stood in front of it and got her reward for doing that.

After that, we started with setting pheasant or partridges in a box, which we set in fields and let her search for it; first on a leash, later without it. After that we set the birds free into fields, so that if she wants to jump in she only sees the birds fly away, but if she carefully searches and points then she is rewarded.

So now for the report on Coco's HZP. We started early in the morning at 7 o'clock AM. It was the 14th of September and we were the first

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**FANTASTIC
FLAT-COAT
FEATS!**



**CONGRATULATIONS
TO...**

Marianne Lacey and Poppy (Folly's Krackle and Pop *AX* OAJ) on January 30th at City of Industry, Poppy earned her AX title, taking first place. She also got her second leg toward her AXJ title and a 2nd place. She is such an honest girl, always doing what is asked and with lots of enthusiasm.



Ed and Candy Ferner and Howie (Wingmaster Heaven and Earth JH) for going Winner's Dog for a four point major at the Silver Bay Kennel Club supported show on February 21st. The judge was Dr. Ronald Spritzer.

Adrienne Ayles and Jules (Sterling Omega's New Year) [Ayles, Holbert, Orton] for being selected Winner's Bitch, Best of Winners (four point major!) at Silver Bay.

Lester Grossman and Angee (Ch Dexmoor's Thrill of Groshunt) [Grossman/Dexter] for being selected BoS at the supported show on Saturday. The following day Angee won Best of Breed under judge Mr.

Norton Moore.



Kari Mueske and Arrow (Ch Dexmoor's Shoot the Moon CDX JH OA OAJ) for winning BEST OF BREED at the Silver Bay supported show.

Cynthia Trotter and Piper (Applegarth Belstar Highlander) for going RWD on Saturday and Winner's Dog for a three point major at the Sunday Silver Bay show.



Kathy Schneider and Gabby (Bertschire Spilled The Beans JH) for being selected Best of Winners at the Silver Bay Sunday show for her first major. Shown by Gabby's new buddy, Michelle Harwick.

Richard Rohm and Shooter (Ch Dexmoor's Maker's Mark JH) [Rohm/Dexter] for winning Best Opposite at the Saturday Silver Bay show from the Veteran Dog class.

Debbie Brooks with Jordan and Emma (Ch Hardscrabble Hoop Dreams HOF, Ch Hardscrabble Hurricane Emma HOF) writes Debbie, "My old girls had a good weekend in agility - Jordan picked up some more MACH points and Miss Emma picked up double Q's #19 and #20! Considering she spent most of Tuesday and Wednesday in the emergency clinic on IVs I think she had quite a weekend - not sure what she got into but she by Thursday night she was back out swimming laps."

Tom & Tanya Roche' and Jazz (Tavion Boundless Rhythm) for going WB/BW/BoS for a major at the Scottsdale Dog Fanciers show on Saturday February 28th.

Barb Anderson and Splash (Tag Along to Model Creek, CGC) for taking BOW for a 3 pt major on Monday, March 1 under judge Mrs. Mareth K. Kipp at the Fiesta Cluster in Scottsdale, AZ.

Dave Terry and Qote (Ch Dexmoor's Quixote of Boldwynd SH WCX) for getting a MASTER HUNTER leg at the Monterey Bay Hunting Retriever Club test on February 14-15th.



**DON'T FORGET TO SEND
YOUR BRAGS TO THE EDITOR AT
EDCANDY@TNS.NET
CARDS AND LETTERS WORK TOO**

**AND SEND ALONG A PICTURE OF
YOUR TRIUMPH IF YOU HAVE
ONE!**

rom our group of 5 dogs. With us were 2 small Münsterland pointers (both dogs), a Red and white setter (dog also), and a female Magyarvizslar pointer {Editor's note: Or as we call them, a Vizsla}. We had to search a field of 150 m wide and 400 m long. I unleashed Coco and sent her to search. I held the distance between her and myself to about 50 to 100 m, but after 50 m she first showed me smell and pointed. Then she worked the track, and as she lost the track, she went further from me. After 150 m she finally pointed again, and held point until I had reached her. I let her sit and went in front of her, where a pheasant flew away and she jumped after it. But I stopped her with the whistle.

So we had luck in that we found some game right at the beginning. However, she has not the style of a pointer, so she got 8 points from 10 for pointing, and for her search the judges gave her 8 points too because I held her in at a closer distance. The judges felt that Coco was not regarding me during the search. They gave me another search were she got 10 points, so we ended up with a final score of 9 out of 10 points. The other 4 dogs worked similar to Coco, but got 10 points for pointing and 8 – 10 for their search.

The next part of the test was working a feathered game track. This means that a pheasant is put on a line and dragged over the ground in a track with 2 corners, the total track over 150 m long. She worked the track really good, just as we would expect from a retriever; only one command for sending. On the way back the dog has to come in front of you, sit, and wait until you get the game. She did this. Two of the other 4 dogs had problems, but mastered the task within tolerance and scored 6 and 7 points. Coco's score for this part

was a 10.

The next part was the rabbit track of over 300 m. She performed in the same way, without a problem. It is important that only one command is used for sending the dog, that the dog has to work the trap closely, find the bird/rabbit, take it fast and return to the leader, and finally the dog has to sit without a command and wait until the leader takes the game and says "out".

Then we had to drive to a lake, where the dogs had first to retrieve a duck out of the water. During their swim to the duck, the leader had to shoot over the duck into the water. That is for testing if they are afraid of shooting. After that, a duck was thrown into the reeds, 30 m away from your starting point, without the dog seeing it. Then they had to search, find and retrieve the duck. The last task was that a living duck was set into the reeds. The duck got 5 minutes to vanish. After that, the dog was sent for the search. They had to find the swimming track of the duck and chase the duck out of the reeds, so that the leader/hunter had the possibility to shoot the duck. It's not a failure, if the dog catches the duck.

Coco accomplished the first part very well and caught the living duck, so that I had no possibility to shoot, but that was okay and she got all the points for her work. So we had lost only 2 points for pointing and 1 point for her search. The points for every part are multiplied with a ratio for each part, so that finally we got 174 points out of 180 points. You can get for some tasks 12 points or 11 points, if the dog is extraordinarily good, and that only in the talent tasks, like search and pointing. For giving 12 points the judges have to give a special written report. The



other 4 dogs had some problems with the water work, so that they lost some points and finally Coco placed first, followed by the Red and White Setter with 173 points.

So we had luck in winning the test because the other dogs had more problems with some parts of the test than normally would be expected. But judging is always in some ways subjective, and at other tests maybe we would have got more points or less points than we did. Since that test we passed, 2 weeks later, the VPS test (the test without pointing) as second dog of five with 192 out of 200 points and entered the Breed Club tests (The German Retriever Club's JP/R and BLP/R) at the first weekend of November, both with great success also, receiving first prize in her group for both tests.

I hope you have gained some insight into German hunting tests. In the retriever club we try to mix the culture from Germany and Great Britain and we've started 4 years ago with the first field trial, which is not easy because only a few areas in Germany have the possibility of hunting enough pheasants and partridges.

Finally, let me say that it is fabulous to see Swedish Flat-Coats working and at shows. They are real "dual purpose dogs" and thanks to Britt-Marie and Kalle who have given us such a great girl.



Learn about retrievers and help the club raise money!



GWFCRC AKC HUNT TESTS, APRIL 3RD AND 4TH

We need poppers, throwers, marshalls, gunners, and folks to help with hospitality

Contact Ed at (760) 747-9640 or edcandy@tns.net to volunteer

LET'S BUILD MAJORS



We're expecting a nice turn out of Flat-Coats at the Lake Matthews Kennel Club shows on April 24th and 25th. These shows are held at the Prado Regional Park in Chino, California. This will be a good opportunity to practice up for the Specialty. Mrs. Anne Katona is our judge on Saturday, Mr. Lowell Davis is judging on Sunday. There is a reduced price (\$17.00) for puppy classes. Entries Close with Bradshaw on April 7th.

LAST CALL FOR MEMBERSHIP DUES!!!



It's March, and some of you have yet to pay your GWFCRC membership dues. Please sign the renewal form and send it right away to our membership secretary
Melinda Maggiani
650 Pacific
Cayucos, CA 93430
(805) 995-2969
Melinda@BrilliantBlack.com

GONIOSCOPY CLINIC WITH DR. BARBARA STEELE



Date: Friday June 18th from 11:00 to 1:00 pm
Location: The Advanced Veterinary Care Center
15308 Inglewood Avenue
Lawndale, CA
Price: \$25.00 per dog
To make an appointment: Chris Coleman
Colemanc@adelphia.net
(310) 546-5086

NEW CLUB WEBSITE



Aaron Harwick has been hard at work on our club website. This is a work in progress but so far it looks great! Check it out at
www.gwfcrc.org



Mailing Label

1970 Peppermint Place
Escondido, CA 92029



**GWRCRC AKC Hunt Tests will be
held at the Prado Dog Training Area in
Chino on April 3rd and 4th**