

Chesapeake and indicate type. Expect a medium-length hock and hare feet.

Expect to view a happy, willing-to-work animal. Avoid dogs who look like another breed in profile—that have, for example, sloping topline, lack of tuck-up, or a bad tail carriage. Avoid dogs who lack reach and drive and/or move with a restrictive or unbalanced gait.

While watching movement going away, always focus on the fact that good hindquarters are essential. Good substance and muscle tone should be evident. Strong thighs, balance, and angulation are very important. Strength and power is imperative. Avoid sickle hocks, cow hocks, coarse dogs, or any indication of weakness.

As the dog comes toward you, expect full liberty of action, sloping shoulders, balance, and angulation. Be sure the chest and front is powerful and substanced, understanding that there should be no evidence of an overdone specimen. As the dog stops in front of you, take the opportunity to view head and expression. Avoid fronts that lack substance, as well as those that are over-substanced, have elbows out, or display any movement faults. Also avoid dogs with coarse heads or other head characteristics that deviate from the standard.

Some breed standards put more emphasis on side gait than on gait coming and going. The Chesapeake standard is indicative of a perspective of movement needing to be judged as a package, where no view of movement should be given more emphasis than another. Side gait shows so much with regard to outline, type, and reach and drive. Gait coming and going gives you more insight into strength, power, and degree of substance that side movement cannot necessarily give. —*Nathaniel Horn, Columbia, Md.; kcboy0@yahoo.com* ♦



Curly-Coated Retrievers



A Matter of Respect

When I was growing up, we owned one dog at a time. Then I acquired my first Curly-Coated Retriever, and not soon afterwards a second Curly came

along. I had never given a thought to how dogs behave when living together, but I have since learned.

Fortunately, my first two bitches were easygoing, and I only had one little problem to solve when a new pup arrived. Pup was a sloppy drinker of water, and the older bitch refused to drink from the same bowl. This was solved by separating their two water bowls, and those two never drank from one another's bowl for the rest of their lives.

Time elapsed, and two new adults were in the household, and a new Curly pup joined the group. She was very much an alpha-type bitch and would have ruled all of us if she could. Only once did a fight almost ensue, when she and one other bitch both tried to enter a crate at the same time, but an immediate stop was put to that.

Over the years I have learned that dogs can learn to respect one another. Eating bowls are always placed with space between the dogs and in the same spot for each meal. The dogs are not ever allowed to eat from one another's bowl or infringe upon another while she is eating. When traveling, it is the same routine, and as I take one dog out at a time, they know their order of exiting the motor home.

For the first time I am in a new situation. Usually we have one older bitch in the household and two younger ones. Now, however, there are two seniors and one active, young Curly. Our youngest one is never allowed to bump, jostle, or nag the older ones. Stairs could present a problem, as she tears down them. However, she must wait until the other two are completely downstairs or until there is a clear pathway for her to navigate. Very often it seems as if the younger one actually does respect the other two without any advice from me.

I have been very fortunate in that my Curlies have all lived together in harmony. Setting rules for the dogs to adhere to, maintaining high standards, and being consistent in daily routines seem to help the dogs learn respect for one another.

Fortunately, that respect also goes forth to the rest of the family. —*Ann Shinkle, Grand Island, Fla.; Annshinkle@aol.com* ♦

Flat-Coated Retrievers

Remembering Biz Reed

The following is from close friend, fellow field-trial enthusiast, and honorary FCRSA member Bunny Millikin.

"The Flat-Coat world recently lost one of our earliest and most loved members, Biz Reed. Biz became a household name among Flat-Coat people right away and was a longtime parent-club officer and board member. Her first Flat-Coat, Ch. Copper Caliph of Mantayo, CD, a grand little liver dog, shone in the show ring and obedience ring but was a serious success in field trials, igniting Biz's deep enthusiasm for fieldwork. His early death was a heartbreak, but Biz picked up the pieces and went on to enjoy many more wonderful dogs. She was a masterful trainer, as evidenced early by her being the first person to put a UD on an Italian Greyhound.

"Biz obviously enjoyed challenges, and this included the political stage. She ran for mayor of her town in Minnesota, winning and serving several terms. She was the Society's newsletter editor for years, and it was a superb quarterly, chock-full of everything you needed to know. Her newsletter was a regular winner of the award for Best National Club Bulletin from the Dog Writers Association of America. Biz understood success and failure and will always be remembered for her strong and warm encouragement, especially in the darker moments.

"Oh, how I miss Biz, her good sense and great chuckle. We were all so fortunate to have had her!"

The following is from Biz's eulogy, by David Bunde. David is former president of the FCRSA, a hunting and hunting-retriever test enthusiast, and legal advisor for the FCR Foundation.

"Biz's accomplishments in the field speak for themselves. For decades she successfully competed in field trials, and later hunt tests—no small feat for any breed, but especially remarkable for Flat-Coats.

