



BREED COLUMNS

SPORTING GROUP

“Outline and coat are essentials of Chesapeake type, but the next most important type characteristic is the head. Years ago, a breeder who concentrated on producing hunting dogs in Delaware and seldom participated in competitive events told me, ‘People always want a good head on their dogs.’ And so he bred for heads to please the hunters who represented his principal market. They had to look like Chesa-peakes, as Chesa-peakes always should in shows, trials, hunting or at home.” —Janet Horn

Breeders of Chesapeake Bay Retrievers have worked very hard to maintain one “type” of Chesapeake that can “do it all.” We do not have an “obedience type,” or “field trial/hunt test type,” such as appear in Golden and Labrador Retrievers. Our breed can go from the show ring to the hunt test on the same weekend, or they can run in the agility ring or show in the obedience ring. We have more CH/MH (Master Hunter) –titled

dogs than any of the other retriever breeds. The heads as described above are an intrinsic part of our breed.

—Betsy Horn Humer,
tiderunr2@verizon.net
American Chesapeake Club

Curly-Coated Retrievers

BREAKING A RECORD

December 16, 2021, has turned out to be a game-changing date in Curly-Coated Retriever history. On that date, four puppies were born sired by GCh.B Flairfor Watermark With Pizzazz, CD, BN, RA, SH, DN (Marker), out of GCh.S Boyerie’s Storm Chaser @ Kurly Kreek, RN, CGC, TKN, ATT (Stormy).

The litter was whelped by co-breeder Iris Andre in California. This resulted in one of the two males in the litter being sent, virtually sight unseen (at least in person), to co-breeder Kathy Shifflett. As it later became apparent, either one of these

male puppies would have been the right choice. In any event, Pizzazz Kurly Kreek Raise a Ruckus (Raisin) went to live with Kathy and Scott Shifflett in Maryland. By the way, Raisin’s litter-mate, MBIS GCh. Pizzazz From the Top, RN (Intro), has also won multiple Best in Show awards.

Raisin finished his championship in early 2023 and went on to win the CCRCA national specialty in September 2023. He earned his first group placement in the fall a week before the national. In addition, Kathy and Raisin earned an Owner-Handled Best in Show in November of 2023. Quite a start to his career!

Raisin’s first Group 1 was in June 2024. Then, in September 2024, Raisin and his handler, Tristen Lawrence, racked up their first Reserve Best in Show on September 14 and, even better, their first Best in Show under judge David Kirkland on September 15.

The record for the most Best in Show wins, which



Curly-Coated Retriever Raisin (GCh.S Pizzazz Kurly Kreek Raise a Ruckus) winning Best in Show

was five, was held by MBIS BISS Ch. Riverwatch Southern Cross, RN, CGC, bred by Gary and Mary Meek and John Mello and owned by Gary and Mary Meek and Ann and Conrad Clippert. This record stood for almost 20 years.

On June 8, 2025, Pizzazz Kurly Kreek Raise a Ruckus broke this longstanding record by going Best in Show at the Skyline Kennel Club under Judge Judith A. Brown. Since reaching that amazing milestone, Raisin

and Tristen have been awarded four more Best in Shows and four Reserve Best in Shows.

So, let's give our heartiest congratulations to breeders Iris Andre and Kathy Shifflett and owners Kathy and Scott Shifflett on the amazing accomplishments of MBIS MRBIS BISS NOHS GCh.G Pizzazz Kurly Kreek Raise a Ruckus.

—Ellen Manes,
jollycurl54@gmail.com
 Curly-Coated Retriever
 Club of America

Golden Retrievers

THE SEARCH FOR A GOOD BREEDER AND A GOOD PEDIGREE

Finding a quality Golden Retriever puppy can be a daunting task. Experienced Golden owners will agree on the two most important elements in searching for a pup: a reputable breeder, and the pedigree.

Good breeders understand the importance of pedigree. They select their breeding stock using dogs with parents, grandparents, and other ancestors who possess good health, temperament, and ability who are most likely to pass on those same traits to their pups. In doing so, they have established a track record of producing quality pups. Thus the route to finding the puppy of your dreams lies with the right breeder *and* a good pedigree.

It's important not to confuse the pedigree with the puppy's registration papers. Registration papers simply identify the parents and other ancestors of the pup.

COURTESY OWNER