



NEBCA News

The Official Publication of the North East Border Collie Association, Inc.



Christine Koval

Christine Koval's Lad knows how to make the most of winter

The mission of the North East Border Collie Association is to promote and to protect the Border Collie as a working stock dog through the sanctioning and regulation of competitive herding trials and by providing information on training, health and breeding.

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NEBCA Bylaws & Rules

can be found at
<http://www.nebca.net/welcome.html>

If members require hard copies, please contact The Secretary, Martha Walke, P.O. Box 66, S. Strafford, VT 05070

NEBCA Membership

Annual Renewals due January 1st
\$25 per individual, or
\$30 per farm/family

To join or renew, send your name, address and dues to The Secretary, NEBCA, Martha Walke, P. O. Box 66, S. Strafford, VT 05070
OR submit online at
<http://nebca.net/membershipChoice.html>

New members may join at any time. After October 1, you will automatically be paid through the following calendar year.

Please Support Border Collie Rescue

New England Border Collie Rescue
<http://nebcr.org>
info@nebcr.org

Mid Atlantic Border Collie Rescue
<http://www.mabcr.org>
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President's Message

Dear NEBCA members,



I am so excited that Spring is almost here and will bring with it a new trial season. I have two young dogs coming along and am hopeful that they will be ready for the trial field this year.

It's been a busy Winter in NEBCA. For nearly a full year, the Bylaws Committee worked hard to comb through our Bylaws and make improvements and clarifications.

At the Annual Meeting, we voted unanimously to support the new and improved Bylaws. The biggest change will be that our Annual Meetings will be held in March in the future, which will allow the Audit Committee to have enough time at the end of the year to thoroughly evaluate our bookkeeping. Huge thank you to Warren Mick, Dave Sharp, Lori Tsuruda and the Board of Directors for all the time that went into this.

The BOD gained two new members, Blake Anderson from New Brunswick and Ginny Prince from New Hampshire. Thanks to them for being willing to serve. Thanks also to Stacey Rember and Hilary Flowers who just finished their terms.

As Debbie West and Pam Wataha leave the Novice Trials Committee at the end of their terms, the NTC will be joined by Linda Pace, Sharon Barrett, and Julia Anderson. This larger committee reflects the change in the committee size voted on with the new bylaws. Debbie and Pam did a fantastic job on the NTC, thanks to both! And welcome to the new members.

The Open Trials Committee also has new members as Michael Nunan and Christine Koval leave. Thanks to both for their hard work on the OTC. New members are Laurie Sargent and returning OTC member Sue Shoen.

The Education Committee presented a full slate of webinars this winter. I continue to be impressed by how willing committee members are to give up their time and how generous presenters are with their knowledge. If you haven't yet taken advantage of this opportunity, I hope you do so in the future. Clinics are listed on the NEBCA website.

On that note, I hope everyone remembers that we are totally a volunteer organization. All of the benefits of membership are only possible because of the people that give up their time and effort to make those benefits possible for all of us and our dogs. If not for volunteers, there would be far fewer trials, no library, no webinars, no newsletter and likely fewer clinics. Please remember to thank those that step up to do the work!

Barb

NEW NEBCA FACEBOOK GROUP:

The Handler's Tent, a FB group founded by the late Wally Drury, has morphed into a general sheepdog page rather than being exclusive to NEBCA and the Northeast as it once was. Therefore a new NEBCA page has been started up, see page 15. This group is already an active communication site so you are encouraged to join and keep an eye on it.

From the Editor

Welcome to the Spring Issue. Whose idea was that? Where is it spring? Winter is either just arriving or in full scale attack in much of NEBCA-land.

BUT the Trial Calendar is filling up! So we can dream of summer, which will be here sooner than one thinks.

As you can see above, with a new year come new things. New Board members, new committee members, new Facebook group, new trials taking the place of old ones that sadly are no more.

NEBCA is an organization of 250+ members covering 11 US states and 6 Canadian provinces. That's a lot of geography. Meet the Membership (pp. 5-6) introduces you to

one member you may not yet have encountered, Dominick Frabizio of New York.

In this issue. Peggy Flanagan takes us along on her journey — figurative and literal — from Maine to Nevada and her first experience of the Sheepdog National Finals. (p. 7 -9). Travelling not quite so far, large band of intrepid NEBCA-ites made it to Florida in February (p. 10). As far as I know they all made it home.

A lot went down at the Annual Meeting held January 21 on Zoom. Including adoption of Bylaws revision and an increase in NEBCA membership dues, which will go into effect in 2024. All members are encouraged to read the Minutes of the meeting on pages 11-14. Financial reports are also available for your perusal.

Pam

CAORA FARM THANKSGIVING

LEFTOVERS SDT

Gracious host Mich Ferraro writes:

“The Leftover trial was fun and easy. Everyone pitched in and Kak and I were only sorry we could not accommodate all who wanted to come when it was 2 trials. We want to thank everyone who helped including Maria Mick for judging all the classes, all the set out and set up help and the teardown. There is no way we could do the trials without the volunteers and the can-do attitudes. “

RESULTS

Judge: Maria Mick *50 dogs ran*

Handler	Dog	Score
1. Christine Koval	Tru	86
2. Fiona Robertson	Bean	84
3. Carolyn West	Min	84
4. Amanda Milliken	Carl	82
5. Mich Ferraro	Dahlia	82
6. Fiona Robertson	Meg	82
7. Gene Sheninger	Aron	81
8. Eric Johnson	Blade	80
9. Sue Schoen	Cora	78
10. Warren Mick	Lucy	78

Look Ma, it's the Farm Show, can I go?



PJ Mueller

Pam Mueller's Gnat

PA Farm Show Point & Time Trial Harrisburg PA Jan 7-8 2023

Open 1 *50 dogs ran*

- Michelle Brothers & Mac
- Lori Cunningham & Wally
- Lori Cunningham & Rope
- Amanda Nickles & Mojo
- Carolyn West & Clyde
- Josh Newcomb & Bracken
- Josh Newcomb & Chopper
- Skylar Landis & Tripp
- Christine Koval & Nick
- Beth Murray & Audrey

Open 2 *48 dogs ran*

- Susan Rhoades & Dan
- Barb Armata & Tye
- Sally Molloy & Reece
- Christine Koval & Tru
- Michelle Brothers & Mac
- Josh Newcomb & Chopper
- Charlie Hurt & Sweep
- Ron Madison & Blaze
- Lori Cunningham & Rope
- Amanda Nickles & Mojo

FINALS *5 dogs ran*

OPEN CHAMPION: Christine Koval & Tru

OPEN RESERVE: Josh Newcomb & Chopper

Christine's Tru shows off her Champion Loot

Nursery 1 *12 dogs ran*

- Lori Cunningham & Wally
- Daniel Turcotte & Denver
- Carolyn West & Min

Nursery 2 *12 dogs ran*

- Carolyn West & Min
- Lori Cunningham & Wally
- Mason Hotter & Laddie

NURSERY CHAMPION: Carolyn West & Min

RESERVE NURSERY: Lori Cunningham & Wally



Christine Koval

MEET THE MEMBERSHIP: in which we profile members of this far-flung club

Say Hello to Dominick Frabizio

Dominick is one of our newer members, having joined NEBCA only about two years ago. As such, he has not had a chance to hold any NEBCA community positions, but he already has his eye on President. However, as a graphic designer by profession, I see him being tapped for Newsletter layout in the not too distant future.

Dominick grew up on Long Island but has long dreamed of being a farmer, and of having working border collies. So he did what any smart young Italian-American with no farming or livestock background would do: He studied up, moved to Montana, and...couldn't afford a farm there. Back in New York, however, he could! In May of 2021 he and his wife Dorothy bought a 178 acre abandoned dairy farm in the Catskills, complete with farmhouse and multiple barns. This is Platner Brook Farm, where Dominick is realizing his dream by raising grass-fed lamb. Currently there are 70 sheep, a mix of Cheviots, Clun Forest and Blue-faced Leicester, of which 50 ewes are due to lamb soon. His eventual goal is to have 200 sheep. Sixty-five acres of the farm are perimeter fenced with high tensile wire and within this the flock is rotationally grazed across half-acre electro-net paddocks, with stock moved daily. The farm also includes hayfields and woodland. Obviously, Dominick would not be able to manage this farm without his border collies!

Dominick's "origin story" in NEBCA that he told me is too good not to share: determined to get involved in the dogs and the sport, he joined NEBCA and went to watch a Fetchgate Farm trial, knowing no one and a bit worried about being taken for an interloper. He had the good fortune to park next to the loquacious Maggie Chambers, who started chatting and dragged an initially reluctant Carolyn West into the conversation. Two years later Carolyn has helped train Dominick's young dog Mick and sold him an Open dog (Gael) and now Dominick has met lots of people and has new friends in NEBCA-land. He especially credits Warren Mick, along with the lovely ladies Maggie and Carolyn, with helping him get started.

So let's meet Dominick's dogs: His first trained border collie was Dylan, whom he purchased trained from Andrea De Kennedy at six years old. Dylan has been training Dominick in the use of a sheepdog for farm work and trialing. Together they have been to two ProNovice trials—just dipping toes in so far! Then there is Mick, a pandemic puppy who is a son of Aled Owen's Bud and coming along nicely in Novice.

Dominick, Dylan and the farm



Dominick recently acquired Gael, also trained, from Carolyn West and he hopes to start her trialing in Ranch this summer. Rounding out the pack is baby Nell, just 10 months, a nicely bred dog from Kansas. Despite there being four collies living on a (probably frequently muddy) farm, they nonetheless live in the house, along with what Dominick calls his "non-working" dogs: a small BC mix named Pip and a Lhasa Apso Shih Tzu mix named Diamond. Outside are two Great Pyrenees X Maremma guardian dogs, working hard to keep the many coyotes



Dominick and Mick off to a good start: Lessons with Scott Glen

at bay. On the training front, obviously Dominick has his own training sheep, and plenty of training space (but does he have any time?). He also plans on getting to as many clinics as he can, researching as much as he can, and learning from anyone he can.

Platner Brook Farms markets lamb products direct to the consumer – check out their website at platner-brookfarm.com. They do a brisk business selling to locals who pick up at the farm and also delivering to Long Island. Apparently lamb chorizo sausage is especially popular. The farm also has some Belted Galloway cattle, and once that herd is large enough there will be grass-fed beef for sale as well.

Not surprisingly, with his growing farm, a graphic design business, and two young children Dominick is very busy. He has just started out in sheepdog trialing but is already quite hooked and no doubt we will be seeing as much of him as he can manage, given his other responsibilities. So keep an eye out for Dominick on the trial fields this summer and say hello. He is a friendly guy and I am sure he would like to meet you and talk dogs (or sheep).



Sunset on Platner Brook Farm

Maeve and Wyatt Frabizio: New Junior Handlers?



Text by PJ Mueller. Photos courtesy of D. Frabizio

Gael helps with lamb delivery

My First National Sheepdog Finals

By Margaret Flanagan

On September 13, 2022, at 4:00 a.m. my husband Mike and I and three of our border collies set out on a cross country trip to Nevada so I could compete in my first ever National Sheepdog Finals. Thanks to the very generous and kind Nancy Phillips, we had a great travel itinerary set up for us with choices for campgrounds or state parks to stop for the nights along the way and lists of travel tips and safety considerations as well. It made for a very safe and uneventful trip.

I qualified two of the three dogs for Open: Kitt, my 4 year old female whom I imported from Wales, and Rory my 8 year old male whom I bred, trained and trialed myself. I unfortunately was not able to get Camden qualified for nursery, so she only came along for the ride and to get other experiences along the trip.

It would take us six days to get out to Nevada, averaging about 500 miles each day give or take a few. Our first stop after a day of travel was at the most gracious Paul Batz's beautiful farm in NW New York. He drove up to me on his 4-wheeler when I was walking the dogs, and said "Can you believe we are doing this trip?" He planned on leaving a few days later to drive out himself. He kindly gathered up some sheep and set out three sets so I could school my dogs, including Camden who mastered the outrun on her first go in that field.

Day two would bring us to a quaint little town in Ohio where we met Katie Carothers who also offered up some sheep time for my dogs. She was such a lovely person, and I was so grateful to be able to take her up on that offer. After working dogs, we set out for our second stop for the night in Indiana. This is where the battle of the GPS devices began, Siri on my iPhone, and the Garmin, who would later be named Esmeralda. I was nervous about trusting the Garmin as I've always used the GPS on my iPhone, so we listened to Siri instead and ended up in the middle of nowhere at a four-way intersection surround-

ed by thousands of acres of corn. Eenie, meenie, mineie, moe, which turn do we make? We eventually chose to trust the Garmin and finally made it to the campground.



Michael Flanagan

Peggy, Camden, Rory and Kitt enjoying the sunrise at Bonneville Salt Flats, Utah

Day three brought us through Iowa and into Nebraska where we stayed at the Cabela's RV Park. It was such a nice place to stay and plenty of places for the dogs to run off some steam, and of course some shopping at Cabela's mother ship. The next morning, we were to leave at 4:00 in the morning and drive to Park City, Utah. When I went to start the truck, the battery was completely dead. I had forgotten to unplug the cooler I had plugged into the cigarette lighter to keep the portioned raw dog food frozen. We never left until 8:00 a.m. Mike came up with an alternative plan and after viewing the Wyoming map, we decided to make our next stop in Evanston, Wyoming.



Michael Flanagan

Trial field, trial sheep and the Sierra Nevada backdrop

Day five ended up being our longest day, about 600 miles. We left Wyoming and pushed through to the Walker River Resort campground in Smith Valley, Nevada. They were not letting folks arrive at the trial campsite until the 19th as they didn't want our arrivals to interfere with the delivery of the sheep, and other tasks they needed to complete before we all arrived. Because I forgot to change my alarm clock to mountain time, our plan of leaving at 4:00 in the morning, turned into leaving at 3:00 in the morning. It turned

out great as we stopped at the Bonneville salt flats in Utah for a break and to feed the dogs, and it couldn't have been more perfect; we watched the sun rise over the flats and it was just unbelievably gorgeous. The scenery and topography on this trip were unbelievable. We saw pronghorn antelope and wild horses. Lots of corn in Indiana and Iowa. Prairie and mountains in Wyoming, Utah, and desert in Nevada. Our heads were reeling when we finally landed in Smith Valley. Waking up in the morning of the sixth day, I was greeted with the most beautiful sunrise and then a rainbow coming out of one of the mountains. I hoped that was a good sign of things to come.

Day six would bring us into Minden, Nevada to the Park Ranch, home for the 2022 National Sheepdog Finals. Our backdrop and view for the next six days would be the Sierra Nevada mountains. We stopped at Big Ed's for each dog to get a training session in before we set up our camper at the camping area. Rory was the third dog to run the next day, so he unfortunately only had that one training session. That night would be the handler's meeting and then a handler's meet and greet.

The next day was the start of the 2022 National Sheepdog Finals. I walked the dogs early and had the field all to myself with them. I looked up at the mountains in front of me and couldn't believe I was here; it didn't seem real at all. My father's face popped into my head at that moment, he would be proud of my accomplishments, he would probably view this like I was at the Olympics or something. I once did a 150-mile bike tour to raise money for MS, and on the way back going through Pownal he passed me in his truck. He turned around, tooted his horn

and went onto our next rest stop. There he was standing on the side of the road with a cup of water in his hand and passed it to me as I biked by. It was like I was in the tour de France. A phrase he always said came to my mind "Let the games begin". I took a deep breath in and headed to the trial field. They had a person run a dog as a demo for all the handlers to see. That dog couldn't get the sheep to the handlers' feet. I swallowed hard and thought "oh boy these sheep are not going to be easy", but I never felt nervous really, just realistically focused, I guess. Amanda Miliken was the first handler to the post, I was sorry that she had to be the one to go first, but thankful that I had a very experienced handler to watch before my run.

I had Rory spotting the sheep the two runs before ours and hoped that he saw them. I never know with this dog if he's really seen them or not. He'll look out in their general direction, but then looks up at me. We



Michael Flanagan



Michael Flanagan

Peggy & Rory

waited **With Rory at the post** on deck in a tent behind some straw bales, when the second run ended and the sheep were off the field, Rory and I made our way to the post. I sent him to the left, and after I shoosed him on his outrun, I took a deep breath in and watched my home bred dog heading out on his 450 yd outrun in his first ever National Sheepdog Finals. It looked like he was going to come in short, and just as I was about to blow a redirect, he kicked out and redirected himself and came in nice at the top. Unfortunately, he flanked to the right on his own, I'm not sure why he did it, but I wasn't quick enough to flank him back and two of the five sheep broke back towards the set out. Rory gamely flanked but would end up being pushed all the way to the set out where he couldn't get the sheep off the fence. The judges called my run as they couldn't see what was going on, and neither could I for that matter.

Kitt did not run until Thursday, so I was able to get in three training sessions at a pretty cool place not far from the trial site. It was a five-acre sand arena with dorper x katadin sheep. The draw was on the same side as in the trial, and the away side is not Kitt's favorite, she likes to ride the come-by side, so I practiced on getting her flexible on that uncomfortable side.

Michael Flanagan



direct a dog down he fetch. The sheep were a huge challenge, but what an awesome challenge it was. I only wished that I had let her come on a bit more than I did, but I was so worried about losing the sheep to the set out. We got the sheep back on line and right in front of the fetch panels and they scooted out around them. It was a hairy turn at the post, as one ewe had her mind on other things, but Kitt persuaded her to move back with the others, and we continued on to the drive away. In between breaths from blowing my whistle, I said to myself, my little dog and I are getting these tough range ewes around the course at the National Sheepdog Finals not in a pretty manner, but my dog can move these sheep. We missed the drive away panels and were almost to the cross-drive panels when we timed out. Kitt worked her little heart out for me!!! I learned so much from this experience, and wish I had the opportunity to work these types of sheep all the time.

I have a handful of people to thank for their help and support they gave me along the way. Thank you to my husband Mike for always going along with my crazy hobbies, and for making this epic trip with me, and for staying home and taking care of our horse business while I go away to all these sheepdog trials. Thanks to Brenda Buja for hanging in there and staying on to mentor and help me train my no name dogs to the best that they can be, and for walking as many miles as I did to practice 500 plus yard outruns!! Mary and Bud Ames, Nancy Phillips, and Larry Zimmerman for sponsoring me personally to help fund our trip, and to Nancy for also helping us map out our trip, many pages of advice, campgrounds to stay at, and tons of safety considerations. I can't thank you all enough for your support!!!!

The time had come for Kitt's and my run. When we made our way to the post, I thought to myself how proud I was to have this little dog as my partner. We had done all the training we could have done to be as ready as we could be. I shooshed her on her outrun and watched her gallop out to the sheep. She's so small that I lost sight of her at about 9:00 and was waiting for her to pop up again but she didn't. So, I blew a redirect, and she took it, kicked out and came in nice at the top. It was the hardest 13 minutes I have ever had to help



Sue Winslow

Yes Kitt can move those tough range sheep!

NEBCA TRAVELLERS: Florida or bust

The February “Florida Circuit” continues to attract an ever increasing crowd of sun-seeking Northeasterners. This year saw four trials over approximately two weeks at three different sites, offering challenging courses for Novice and Open dogs alike.

NEBCA persons spotted on the field this year included:

- Betty Belliveau
- Michelle Brothers
- Deb Donahue
- Hilary Flower
- Rebecca and Dave Goyer
- Pam Helton
- Gail Hilburn
- Tracy Hinton
- Celeste Lacroix
- Skylar Landis
- Kim Lippolis
- Jim and Joanne Murphy
- Fiona Robertson
- Danielle Turcotte



Dog and handler attentive to the trial runs:

Pam Helton and Brenna



Dave Goyer sends Barley on the impressively challenging Stock Dog Leather outrun



Handler attentive to runs, dog intent on handler: Kim Lippolis and Sam

And in other news.....

Alligator Kills 85-Year-Old Florida Woman as She Walks Her Dog

Serious injuries caused by alligators are rare in Florida, state wildlife officials said, although this was at least the third fatal encounter in the past year

By [Michael Levenson](#) — New York Times, Feb 21, 2023

2023 NEBCA Annual Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2023 via Zoom

I. **Call to order** at 7PM. Thirty (30) members present plus eight (8) proxies.

II. **Procedures for an online meeting** were reviewed by Barbara Eriksson.

III. **Motion** (CW/DW) to accept the minutes from the October 5, 2022 Fall Meeting. Minutes were unanimously accepted as written.

IV. Executive Committee Reports

A. Secretary's Report (Martha Walke) – At the end of 2022 NEBCA had 269 members, down about 20+ from the year before. As of January 21, 2023, NEBCA has 230 members, up from 161 at this time in 2022. There are currently 6 Life members, having lost one Life Member in 2022; 188 Individual members; and 36 Farm/Family members. Of these there are 31 new members, about half of which are outside of our geographical region. All current members are renewed and updated in the Points System.

Comment was made that this high number of new members from outside our area is due to the webinars being offered by the Education Committee.

B. Treasurer's Report (Denise Leonard) – The 2022 budget was reviewed with particular attention to the Novice Finals and Fall Foliage and the uptick in expenses for putting on these trials; the Education Committee's webinars for expenditures and suggestions were made concerning monies for this year and next; the loss of monies for the 2022 Fall Foliage (there was no Fall Foliage trial in 2021 which accounted for some of this); and the added insurance added to some loss. It was suggested that a raise in dues might help the short fall and it was suggested that this be discussed in New Business.

V. BOD (Carolyn West)

The BOD was busy in 2022 with revisions to the NEBCA Bylaws. This was a big undertaking and the BOD thanks Dave Sharp, Lori Tsuruda and Warren Mick for all their time and effort.

- The Bylaws Committee worked hard to review and update the NEBCA Bylaws to reflect current procedures and practices. During 2022, the BOD reviewed the ongoing version of the Bylaws and we discussed the changes with the Committee. There was a lively meeting in November with the membership to discuss the changes and suggest further revision. The final version of the Bylaws has been presented to the membership and will be voted on at the Annual Meeting.
- As a result of the Bylaws review, The Bylaws Committee advised that NEBCA needed a WISP (Written Information Security Plan) which is required by the State of Massachusetts and is updated yearly. The BOD drafted the WISP and it is now on the NEBCA website in the Members Only section.
- The BOD appointed a new Audit Committee for 2022. Its members are Sheila Crepeau, Elizabeth Smith-Fries and Melanie Behrens. Their report finds that NEBCA's current accounting practices are sound and adequate.

A question was posed about the indemnity insurance policy. This is to protect the BOD and NEBCA officers from personal liability and is in compliance with the old Bylaws.

VI. Standing Committee Reports

A. Open Trials Committee (Kim Lippolis) – The committee members are Paul Batz, Val Henry, Christine Koval and Mike Nunan. The following trials have been approved for NEBCA sanctioning since our Fall Meeting:

- * 80 Acres New Year's Trial, 1/1/23 – cancelled due to weather
- * Pennsylvania Farm Show Trial, 1/7-8/23
- * Fetch Gate Farm 2.0 Trial, 6/30-7/3/23
- * Kingston Sheepdog Trials, 8/8-13/23
- * Ox Creek Farm Trial, 8/19-20/23

The Fall Foliage Trial, October 7-9, 2022, went well. Thank you to the entire Open Trials Committee for all their hard work planning, setting up and working at the trial. Thank you also to the NEBCA members who worked hard that weekend to make things run smoothly.

Congratulations to the Double Lift Champion Val Henry and her dog Tag and the Double Lift Reserve Champion Paul Batz and his dog Reyn.

B. Novice Trials Committee (Debbie West) – A reminder to all novice handlers that if they purchase a dog who already has trial experience they must submit, to the Novice Trials Committee, the "Notification of New Trial Dog" form. This form can be found on the NEBCA website. The Committee is looking for hosts for the 2023 Novice Finals. Please reach out to the committee if you know of any leads.

Discussion about reporting a new dog to Maria Amodei for the Points System. Also, to remember that if a new dog is purchased and you wish to drop it down a class or two, you must fill out that form and present it to the Novice Committee. This can only be done once.

VII. Newsletter Report (Pam Mueller) – The Newsletter printer has been changed from Gnomen Copy in Hanover, NH, to Minuteman Printing in Fitchburg, MA. Customer service at Gnomen had fallen below an acceptable level. The Spring issue will be the first issue to be printed by the new printers. Concy and Mary Smith will be taking over the role of mailing out the Newsletters. The color version of the Newsletter will be made available in the Members Only section of the NEBCA website.

People like to read trial results in the Newsletter. All trial hosts/managers/secretaries are asked to please send in results to the Newsletter editor (pjmuel1@gmail.com) in a timely manner so they can be included in the next issue. This applies to both open and novice trials. Open trials may submit a list of only those handlers who qualified for USBCHA points. Novice trials should submit all results. Requested information includes trial name, date and location; name of the judge; number of dogs run per class; handler name; dog name; score; and placement. The editor thanks all trial hosts for their cooperation.

VIII. Select Committee Reports

A. Merchandise Committee (Kim Lippolis) – Interest has been expressed to locate a company that will put the NEBCA logo on items of apparel that could be ordered by members. NEBCA would make a small profit from this enterprise. The committee will report back on this at the Spring meeting. Hats and the grey t-shirts will still be sold at a few trials. No new merchandise has been ordered for 2023.

It was suggested that the merchandise line item in the 2023 budget be lowered if the committee goes ahead with this method of purchasing NEBCA apparel.

B. Calendar Committee (Kate Collins & George Northrop) – In May there were 200 2023 NEBCA Border Collie Calendars printed for a cost of \$729.94. It cost NEBCA \$225 for the creation of a print-ready calendar.

Diane Geer has volunteered to take over the distribution of the calendar and, indeed, has been doing it for the better part of this year. She records 123 calendars sold and George Northrop records 47 sold. There were calendars given to six NEBCA Life members; 4 to the Education Committee contest; and 17 to those whose photos were used in the calendar and to the calendar committee members (a total of 197 calendars). Thirty more calendars were printed in December for \$143.76.

Kate and I are retiring after more than 20 years of producing the NEBCA calendar. Over those years, working with Kate on the creative side for various lengths of time, have been Sally Lacy, Millie Curtis, Clint Brake, Ellen Rusconi-Black, Denise Leonard, Carol Campion, Martha Walke, Elizabeth Smith-Fries and current and long-time member, Valerie Pietraszewska who is also resigning from the Calendar Committee. Elizabeth Smith-Fries is willing to continue on the Calendar Committee and Mary and Concy Smith have said they are willing to work on the committee with Elizabeth to continue to produce the NEBCA Working Border Collie calendar.

The first calendar I helped put together was the 1996 calendar. It has been a pleasure to document the great working dogs of NEBCA and to produce a calendar of sheep dogs working livestock.

Our thanks to all the people we have worked with. Many thanks to all the great photographers who submitted photos! Keep them coming!

Denise Leonard mentioned that she and Kristen Whittle and Becky Peterson produced some of the earlier calendars for a while.

C. Education Report (Rose Redick) – The Education Committee has scheduled six (6) webinars from January through March, 2023. The presenters are Meg and Ricky Hutchinson, Amanda Milliken, Warren Mick, Tracy Carter, DVM, Patrick Shannahan and Angie Coker-Sells. Details can be found on the NEBCA website on the Clinic page.

This year the Committee is using the webinar feature on Zoom which allows us to add more participants and to record the sessions. The recordings will be available for two weeks to those who registered for the live session. Non-members must join NEBCA to participate. This year we are offering unlimited seating so that all NEBCA members may participate in all sessions.

The registration numbers are not high. The Committee has used all social media outlets available to NEBCA to announce the webinars. We have found that not many members use the email list. Marketing is very limited for NEBCA events making it difficult to get the word out. Fifty-five (55) people registered for the Hutchinson webinar. Forty-two (42) were live so we assume the rest are waiting to watch the recording. At least eleven (11) who registered were non-members who joined NEBCA in order to attend.

The Education Committee did approve funds for the Cummington Trial for the Novice Class. No cash was required. NEBCA merchandise was used – calendars for the winners of the whistle challenge. We gave out four (4) calendars as there was a tie in one of the classes.

Discussion about doing this for NEBCA members first and foremost. The Committee has been able to make money without going into their budgeted monies. There was a suggestion that fees for non-members be higher than for members. The OSDS allows their members to attend their webinars for free. The NEBCA Committee has talked with them.

Suggestion that the NEBCA email list be updated. NEBCA members are not participating or are not interested.

D. Library Report (Sheila Crepeau) – In 2022 there were only eight (8) transactions made by four (4) members. The library has purchased a copy of THINK LIKE A SHEEPDOG TRAINER: A GUIDE TO RAISING AND TRAINING A HERDING DOG by Kay Stephens and Beth Kerber. The library received an email from Peter Larson who has items he would like to donate to the library when he returns from his winter home. These will be added to the list of library holdings on the website.

Discussion followed on the under use of the library. There are also three boxes of VHS tapes which no one appears to want to borrow. Suggestions as to what should be done with them – change some to DVD format? Give away? Also, when a borrower asks for suggestions (books and/or DVDs) about training and/or problems and concerns about their dog, who would be willing to help with responses? Martha Walke volunteered.

IX. Unfinished Business

A. Bylaw Committee Report (Warren Mick) – Warren began by talking about the history of the Bylaws which were last amended in 2001 during NEBCA's incorporation and going nonprofit. There was a motion, a year ago at the 2022 Annual Meeting, that the Board of Directors (BOD) form a committee to update the Bylaws to be consistent with current practices and governing laws, clean up inconsistencies and clarify the language. The Bylaw Committee reviewed and revised the old Bylaws in September. There was a NEBCA meeting held in November to discuss changes they had made. The final revision was finished on November 22, 2022. It will need a 2/3 majority of those present (and proxies) to pass.

Motion (WM/DL): On behalf of the Bylaws Committee, I move that the proposed revision of the NEBCA Bylaws, posted on the website November 22, 2022, be approved and replace the current Bylaws amended January 20, 2001.

Roll call by the Secretary followed:

In favor: Martha Walke, yes (proxies: Todd Layfield, Diane Geer, Tom Leigh); Barbara Eriksson, yes; Denise Leonard, yes (proxy: Gail VanWicklin); Wendy Warner, yes; Debbie West, yes; Sheila Crepeau, yes; Liz Shaw, yes; Carolyn West, yes; Christian Ostensen, yes; Maria Mick, yes; Warren Mick, yes (proxies: Werner Reitboeck, Melanie Behrens, Sallie Butler); Virginia Prince, yes; Mary Smith, yes; Concy Smith, yes; Gina Frostick, yes; Joan Teebagy, yes; Rose Redick, yes; Pat Warne, yes; David Sharp, yes (proxy: Nancy Ortiz-Sharp); Pam Mueller, yes; Sara Reiter, yes; Laurie Sargent, yes; Lori Tsuruda, yes; Chris Bowen, yes; Karen Gorman, yes; Elizabeth Smith-Fries, yes; Christine Koval, yes; Carolyn Pover, yes; Kim Lippolis, yes; Eileen Wilentz, yes.

38 in favor. No opposed.

The motion passes unanimously.

X. New Business

A. Election Results (Martha Walke) – There were fifty-seven (57) ballots received, one was blank and one had two people voting (Family/Farm membership).

For the Executive Committee (all ran unopposed):

President: Barbara Eriksson – 51 votes; one write-in vote for Warren Mick;

Vice- President: Peggy Flanagan – 48 votes; one write-in for Dave Sharp;

Treasurer: Denise Leonard – 51 votes;

Secretary: Martha Walke – 50 votes.

For the Board of Directors:

Blake Anderson – 26 votes;

Virginia Prince – 37 votes;

Sara Reiter – 20 votes;

Patricia Warne – 15 votes.

The new BOD members are Blake Anderson and Virginia Prince. All were thanked for running.

B. 2023 Budget (Denise Leonard) – The discussion began with a comment that if we continue in this vein (losses) we will be broke. Discussion and concerns and suggestions followed.

It was suggested that we raise dues by \$5, or maybe \$10, for each type of membership.

The two trials NEBCA sponsors are expensive. Raising entry fees is one way to help offset costs. Merchandise used to bail us out, but not in the future. The Fall Foliage is a club trial and we may want to reconsider that. This trial is a Soldier Hollow qualifier which makes it attractive to all, members and non-members. Sanctioning of this trial would mean more entries.

There is interest and demand for a Novice Finals. Finding a venue is always a problem. The number of sheep versus the number of runs limits the number of dogs that can run. The last two years have been problematic due to Covid and the moving of a venue at the last minute. And there is

always a question if they are going to fill the runs available. The Novice Finals always depends on the location for attendance and it is better to hold it over the Labor Day Weekend (3 runs over 3 days). It is important to keep this trial with the club – novice handlers can aspire to run in it.

The ABCA has a promotional program whereby trial managers can apply for monies to help finance their trial. This needs to be applied for before the trial, which could be difficult since knowing where the trial will take place is not known early in the season.

In maintaining their budgets, both committees are doing an excellent job. A suggestion was made that a fee be tacked on to entries (\$5) to go to NEBCA. This would increase the cost for handlers. Question whether this would work for Open trials since they already have a fee attached that goes to the USBCHA. Maybe one fee per trial to go to NEBCA.

A suggestion was made that our savings funds should be moved to a T-bill where we would get more interest. It is all done electronically.

A suggestion was made to form a Finance Committee to come up with ideas/ways to raise money for NEBCA.

A motion was made, and then withdrawn, that the 2023 budget’s net loss be no greater than \$3000. Hard to tell where things will fall and we cannot base this budget on last year. It was suggested we put in a line item for ABCA monies. The question was called; not accepted.

Motion was made (WW/WM) – Move the 2023 budget with the changes Denise Leonard has made with the proviso that the Finance Committee be formed to investigate the budget.

Motion passed unanimously.

C. It was asked that the Open Trials Committee look at the Fall Foliage rules, especially regarding entries. There is a conflict between the USBCHA sanctioning rules and the Fall Foliage rules. The basis for a double lift is also a problem. This will be discussed at the Spring Meeting.

D. Suggested that a forum be set up to discuss the setting of trial dates in order to avoid conflicts. There are plans for a NEBCA Facebook page.

E. A friendly **motion** was made (LT/DS) to increase, in 2024, the NEBCA dues by \$5 a year for each type of membership. Discussion followed concerning NEBCA not overflowing with members and we can “float” for two years. Let the Finance Committee decide about dues. The dues have been the same for at least ten years. We would not lose members if we increased the dues. Vote was called: 18 ayes; 8 nays. The motion passed.

F. The date for the Spring Meeting will be Monday, May 15th, at 7PM. It will be a Zoom meeting.

Motion to adjourn (WM/DS). Adjourned at 9:46PM.

Respectfully submitted,, Martha M. Walke, NEBCA Secretary

2022 NEBCA Breeders' Directory

<p>Denise Mondor 441 Pleasant St. #2 Leicester, MA 01524 774-272-2129 dmondor28@hotmail.com</p>	<p>Cheryl & Dick Williams 4835 State Rte 2002 Hop Bottom, PA 18824 570-499-0316 culleymont@gmail.com</p>
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SEE THE NEBCA WEBSITE FOR ADDITIONAL BREEDER LISTINGS

News From Your Board of Directors: NEBCA has a new Facebook group. Why did we create this?

By Ginny Prince, for the BOD

Welcome and thank you to everyone for supporting the new NEBCA Sheepdog Facebook group! The board of directors recently moved to establish this group to improve communication with members about NEBCA matters and to provide a NEBCA moderated discussion forum.

The face book group is intended to augment, not replace, the group email list, website and newsletter. The need for this new FB group was highlighted recently when some members on the email list mysteriously did not receive notification about the annual meeting until after the fact, while others got the email in plenty of time, one of those Internet mysteries. In addition, many members were unaware of the marvelous webinar series produced by the Education Committee this winter. The isolation of COVID also pointed out the need for another avenue for members to stay in touch with each other when not meeting in person at trials. Another issue with the email list is how often people change their addresses and forget to contact Martha or Heather about updating the list.

Many thanks are due to the late Wally Dury and his daughter for starting the face book group tradition, and demonstrating its value for modern communication!

True, Face book is not perfect, but nothing is and once up and running, it is much faster and easier to post on than a website, and with diligent moderators, undesired posts are very quickly removed. The NEBCA Sheepdog Group has strict guidelines stated in the initial posts (subject to refinement) to ensure that uncivil posts, mindless chatter and self-serving advertising are not posted. That said, thanks go out to Carolyn West for volunteering to be the first page administrator, and to Mary Ames, Laurie Sargent and Teresa Powers for agreeing to be moderators.

For anyone currently not “on Face book” ready to give it a try, here is a step-by-step how to:

1. create a Face book account:

Using a computer or smart phone with Internet connection, open your browser (Chrome, Safari, Firefox etc)

and type in facebook.com/reg. The page will prompt for each of the following steps.

2. Enter the name you go by in everyday life.
3. Enter your email or mobile phone number.
4. Select your gender and date of birth, and choose a password.
5. Tap Sign Up.
6. To finish creating your account, you need to confirm your email or mobile phone number.

Or:

If using a smart phone, tap on the Facebook icon (most phones come with the Face book application already installed) and it will walk you through the process.

Once on Face book, there is a search bar typically at the top of the home screen. Type in NEBCA Sheepdog Group then click on the name when it comes up. The home page will have a button you can click on to “join”. Moderators are standing by to confirm your membership in the group! NEBCA membership is encouraged but not required in order to participate in the group.

On behalf of the NEBCA Board of Directors and Executive Committee, I hope to “see” you on the new NEBCA Sheepdog Facebook page!



Ginny Prince

Come on by to the NEBCA FB group!

NEBCA EVENTS FINANCIAL REVIEW

Fall Foliage

	2022	2019
INCOME		
Donations	\$0	\$250
Entry Fees	\$5880	\$5800
TOTAL INCOME	\$5880	\$6050
EXPENSES		
Caterer & Food	\$350	\$160
Equipment Rental	\$448	\$0
Field Rental	\$500	\$500
Insurance	\$100	\$50
Judge & Travel	\$2472	\$1647
Miscellaneous	\$432	\$754
Portalettes	\$719	\$320
Premiums	\$2350	\$2290
Reimbursement	\$0	\$200
Ribbons & Awards	\$532	\$528
Sheep	\$1800	\$1800
Sheep Pen	\$450	\$40
Worker Fees	\$150	\$0
Trucking	\$0	\$0
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$10,305	\$8289
Net	(\$4425)	(\$2239)
Budgeted NEBCA support	\$4000	\$3000
Over/Under Budget	(\$425)	\$761

Novice Finals

	2022	2021
INCOME		
Betty Levin Award	\$82	\$0
Donation	\$0	\$120
Entry Fees	\$3438	\$2104
T-Shirts	\$460	\$0
Refund ¹	\$0	\$648
Handlers Dinner ²	\$1200	\$52
TOTAL INCOME	\$5180	\$2924
EXPENSES		
Betty Levin Award	\$82	\$0
Equipment Rental	\$1064	\$676
Field Rental	\$0	\$500
Food & Snacks	\$47	\$589
Handlers Dinner ³	\$1532	\$0
Insurance ⁴	\$50	\$0
Judge	\$600	\$300
Miscellaneous	\$333	\$155
Portalettes	\$433	\$673
Ribbons & Awards	\$820	\$838
Set Out	\$100	\$600
Sheep & Trucking	\$2350	\$1850
Sheep Pen	\$250	\$500
T-shirts, cost of goods sold ⁵	\$518	\$248
TOTAL EXPENSE	\$8179	\$6930
Net	(\$2999)	(\$4005)
Budgeted NEBCA Support	\$4000	\$2700
Under/Over Budget	\$1001	(\$1305)

NOTES re Novice Finals:

1 2021— refund for deposits for change of venue; 2019—refund for prize samples

2 Handlers’ dinner monies were collected with the entries and not itemized

3 Handlers’ dinner expense was included in food and snack and not itemized in 2021

4 Insurance—there was a prepaid rider from 2020 available for use in 2021

5 Due to the timing of ordering, the Committee had orders sent with payment directly to them. This figure represents reimbursement for extras ordered for 2021.

NEBCA FINANCIALS 2022

	2022 Actual	2022 Predicted	2021 Actual
INCOME			
Advertisements	\$58	\$50	\$78
Bank Charge Reimbursement	\$33	\$0	\$0
Breeders Directory	\$83	\$150	\$204
Calendar Sales	\$1948	\$2000	\$1766
Donation	\$2	\$0	\$147
Education	\$1591	\$1500	\$1598
Fence Rental	\$20	\$50	\$20
Interest Inc ¹	\$19	\$25	\$36
Library	\$4	\$100	\$105
Membership Dues	\$5869	\$6000	\$8018
Merchandise Sales	\$1506	\$2000	\$2127
Newsletter Postage Donation	\$10	\$0	\$3
TOTAL INCOME	\$11,141	\$11,875	\$14,103

EXPENSES	2022 Actual	2022 Budget	2021 Actual
Administrative-	\$825	\$750	\$745
Awards	\$322	\$350	\$0
Bank Charge	\$68	\$50	\$2
Calendar	\$1299	\$1200	\$1098
Education Committee	\$924	\$1000	\$842
Gifts Given	\$0	\$0	\$100
Insurance	\$1200	\$625	\$625
Library	\$26	\$350	\$89
Merchandise	\$10	\$2000	\$404
Newsletter	\$1447	\$2000	\$1416
PayPal Transaction Fee ²	\$243	\$400	\$304
Pamphlets	\$0	\$350	\$0
Trial Expense ³	\$0	\$0	\$1050
National Finals	\$0	\$0	\$4000
Novice Finals	\$2999	\$4000	\$4005
Fall Foliage	\$4425	\$4000	\$0
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$13,879	\$17,075	\$14,681

OVERALL TOTAL	(\$2647)	(\$5200)	(\$579)
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1 Interest income has declined significantly from around \$6/month to \$1.50/month starting May 2021

2 The Pay Pal transaction fee has increased slightly

2023 NEBCA BUDGET

INCOME

Membership Dues	\$6000
Calendars	\$2000
Breeders Directory	\$150
Advertisements	\$50
Merchandise	\$500
Library	\$100
Rental of Equipment	\$50
Education	\$1500
Promotional funds from ABCA	\$2000

TOTAL INCOME PROJECTED: \$12,375

EXPENSES

Calendars	\$1200
Newsletter	\$2000
Merchandise	\$500
Fall Foliage	\$4000
Novice Finals	\$4000
Insurance	\$1200
Library	\$350
Administrative	\$850
PayPal Transaction Fees	\$400
Bank Charge	\$50
Advertisement	\$0
Awards/gifts	\$350
Education	\$1000

TOTAL EXPENSES PROJECTED \$15,900

NET INCOME (Loss) (\$3525)

ACCOUNT BALANCES 12/31/2022 12/21/2021 12/31/2020

Bank of America Checking	\$7,059	\$15,315	\$12,506
Greenfield Bank Checking	\$19,806	\$15,866	\$16,780
ING Business Saving	\$19,018	\$18,999	\$18,963
Cash	\$100	\$0	\$0
PayPal	\$1,584	\$99	\$2,630
TOTAL	\$47,567	\$50,379	\$50,879

ATTENTION ALL HANDLERS: Here is one you won't want to miss

JUDGING SEMINAR at Morse Brook Farm in NH with esteemed judges Warren Mick, Denise Leonard and Chris Bowen

May 6 OR 7 (the clinic will be offered twice; choose one day)

Come spend a day with three of our favorite judges and learn about what goes on in their heads when they practice the art of judging trial runs.

A great opportunity for novice handlers to learn more about how trials are scored.

In the morning we will talk about what each judge expects for each element of the trial (outrun, lift, fetch, drive, pen and shed) at the various novice levels, how to manage your run to maximize your success at each element, and how to transition to the more competitive Open class. We will watch and evaluate runs from a few Open handlers to help our discussion.

In the afternoon each full working participant will get a chance to run one dog in one novice-level class and get feedback and discussion from the judges. Find out in detail why you got 15 on that outrun!

Entry is limited.

More info at <http://moresebrookfarm.com/events> or NEBCA website under Clinics, or email Liz Shaw at farfetchfarm@gmail.com

A sentiment to share, as the Trial Season begins.

"The score of a run, the winner of a weekend, or the Champion at a Finals event is generally forgotten over time, but the actions of the handlers, judges, spectators and trainers are remembered forever. The next time you attend any event, think of how history will remember you.

We all need to remember how lucky we are to have the opportunities that we are given. Do not hang your head after a "bad" run, but be grateful you had the opportunity to at least walk onto the field with your dog."

Stolen from Sherry Lee, who stole it from someone else

NEBCA TRIAL CALENDAR 2023

See NEBCA website for more info, clickable entry links, and most up-to-date information

Date	Trial Name	Location	Classes Offered	Host/ Contact	Phone
May 13-14	Flying Bucket Farm	Hemlock, NY	NN, PN, Ranch	Jean Barrett	716-270-9718
June 3-4	Breezy Acres	Liverpool, PA	NN, PN	Sarah Mullin	717-554-0371
June 22-25	Carora Farm	Millerton, NY	2 Open, 3 Nursery	Michele Ferraro Kak Weathers	518-592-1320
June 30– July 3	Fetchgate Farm 2.0	Cortland, NY	2 Open, 2 Nursery	Carolyn West	860-729-0550
July 1-3	Cascade Farm	Bath, NY	2 Open, Nursery, Ranch, PN, NN	Mary Ames	603-838-2018
July 7-9	Cascade Farm II	Bath, NY	2 Open 2 Nursery 1 NN 1 PN 1 Ranch	Mary Ames	603-838-2018
July 8-9	Handy Dog	St. Agath, ON	2 NN, PN, Ranch, Open, Nursery	Victoria Lamont	519-497-0765
July 14-16	May Brook Farm	Pittsfield, MA	2 Nursery, 2 Open	Sue Schoen	413-344-9514
July 21-23	Ox Creek Farm	Canadaigua, NY	NN, PN, Ranch, Nursery	Paul Patz	585-298-0789 Text preferred
August 5-6	Sheephouse	Cornish, NH	2 NN, PN	Virginia Prince	603-675-2129
August 8-13	Kingston Sheep Dog Trials	Grass Creek Park Kingston, ON	2 Open Double Lift Sunday	Amanda Milliken	613-540-4845
August 12-13	Hood's Farm	Ashville, NY	NN, PN, Ranch	Jean Barrett	716-270-9718
August 19-20	Ox Creek Farm	Canadaigua, NY	Open, Nursery	Paul Batz	585-298-0789 Text preferred
August 26-27	Sheephouse	Cornish, NH	2 Ranch 2 Open	Virginia Prince	603-675-2129
August 26-27	Elevage Borden Dan Dosquet	Dosquet, QC	NN, PN	Annie-Claude Laniee	450-566-1118
Sept 2-3	Breezy Acres	Liverpool, PA	NN, PN	Sarah Mullin	717-554-0371

NEBCA
257 Athol Richmond Road
Royalston, MA 10368

Next NEBCA MEETING via ZOOM
Monday May 15th, 2023 at 7 pm



You can STILL GET a 2023 calendar

\$10 plus shipping

Here's how to get yours:

1. *Renew your NEBCA membership* (on line with PayPal or print out form on website and mail in with check) and buy a calendar at the same time, it will be mailed to you no shipping fee.
2. *Contact Diane Geer:*
geerdiane@aol.com
860-941-7575
67 Thomas Rd, Ledyard CT 06339
3. *Use PayPal at*
<http://www.nebca.net/calendars.html>