

**NEBCA News**

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DOG SLEDDING WITH BORDER COLLIES

by Beverly Lambert

Living in Maine there is a long season each year when it's impossible to work my dogs on sheep. It seems to stretch endlessly from the championship trial in October until lambing begins in mid March. There aren't that many winter sports you can share with six dogs. The only one I was able to think of was dog sledding.

Dog sledding is a sport growing in popularity as fast as sheep dog trialing. I was fortunate enough to meet the secretary of the Down East Sled Dog Club, Paul Williams, who very kindly became my guide and mentor in the new world of winter dog sports.

Paul offered to let me try hitching my dogs to a sled so on the second weekend in February I loaded all my Border Collies into the car and headed for Bethel, Maine to watch my first sled dog race. I am sure that the similarities between sled dog racing and dog trialing would be obvious to a spectator at either sport, but I could only see the differences. Sled dog drivers mostly stay in motels and instead of having campers, they all had dog boxes on their trucks. A serious weekend dog racer is running a minimum of six dogs and more likely 8 or more. Also, sled dogs bark.



Beverly and her sledding team of Border Collies

Except for when they are working, all sled dogs seem to bark most of the time. This makes sled dog racing a much noisier sport than sheep dog trialing. Finally, sled dogs are taught to GO. A select few are taught to turn right and left (gee and haw). They don't seem to be taught to come when they are called or to lay down and stay when told to. As a breed, this seems to be a trait that is not selected for. Dog racers look for go, not stop. At first glance, sled dog racing seemed like a very noisy and undisciplined sport.

To get ready for a

race, each driver first ties his sled to his pickup truck. Then he puts his dogs into harness one by one, starting with the lead dogs, being careful not to let go of any dog's collar until it's safely hooked to the sled's gangline. The harness is a fairly simple arrangement of nylon straps and padding that serves to distribute the pull of the sled to the dog's shoulders without interfering with his running. Each dog is hitched by his collar and by his harness to a gangline that runs from the sled. For their part the dogs demonstrate

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THE EDITOR'S BARK

Wow! Is it time already for another NEBCA NEWS? I guess that also means that we've all been out schooling our dogs and they're all polished and ready to

go for that first trial of the season. Riiiiiiight.

Moving right along! The calendars are hot off the press and look par-

continued on page 2...

Editor's Bark continued...

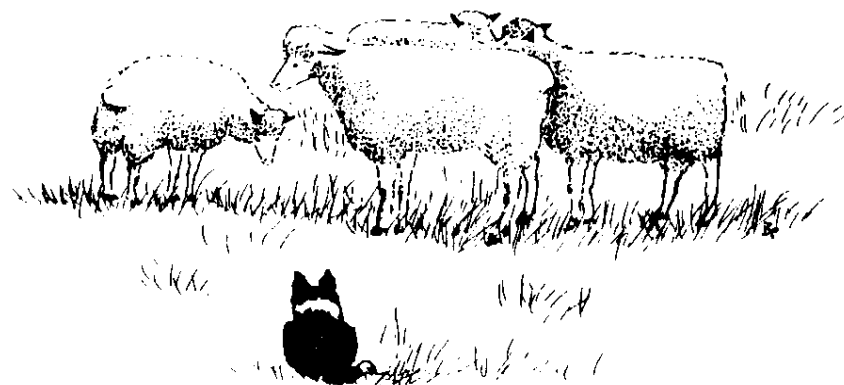
ticularly exceptional this year. E. A. Hall Co. of Greenfield, MA really did a nice job of printing this year. Hopefully many of you will have already picked up 25 or so for resale at the Conn. Sheepbreeders trial. If not, contact Steve Wetmore (see announcements) for the details.

All of you that volunteered (sort of) to write articles for the NEBCA NEWS, we would love to hear from you! You may be receiving a postcard from us if

we have specific ideas for you but we love initiative as well. So if you're chomping at the bit to see your name in print, WRITE ON!

See you at the trials!
KPW and DAL

1990 Calendars are hot off the press. To get yours contact Steve Wetmore, Spring Valley Farm, P. O. Box 54, Strafford, VT 05072 (802)765-4466. Prices are \$6.00 plus postage for a single calendar and \$5.00 each plus postage for 10 or more. Contact Steve for postage rates.



Becky Parsons

NEBCA LENDING LIBRARY

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1. Borrower must be a member of NEBCA.
2. Books will be on loan for three weeks. Any borrower returning books after their due dates will be charged 10 cents per day.
3. Only one book may be borrowed at a time. This is because we have so few books.
4. \$20.00 deposit is required to borrow videos.
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The Border Collie: Basic training for sheepwork.

Hunter, Ian

Sheep Dog Training Explained.

Iley, Tony

Sheepdogs at Work.

Jones, H. Glyn

A Way of Life: Sheepdog Training, Handling and Trialing

Longton, Tim

The Sheep Dog: Its work and training.

Quarton, Marjorie

All About the Working Border Collie.

Pasco, Luke

Heather Jean: The Working Sheep Dog.

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SHEPHERD'S LIFE

Anderson, G.M.

Times Remembered.

Barrington, John

Red Sky at Night.

Thomas, Iain

Isolation Shepherd.

FICTION

Herriot, James

James Herriot's Dog Stories.

Herriot, James

Only One Woof.

Lewis, Ernest

Beth

McCaig, Donald

Nop's Trials

MISCELLANEOUS

Drabble, Phil

One Man and his Dog.

Novello, Don

Shellville High School: The Blade

Dog Sledding continued...

their enthusiasm by jumping up and down while whining and barking. When the entire team is harnessed up, the driver proceeds to the starting line. This is done with one person holding the leaders, a second person holding the middle dogs and the driver standing on his sled brake (a forked piece of steel on a spring that sticks into the snow when you step on it). The dogs easily drag all of these helpers to the starting line. At the starting line an additional two or three strong men hold the sled while the countdown begins. The driver meanwhile speaks to his dogs and makes sure they are ready to go! When the countdown says go, the helpers release the sled and off go musher and dogs at a mad run. The end of the race is pretty much the same in reverse. As each team crosses the finish line, that driver's helpers run out and grab the dogs while the driver stands on his brake.

Six-dog teams go about six miles and the four-dog teams go about four miles in what are known as sprint races. There are professional and amateur races for each size team. Each dog competes only once on each day of the competition. Races often span two days with heats on Saturday and again on Sunday. Some drivers have more than one team so the heats are broken up to allow each driver to run what he has. In New England there are also 30 and 60 mile races for the more ambitious trainers. Among the sled dog drivers, I found the same friendliness that I have found at dog trials. The

drivers all help each other with their teams in the starting area and later I had an opportunity to learn that they are all very thoughtful and helpful to each other on the race trail.

Paul, after completing his run at the Bethel races offered to harness four of my dogs to his sled to try them out. We fitted my Border Collies into the somewhat missized dog harnesses and hooked them to the gangline of Paul's sled. I had the most beautiful team on the lake when they were finally in harness. The other teams were mostly Siberian Huskies and Alaskan Huskies; not a Border Collie there. By running alongside the sled I managed to get the very unhappy dogs to follow me. Kate and Lark ran right past Tweed and Mac, who I had put in lead, and both jumped up on me. This made our first tangle (I stopped counting tangles when I got to 1000). I switched Kate to the front to run beside her brother Mac. This worked better and we managed to get down the length of the pond and back. Of course any time I tried to ride on the sled they stopped and turned around to find out what was happening and got tangled up again. I was reassured by several people that they were doing well and I shouldn't become discouraged. As I have given similar reassurance to a number of people who had promising sheep dogs and miles still to go, I took it with a grain of salt.

Paul loaned me a few dog harnesses and suggested I start teaching the dogs to pull. At home, I began with two dogs at a time harnessed to a car

tire. After a little practice I managed to get them pulling the tire slowly up and down the driveway. After a few days, they were happily pulling the tire for about a half a mile at as fast a clip as I could manage. This was when I knew I needed a sled. The three pairs of dogs would each pull the tire a half a mile at a trot. This meant that I was running about a mile and a half beside them through the snow. This was when I learned the first lesson of dog sledding. The driver is the hardest working member of the team.

Paul then loaned me a sled and I bought a six dog gangline and went home and hitched up my team. I decided to put my two young dogs, Jet and Lark, up front. Jet had evidenced a surprising early enthusiasm for sledding and would move out readily, dragging the rest of the team along with him. What Jet and Lark supply is speed and go. The lead dogs need to keep the gangline tight. As soon as the lead dogs slow down, the gangline attaching the dogs to the sled goes slack and dogs begin getting tangled up. This isn't as difficult or dangerous for me as it is for a "real" sled dog driver because I just tell my dogs to stop and I untangle the line. It is, however, time consuming and discouraging for dogs and driver. Tweed and Mac, my two biggest dogs, I put next to the sled. This is the hardest pulling as the two wheel dogs have to pull the sled around the corners and they also have the noise of the sled behind them to worry about. I put Gael and Kate in the middle. Gael was the most enthusiastic of the dogs about the new sport. But she is still

quite young and shy about new things so I harnessed her with Kate who has seen it all. Our first day out we went for an hour and covered almost a mile. We got tangled up every twenty feet, more or less. Every time I gave a directional command everyone would stop and look for sheep. We were a little discouraged.

Our second day out we went two miles. The first half mile was a repeat of the first day, with many tangles, much confusion and unhappiness. But then we came to the local snowmobile trail from Canada to Boston. We went for a mile down this and I actually got to ride on the sled. The dogs ran and pulled and we went flying. It was really fun.

The next morning we did four miles. The next day five and on Sunday we did twelve miles. We went down steep hills and across lakes in the middle of the woods. We weren't awfully fast (mostly trotting) but everyone seemed to have a good time. The dogs pulled their share and acted happy, looking around and moving out readily to see new country.

Days of rain slowed up our training but with more snow we were back at it again. As soon as I got the sled out, the dogs would now come and sit next to the gangline and compete with each other

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Deadline for the next NEBCA NEWS is July 15, 1989, for articles, news, events, etc. and August 1, 1989, for ads.

Dog Sledding continued...

to get harnessed up first. Young Gael blossomed with the extra attention and became a much more self confident member of the pack. The dogs began to look forward to the sledding the way they do to a walk in the woods.

We were ready to start training for our first race. Paul Williams invited us over to practice being passed on the trail by other teams. I guessed my team was about half the speed of most of the husky teams I had seen so I thought we had better practice being passed before our big first race.

It was cold (-2) and clear in Greenville near Moosehead Lake on the day of our first race, the six-dog amateur. I was given a bib with my number on it, number seven. After waiting through a couple of cold hours of four-dog races and the six-dog professional race, it was time to harness my dogs. The dogs were wonderful - all coming out of the car to take their places on the gangline. In spite of all being seasoned trial dogs, they were quite worried by all of the barking and carrying on at the race. We got in line behind the number six team and in a few moments we were in the chute and the count-down had begun. I walked along beside the team, reassuring a very worried group of Border Collies that it wasn't going to be as bad as we all thought. Where the husky teams had jumped up and down, pulling at the sled, ready to go, my team sat quietly, each in its place, with heads turned back to me for reassurance. Several starting line volunteers

braced themselves and hung on to my sled "just in case" my six Border Collies suddenly developed any huskie tendencies. Then the loud-speaker began our ten second count. Go! "Lark, Jet, Lets Go." For an awful moment I wasn't sure it hadn't all been too much, but off they started. With every stride we took away from the parking lot full of hundreds of barking dogs, I could see my team relaxing and by fifty yards they were running well and we were on our way. The teams were sent out at one minute intervals to cover the six and a half mile course with your elapsed time determining your place.

Things went well for the first four miles but then we met a traffic jam. Some of the huskies wanted to fight with my strange looking dogs - a sentiment that Lark more than welcomed. Fortunately the rest of my team was too peace abiding to mix it up with the considerably larger huskies. This is where the discipline of the huskies really showed, however. Most of the dogs kept to their side of trail and passed without hesitation. They kept in their places in the team and followed their leaders with a respect that mine had never shown poor Jet. We finished the day 16th out of 20 starters. We were proud.

The second heat was run on Sunday in the freezing rain on a very soft trail. My dogs ran much better now that they understood the plan. We finished 10th out of the 19 teams that day, to finish the race in 13th place. Greenville was our first and last race of the season. The ice settled in

with a vengeance and sledding was over for the winter. Besides it was time to start lambing and begin thinking about the spring trials.

Dog sledding is a lot like trialing. The people who do it are a little crazy. They like driving all over the place with a truck load of dogs. They spend their time outside in all weather watching dogs run. They spend hours practicing and

training their dogs because they enjoy it. They compete to have fun. They like talking about the breeding of their dogs and how they train them. They like talking about other people's dogs. They like people and dogs. They can't really understand anyone who doesn't. What I can't understand is why such sensible, fun loving people aren't running Border Collies in the summer time.

HOW TO TELL A DOG'S AGE:

6 weeks - a puppy has all of its milk teeth

4-5 months - permanent incisors (front of mouth) begin to erupt

5-6 months - permanent canines (upper & lower fangs) begin to erupt

7-8 months - large molar teeth begin to erupt

After Maturity: look at the wear on the cusps (the ridges) of the incisors

1.5 years - they begin to show wear

3.5 years - middle incisor cusps show wear

5.5 years - cusps on the outer pair of incisors show wear

6 years - canine teeth become worn at the tips



NEBCA'S JUDGING CLINICS *by Douglas McDonough*

In 1985, 1987, and 1988, the NEBCA Trials Committee organized judging clinics, with the purpose of improving and standardizing the quality of judges in the Northeast. Clinic instructors were Lewis Pulfer (July 1985), Bruce Fogt (April 1987), and Ralph Pulfer (July 1988). All three men are from Ohio and all are successful, nationally known handlers and judges.

In this series of NEBCA NEWS articles, I will attempt to summarize what was taught at the three clinics. Please remember that this summary can't get every topic covered during 3 one-day clinics. My apologies ahead of time to the three instructors for all the things that they consider important that I have left out. NEBCA members who never trial their dogs may find that this series helps explain just what is going on at a trial, how the judge deducts points, and why everybody loves to complain about the judging. Since most of the clinic times were taken up discussing Outruns, this first article will look only at Outruns. In the accompanying sketches, the handler is usually represented by an X; the sheep by XXX; and the path of the dog is shown by arrows.

Ralph began his clinic by reviewing the progress of the past few decades in North American sheepdog judging, with the overwhelming majority of trials today judged according to International Sheep Dog Society rules, which are very brief. Lewis and

Bruce also began by stating that they would be teaching us the ISDS rules, but the rules as explained and expanded in the Scottish Farmer by legendary British handler J.M. Wilson. Ralph stressed that ISDS rules say that all penalties (points deducted) are "circumstances at hand" by the decision of the judge based on the actions of the sheep and the dog. Bruce said "The judge's job is to take points off every variation from perfect work." Even if the work appeared nearly perfect but there was something the judge didn't like, but couldn't quite put his finger on - take off points - room must always be left for the perfect dog. Ralph said there is nothing wrong with giving perfect points for a phase of work. If it looked excellent, give all the points. Don't hold back 1 point or 1/2 pt. for some potential future better work. Scoring for a typical run is: Outrun, 20; Lift, 10; Fetch, 20; Drive, 30; Shed, 10; Pen, 10; Single, 10.

To Bruce (B), a perfect outrun is pear shaped with the dog in contact with the sheep but not disturbing them (figure 1). A dog that

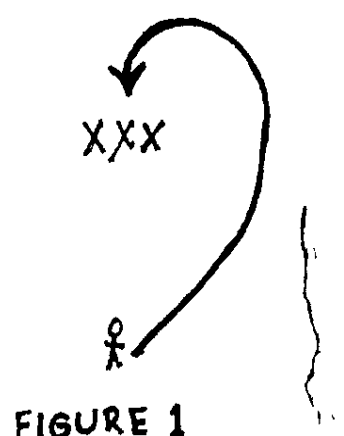


FIGURE 1

runs up the middle and swings around the sheep

at the end loses 4 points (figure 2). To Lewis (L),



FIGURE 2

the outrun should be pear shaped. A square outrun (figure 3) loses points.

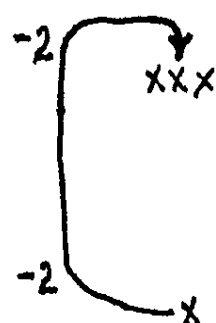


FIGURE 3

The dog overrunning unnecessarily at the top loses points (figure 4).

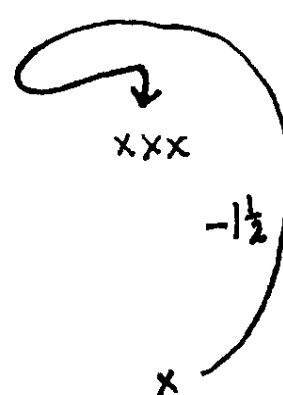


FIGURE 4

Ralph (R) says that none of the sample outrun paths (in figure 5) would lose points except (a) the tightest run (through the fetch gates equals -4 or -5) or (b) a square outrun or (c) if the dog breaks away from the handler's side and runs backwards away from the sheep before going out (-2 points).

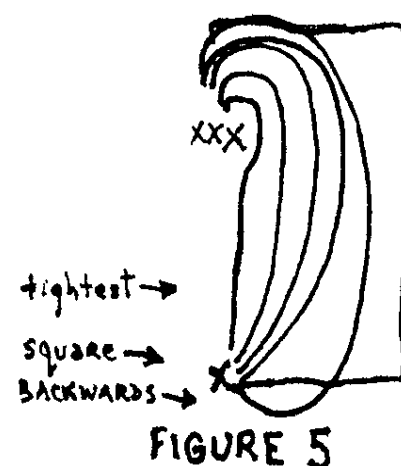


FIGURE 5

R: Here are point deductions (fig. 6) at both bottom and top of outrun if one or both corners are square. R: Although the

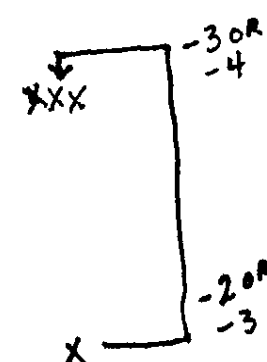


FIGURE 6

pear-shaped outrun looks pretty, there should be no deduction for a "circle" outrun (fig. 7). R: Dog



FIGURE 7

running just to outside edge of fetch gates is O.K. (fig. 8).



FIGURE 8

Continued page 6...

Judging continued...

B: A dog running too tight is also subject to a loss of 1 or 2 points depending upon how tight the dog is. B: A dog running the fence who is "off contact" with his sheep would lose 1 or 2 points depending upon how wide he ran. The size of the field must be taken into consideration in determining these point losses. R: Dog running over to fence before turning in to sheep is O.K. if fence not ridiculously long ways away and if dog angles down to it — not a square outrun (fig. 9). L: If dog goes out

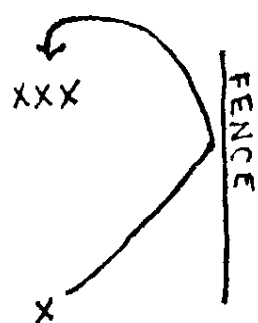


FIGURE 9

too straight, whistle him out wider quickly. The closer he gets to the sheep, the harder it is to get him wide. You'll lose 1/2 to 1 1/2 points for a redirect. If dog stops on outrun, lose 1 pt. If you whistle him on and he obeys (redirects) lose another 1/2 point. For a crossover, lose 10-18 points. R: There is no deduction for (fig. 10) this type of outrun if dog corrects self, doesn't startle sheep, and no redirect given. -1 if redirect given.



FIGURE 10

B: Redirecting a running dog is 1/2 point deduction whether or not the dog takes the redirect. If the dog stops itself and is redirected, lose 2 points. If the handler stops the dog and redirects it lose 3 points. If handler gives the dog a "that'll do" command on the outrun it is the same as any other command - lose 1/2 point. If, however, the dog turns back to the handler or stops and sniffs the ground or otherwise loses contact with the sheep on the outrun, lose 2 points. B: A crossover occurs when the dog crosses the line between the sheep and the handler on its outrun. The minimum number of points lost from a crossover should be 10 or half the outrun points. The only type of outrun that could result in this minimal point loss is a dog that crosses over at the handler's feet as soon as it is sent and otherwise has a perfect outrun (fig. 11). Normally when a dog



FIGURE 11

starts to crossover, the handler attempts to prevent it by stopping and redirecting the dog. Each stop and redirect = -3 pts. and the crossover at least 10 more. The closer to the sheep that the crossover occurs, the more than 10 points that are deducted. R: Ralph assigns a heavier point loss when the dog stops itself on an outrun than when the handler stops the dog. If conditions are perfect (dog

can see sheep), -3 or -4 pts. If blind lift for the dog, perhaps a -1 pt. Be very lenient with sheep bolting down past the fetch gates and the dog going too wide on the outrun to get behind them fast enough ("covering the sheep") until sheep are down past the fetch gate. If this occurs and the sheep come straight down through the fetch gates, handler has just gotten an early Christmas gift. There is normally no such thing as "out of contact" if the sheep are going right. For this type (fig. 12) of



FIGURE 12

very undesirable outrun, R. deducts -11 pts. R: The end of the outrun is O.K. IF THE SHEEP LIFT STRAIGHT (fig.13)



FIGURE 13

R: If the sheep are running away, the dog must come in fairly close to stop them soon — if dog runs wide around to stop them, there would be points off (fig. 14). Any command on the outrun has a penalty. For the first redirect, R. usually deducts 1/2 pt. Subsequent redirects are usually -1 pt. No deduc-

Continued page 7...

ANIMAL PORTRAITS

By Becky Parsons



Special offer extended to NEBCA subscribers for pen and ink drawing of your dog or favorite sheep, horse, cow or pig!

9" X 12" matted picture
\$20.00 (normal price \$35.00)

Please send good photos of your pet.
All photos returned. (allow 6-8 weeks)

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running sheep. Dog should run as close to them as is necessary to stop them quickly.



FIGURE 14

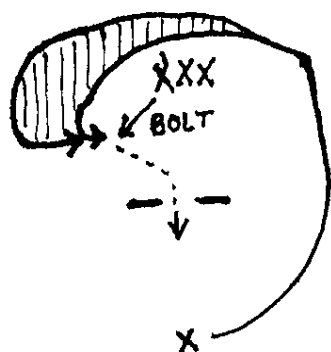


FIGURE 17

tion for stopping the dog at the end of the outrun. If the dog runs to the holding pen or exhaust pen, R. takes a light deduction (-2 or -3) if it comes off quickly. R: From the lift (fig. 15) the



FIGURE 15

line of travel will be to the center of the fetch gates. If the sheep being held for the outrun should split, the dog gathers the single as part of the outrun, puts it with the others, then the lift begins. R: If the sheep bolt down the field at an angle, either of these outruns (figures 16 or 17) is O.K. The shaded area (fig. 17 again) represents the zone of O.K. outruns, if the dog succeeds in stopping the

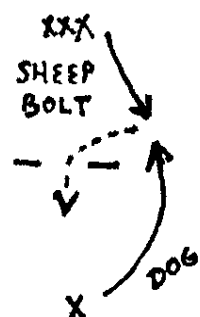


FIGURE 16

R: To summarize the outrun so far, the dog can go in many places and still be O.K., e.g., the dog can head the sheep if they are moving (unless moving down towards handler on the fetch!); otherwise, the dog should get behind the sheep at the end of the outrun. Ralph then answered a series of specific questions. If the dog starts out, spins around 360 degrees, then continues the outrun, -2 to -4. Handler and dog are at post. Dog begins to dash away before handler is ready, so handler stops dog and recalls it a few feet, then sends it on its way = -3 or -4. At the handler's post, the dog can be set up up to 5 yards away from handler. There is a deduction ANY TIME dog "turns to" — turns to look back to handler or spins around (-2 to -4). -6 off outrun (fig. 18) of dog that runs in

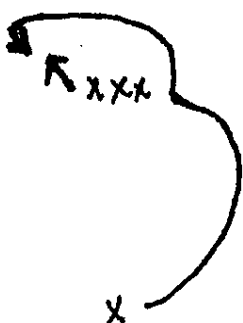


FIGURE 18

CARTOONIST MIA LANE

by Kristen P. Whittle

The NEBCA NEWS has a cartoonist! At the Ottawa Valley Border Collie Clubs trial last August, I had the opportunity to meet Mia Lane. She was competing with her BC Tammy and I was able to spend one afternoon talking with her and looking through her portfolio. She has agreed to do a series of cartoons for the current year, the first of which appeared in the last issue of the NEBCA NEWS. Some of you may have recognized her artwork from other trials and publications. The Shepherdess Shop, run by Cheryl Jagger Williams sells some items displaying original artwork by Mia.

Mia Lane is an artist/illustrator hailing from Adolphustown, Ontario Canada. She has been involved with Border Collies for about 10 years and has trialed for the last 4 years. She started out over 13 years ago with Toggenburg dairy goats, but it was after purchasing some Suffolk sheep that she got her first BC. Mia is not only active in the sheep and BC world. She graduated from Sheridan College in Oakdale, Ontario with

a diploma in technical illustration in 1986. She has to her credits a series of 4 postage stamps featuring the dogs of Canada. She also designed the packaging for the Excel and Debut lines of dog food for ShurGain, a Canadian based company.

Her first interest in working dogs was with hunting dogs. She began by training setters and German shorthaired pointers and participated in upland game field trials (pheasant and quail). As a result her portfolio includes many beautiful prints of wildlife and hunting dogs as well as border collies and shepherding.

Mia accepts both commercial and commission jobs. She has done numerous business cards, custom design work and portraits. She also has a line of cards that are sold by Caprine Supply.

The NEBCA NEWS is very fortunate to have Mia Lane as a contributor. We hope she can find time in her busy schedule to attend the trials in 1989 and we would like to thank her for sharing her talents with us.

towards the sheep and startles them backwards. Once around them, then the lift begins. B: A handler who walks to the post with his dog on the leash would lose -1. The handler should be given a reasonable time to send his dog (B. suggested one minute) before judge should tell him or her to send the dog or be disqualified. The outrun ends when the dog makes contact with the sheep (the "lift"). B. says THE OUTFUN CANNOT BE

JUDGED UNTIL THE LIFT IS COMPLETED. R. stressed that ISDS rules say that all penalties are "circumstances at hand" by the decision of the judge based on the actions of the sheep and dog. R. deducts points from the outrun and the lift independently of each other. L. said that when he judges, you'll lose points on everything (outrun, lift, and fetch) if the sheep don't lift straight towards the handler.

BRIAN NETTLETON

by Anne Priest

The first time I ever saw a Border Collie working was on McNutt Island off the coast of Nova Scotia, the dog was Spot and the owner—handler extraordinaire was Brian Nettleton. We were walking along the shore and suddenly Brian said, "I think there are some sheep up behind that hill." He sent Spot off with only a "Shhh" and off Spot went with a wide outrun to the left. He went up over the hill and Brian whistled a down on Spot. No Spot. I asked him why Spot hadn't come in. "He knows more than I do. I suspect he's seen some sheep further in the woods and is going around them. Were I to whistle again he would obey." Sure enough, another wave of sheep poured over the hill. These were wild island sheep, gathered only once a year, but Spot bunched them up, kept them from dashing into the water or down the edge of the rocks, held them so well that Brian actually grabbed one by the leg to get a look at her condition.

I had just bought my first flock from Brian to put out on Blue Island and he had come down to make sure the island would support sheep. We had gone to nearby McNutt's to see the island sheep there. Brian was so impressed with the potential for island sheep that he sent down eight of his own to supplement my ten. I knew nothing whatever about sheep. For the next two years Brian brought dogs, children, guests from afar, wormers and vaccines and we would all go out to the island to gather and shear. Martha would

have packed a tremendous lunch and we would have a great time of it. In those two years he taught me to shear, manage sheep, gather, build holding pens—everything I needed to know. And what fun we all had.

Brian and Martha came to Nova Scotia from England in the 1950's. He was a young veterinarian, fresh from apprenticing with James Herriot. One day he went to a livestock auction where nothing much was happening so he bid on some sheep to get things going. Moments later he found himself owning them. Living in town (Truro) with no land, they had to rent a field. He found it all hard to manage without a dog and sent for a BC from Scotland. It turns out that this was the first Border Collie ever imported into Canada. He became known as one of the finest handlers and breeders. You could hardly hear his commands. He and Martha eventually had 600 sheep and many wonderful dogs. He was so strenuously opposed to the AKC getting hold of the breed that he refused to register his dogs. The Nettletons organized the first sheep fairs for the Sheep Producers Association of N.S. They were responsible for the great growth of the sheep industry in Nova Scotia. Brian built the Maritime Cattle Market in Truro, a huge livestock sale barn, thriving today.

Then disaster struck. the government of Cape Breton imported some sheep from Scotland and didn't keep them in quarantine long enough. Some of the sheep were carrying a disease which

led to death from lung cancer and Brian experienced great losses from his purchase of some of those sheep. The government refused to admit responsibility and the Nettletons sold their stock at meat prices. They joined CUSO (the Canadian equivalent of the Peace Corps) and went to Papua, New Guinea. I visited them there last winter and saw the wonderful work they were doing encouraging the nationals to raise grazing animals other than pigs. In five years they had placed small flocks of sheep in 65 schools. The children would let them out to graze in the morning and shut them up in a little barn at the end of the school day. Children who learned sheep management would get a pregnant ewe at graduation and be able to buy 2 others for a small amount. Similarly, pairs of heifers would be given to families to graze on the grass by their houses.

Brian was killed just before Christmas in an automobile accident on an icy road in Nova Scotia where he and Martha were visiting their children for Christmas. He always talked about the impact of sheep on Blue Island, for instance, where they transformed a bushy mess into a park, or on Papua, New Guinea, where there is a twelve month growing season for grass and a terrible shortage of protein in children's diets. He had it a little bit wrong. He was the one who made the impact. The sheep were his tool.

YOUR DOG'S HEALTH

by Denise A. Leonard

When you go to the trials this year beware those inviting streams and ponds for cooling your dog. Those of you that camp may be aware of the disease Giardiasis which you can contract by drinking contaminated water. In humans this disease causes diarrhea and intestinal upset. What you may not know is that your dog can also get it.

In dogs the clinical symptoms of giardiasis vary considerably and diagnosis is difficult. Dogs tend to lose weight and have intermittent diarrhea. The diarrhea is of large volume, tends to be watery, tan-colored, cow-pie like and contains a lot of fat. A secondary symptom may be a dry coat due to the malabsorption of fat soluble vitamins. Stool tests are negative. Final diagnosis is successful treatment with Flagyl, the drug of choice.

How does swimming and drinking in streams and ponds affect the transmission of this disease? Many wild animals such as the muskrat and beaver also have this disease and contaminate ponds and streams when they swim. The disease is transmitted orally and is not specific to the animal carrying it. Thus allowing your dog to cool off in a stream after a run could possibly expose it to this disease. Carrying your own water to a trial would be a safer bet.

TRAINING TIPS *by Beverly Lambert*

Q: How do I slow my dog down, she works much too fast.

A: Dogs are usually thought to be working too fast because they have the sheep running all the time. The sheep are running because the dog is too close. What is really needed with many of these fast young dogs is not to slow them down but to widen them out and keep them back off the sheep.

This "fast" dog needs a really good "down". When the dog will lie down and stay, go back to the wearing. Don't let the dog get so close to the sheep that she has them running all over the place. When she flanks, make sure she flanks squarely off her sheep. Fast, close dogs are always looking for a way to get closer to the sheep and speed up the action. Plenty of quiet, controlled wearing with attention to the flanks will start instilling the idea of what is right in the dog. This way when you later teach the dog a "take time" or "steady" command they will have an idea of what you are aiming for.

Finally, don't take all of the joy out of the work for the dog. You may have to teach the dog to "down" away from the sheep. A dog that is running around out of control chasing sheep is not learning anything, so be firm about the work being done in a reasonable way.

Q: I have an experienced, older dog who frequently cuts in tight at the top of his outrun. He has always done this.

A: If the dog only does this some of the time then

he knows the right from the wrong. Shorten up the distance you are sending the dog until you have the perfect outrun. Then gradually lengthen the outrun until the dog cuts in again. When the dog cuts in lay him down and make him get back out to the right position. You may have to walk out to him and force him to get back. When he is correct tell him so and call him off without giving him his sheep. Then send him out again the same way. You can send him a couple of times and call him off after the correction without letting him work the sheep. You will have to give him the sheep the third time out, however. So make sure that outrun is correct. Shorten the distance a little and go out to him to make sure he is right. Then wear the sheep a little bit and start again. A trial dog will no doubt require this exercise on strange sheep in different locations in order to learn the lesson. Get him out quite a bit wider than you actually want him as he will come in a little at trials.

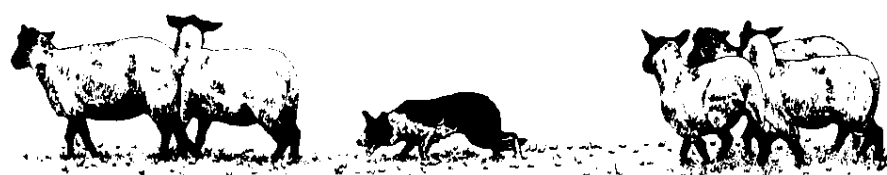
Q: How do I start training my young dog now that it has had a couple of chances to chase sheep?

A: The first thing the pup needs to learn is not to dive into the flock and grab the sheep. So get the puppy so it is holding the flock of sheep up to you. If the pup tries to dive in and grab one, get in his way and tell him no. Whether you say NO in a shout or ah-ah softly will depend upon your dog. Is he a wild, hard headed thing, or a reasonably civilized dog? You don't want to put him off

working the sheep, just discourage him from grabbing them so go gently and don't be in a rush. Most pups are pretty excited and not listening real well when they have these early lessons. He needs to learn that his presence is enough to keep the sheep together - that gripping isn't necessary. As he holds the sheep together move around the flock so he has to move to hold them up to you. Encourage him to remain on the opposite side of the flock. When he has gotten real good at this break the

flock apart a little bit and encourage him to put them together again. Always be ready to step in to prevent him from getting in amongst the sheep. When he has learned to hold the flock together and up to you it is time to start the next lesson. Don't be in a hurry at this stage of the training. These are very important foundation lessons that all of the rest of the training is based upon. Take your time and make sure the puppy understands what is expected before you go on to wearing.

CORRECTION: The telephone number listed in the last NEBCA News for Dayle Hamilton was incorrect. The correct number is 203-264-6348. We apologise for any inconvenience.



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UPCOMING TRIAL AND CLINIC DATES

Those with an asterisk are qualifying trials for the NEBCA Fall Foliage Championship Trial and NEBCA High Point Champion.

***June 3 & 4:** Willowbend Sheep Dog Trial, London, ONT, Canada. Two one day open and nursery trials. Contact Jim Clark, RR 3, Blenheim, Ont, NOP 1A0, (519) 676-8878.

June 4 & 5: Ivyrose Farm Clinic taught by Cheryl Jagger Williams. Contact Eve Marschark, PO Box 397, Bedminster, PA 18910, (215)795-2023.

June 10: Puppy Day, Greenfield, MA. Contact Denise Leonard, Tanstaafl Farm, 389 Adams Road, Greenfield, MA 01301, 413-773-5232.

June 16: Sheepy Hollow Farm Nursery Trial, Hop Bottom, PA. Contact Walt Jagger (717)289-4663, Box 233, Hop Bottom, PA 18824.

***June 17 & 18:** Pennsylvania State Championship, Sheepy Hollow Farm, Hop Bottom, PA. For information contact Walt Jagger (717) 289-4663, Sheepy Hollow Farm, Box 233, Hop Bottom, PA 18824.

June 24 & 25: Moose Run Clinic—two one day clinics, Brooks, ME. Contact Beverly Lambert, RFD 1 Box 2280, Dickey Hill Road, Brooks, ME 04921, (207)525-3223.

***July date to follow:** Western NY International Open Sheepdog Trial. Contact Iain Frances, 1745 Sweet Rd, East Aurora, NY 14052, (716) 652-5445. Not confirmed.

***July 1:** Vermont State Championship Open Trial, Bradford, VT. Contact Dave Webster, Bradford, VT, 05033, (802) 222-5532.

July 2: Spring Valley Farm Nursery Trial, Strafford, VT. Contact Steve Wetmore, P.O. Box 54, Strafford, VT 05072, (802) 765-4466.

July 22 & 23: Rhode Island Open Sheep Dog Trial, **CANCELLED**

***July 29:** Bangor State Fair Championship Sheep Dog Trial, Bangor, ME. Starts at 7:00PM. Contact Beverly Lambert, RFD 1 Box 2280, Brooks, ME 04921, (207)525-3223.

***July 30:** Eastern Maine State Championship, Brooks, ME. Nursery and Open classes. Contact Beverly Lambert, RFD 1 Box 2280, Brooks, ME 04921, (207)525-3223.

July 29 & 30: Sheep Focus, Lindsay, ONT. **CANCELLED**

***August 5 & 6:** Fourth Annual Ottawa Valley Sheepdog Trial at Stittsville, Ont. For information contact: Evelyn Neuendorf, Box 468, Munster, Ont KOA 3P0, (613) 838-2315.

***August 11:** Nutmeg Farm Open Trial, Portland CT. Contact Lynnette Milleville at Sand Hill Rd., Portland CT 06480 (203) 342-4279 for information.

***August 12 & 13:** Middlesex County 4H Fair Sheep Dog Trial, Durham, CT. Nursery trial (Aug 13) and Open Trial (Aug 12). Contact Lynnette Milleville at (203) 342-4279 for information.

***August 12:** Moose Run Open and Nursery Trials, Brooks, ME. Contact Beverly Lambert, RFD 1 Box 2280, Dickey Hill Road, Brooks, ME 04921, (207)525-3223

***August 13:** Skowhegan Fair, Skowhegan, ME. Contact Charles Carpenter, c/o Skowhegan Fair, 61 Water Street, PO Box 39, Skowhegan, ME, (207) 474-2947.

***August 18 & 19:** Empire State Sheepdog Trial. For information contact Mike Canaday at (518) 861-6049, RD 2 Box 395, Meadowdale Rd., Altamont, NY 12009.

***August 20:** New York State Championship Trial, Altamont, NY. For information contact Mike Canaday, RD 2 Box 365, Meadowdale Rd., Altamont, NY 12009, (518) 861-6049.

***August 26:** Scottish Games Open Sheep Dog Trial, Quechee VT., Contact George Madiera, 79 Hanover St. #8, Lebanon, NH, 03766 (603)448-5669.

***September 2, 3 & 4:** Rockway Sheep Dog Trials, Rockway, NJ. 2-1 day open and a nursery trial. Contact Gene Scheninger, 213 Split Rock Rd. Boonton, NJ 07005 (201)299-9785.

***September 2 & 3:** Northeast US Sheep Dog Trial. Contact Jim Davidson, North Country Farm, Round Pond, ME 04564.

***September 4:** Windsor Fair Open Trial, Windsor, ME. For information contact Fred Eames, RFD 2 Box 5130, Waterville, ME 04901 (207)872-9604..

***September 9 & 10:** Hagersville Open Sheep Dog Trials, Hagersville, ONT. 2-1 day open trials with a nursery trial run in accordance with Ontario Nursery Trial rules. Contact Alice Guthrie, New Hope Acres, RR 4, Hagersville, ONT N0A 1H0 (416)768-5587.

***September 16 & 17:** Ivy Rose Farm Open & Nursery Trial, Bedminster, PA. 2-1 day open and a nursery trial. Part of the Pennsylvania Triple Crown. Contact Eve Marschark, PO Box 397, Bedminster, PA 18910, (215)795-2023.

***September 23 & 24:** Pittsburgh Township Bi-Centennial Sheep Dog Trials, Kingston, ONT. Contact Amanda Milliken, RR 2 Kingston, ONT, K7I 5H6, (613) 546-7900.

***September 30:** New Hampshire State Championship, Ctr Conway, NH. Contact Roger Deschambeault, Nearfield Farm, HRC Box 16, Ctr Conway, NH 03813, (603) 939-2255.

***October 1:** Fryeburg Fair Sheep Dog Trial, Fryeburg ME. For information contact Wayne Bartlett, PO Box 270, Denmark, ME 04022. (207) 452-2460.

October date to follow: NEBCA Fall Foliage Championship Trial

continued page 11...

CLASSIFIED

Classified ads cost \$1.50 per issue or \$5.00 per year (4 issues—no changes) for 50 words or less. An additional fee of \$.20 per word will be charged for longer ads. Payment MUST accompany ads. Send all submissions to NEBCA NEWS, PO Box 383, Sunderland, MA 01375. Deadline for the next issue is August 1, 1989.

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BORDER COLLIE PUPPIES DUE JUNE 25. Sire: Imp. Dryden Kip (George Redpath's Spot X Dryden Dot, a Gilchrist's Spot daughter) Dam: Imp. Sungam Kirstie (Viv Billingham's Laddie X Jill, a Thomas' int. Ch Craig daughter) Contact Sally Lacy, Box 487, Fitzwilliam, NH (603)242-3017. Both parents are on the farm and are strong, quiet & willing workers.

PUPS DUE IN EARLY JUNE. Beverly Lambert's Kate and Vergil Holland's Robin, several times the Northeast Champion. This is Kate's second litter bred to Robin. Pups from the first litter have shown great natural balance and distance. Some placing in open competition at 2 years of age. Kate's hips and eyes checked. Beverly Lambert 207-525-3223.

PUPS DUE IN EARLY JUNE. Beverly Lambert's Lark (Lambert's Kate/Vergil Holland's Robin) and Cooperlane's Jetta (Kate 143086/Edgar Gould's Roy 95145). These are the two most naturally talented dogs I have ever worked with. Both have great natural dia-

tance and balance. Hips and eyes checked. Beverly Lambert 207-525-3223.

BORDER COLLIE TRAINING SERVICES both for handler and dogs. For information call or write Cheryl Jagger, RD Box 77A, Hop Bottom, PA 18824, (717) 289-4733.

PUPPIES READY TO GO JUNE 1st. Out of Mike Canaday's Kit (Edgar Gould's Bute X Roy) and Mike Canaday's Sandy, both working and trialing parents. Sandy is the 1986 NEBCA Fall Foliage Champion and Kit is 1986 NEBCA High Point Champion, plus both earned many top tens since. Black/white nicely marked. Call Mike at (518)861-6049, evenings.

Trials and Clinics continued...

October date to follow: NEBCA Futurity Trial. Contact Beverly Lambert, RFD 1 Box 2280, Brooks, ME 04921, (207)525-3223.

***October 21 & 22:** Bedford Open, Bedford, PA. Part of the Pennsylvania Triple Crown. 2 1-day open trials. Qualifying for 1990. Contact Jack Monsour, Box 309A, Bedford PA 15522 (717)623-8243.

October 21 & 22: Jack Knox Clinic at Keswick Farm, Fitzwilliam, NH. Contact Sally Lacy, PO Box 487, Fitzwilliam, NH, 03447 (603)242-3017.

***October 28 & 29:** Cumberland Valley Open Sheep Dog Trial, Carlisle, PA. 2 1-day open trial and an open ranch. Part of the Pennsylvania Triple Crown. Contact Nathan Mooney, 245 Alters Rd. Carlisle, PA 17013 (717)249-5695.

The NEBCA NEWS is published quarterly as the official publication of the Northeast Border Collie Association. Four issues are published on March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1. Subscription is by membership to the association. Annual membership dues are \$10.00 per individual or \$15.00 per farm. To join, send your name and address along with your dues to Doug McDonough, RFD 1 Box 2280, Brooks, ME 04921. Make checks payable to NEBCA

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BREEDERS DIRECTORY

This listing of breeders of Border Collies is for informational purposes and in no way represents an endorsement of these breeders by the North East Border Collie Association.

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518-861-6049

Gwen Cassel
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P.O. Box 198
Edmeston, NY 13335
(Please call information)

Roger Deschambeault
Nearfield Farm
HRC Box 16
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Cooperlane Farm Ent
Shelburne Falls, MA
01370
413-625-6496

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RFD 1
34 Brown Brook Road
Southbury, CT 06488
203-264-6348

Ketecho Farm
Vergil & Bonnie Holland
RD 1 Box 131
Hobart, NY 13788
607-538-9160

Walt Jagger
Sheepy Hollow Farm
Box 233
Hop Bottom, PA 18824
717-289-4663

Beverly Lambert
Douglas McDonough
RFD 1 Box 2280
Brooks, ME 04921
207-525-3223

Mia Lane
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RR 1, (Adolphustown)
Bath, Ont, K0H 1G0
613-373-2616

Janet E. Larson
Caora Con Kennels
6 Pinecrest Lane
Durham, NH 03824
603-868-5313

Denise A. Leonard
Tanstaafl Farm
389 Adams Road
Greenfield, MA 01301
413-773-5232

Dick & Barbara Leverett
Long View Farm
RD 2 Box 308 Burrell Rd.
St Johnsville, NY 13452
518-568-2833

Betty Levin
Old Winter Street
Lincoln, MA 01773
617-259-8799

Kay Lorraine
1942 W. King St.
Owosso, MI 48867
517-723-1174

Len & Eve Marschark
Ivyrose Farm
PO 397 Farm School Rd.
Bedminster PA 18910
215-795-2023

Alex McKinven
Cessnock Farm
North Hatley
Quebec, J0B 2C0
819-842-2975/4119

Gabrielle Merrill
Misty Lane Border Collies
Brownfield, ME 04010
207-935-2520

Tim & Lynnette Milleville
Sand Hill Road
Portland, CT 06480
203-342-4279

Sylvia Murray
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294B Cossaduck Hill Rd.
N. Stonington, CT 06359
203-889-7777

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Valley View Farm
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Townshend, VT 05353
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Bell Road Box 395
Leyden, MA 01337
413-624-5562

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191 Old Mountain Road
Port Jervis, NY 12771
914-856-3209

Cindy L. Warner
Turn-Around Farm
Box 132 Palmiter Rd.
Harpursville, NY 13787
607-656-7608

John H. Weikel
Highland Farm
RR 4 Box 266
Mt. Vernon, IN 47620
812-783-2675

Steve Wetmore
Spring Valley Farm
P.O. Box 54
Strafford, VT 05072
802-765-4466

Kristen P. Whittle
Little Brook Farm
334 Russell Street
Sunderland, MA 01375
413-665-3802

Wieninger's
Star Route Box 106
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