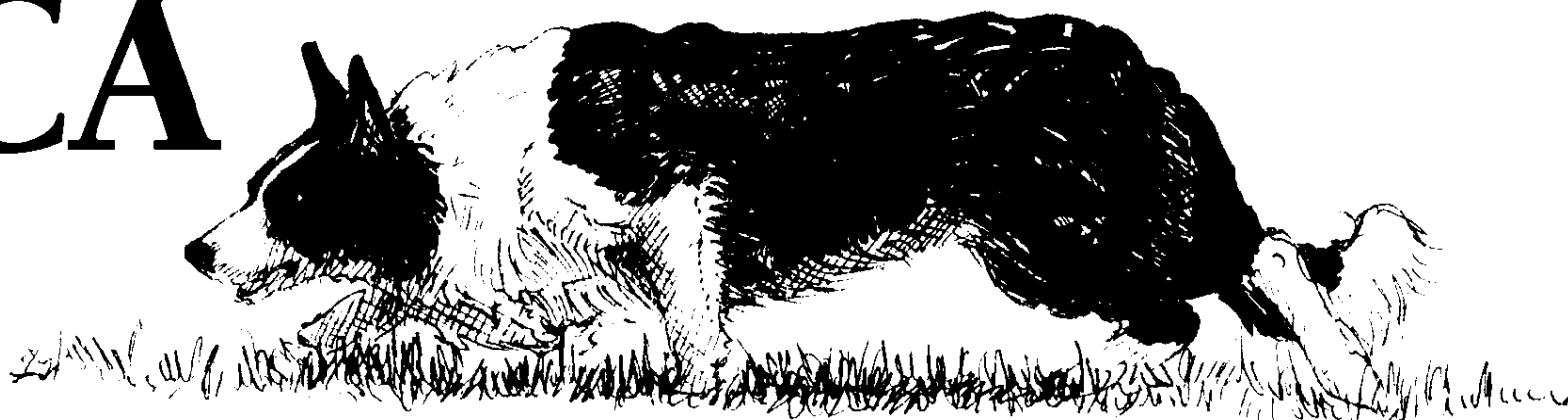


NEBCA News



Autumn Issue, 1994

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She Done Good!

This past September, Cheryl Jagger Williams and Nell competed in the National Finals in Kentucky. In the following story, Cheryl recounts her experience running there.

In all my career running and training dogs, I have never had a more thrilling experience than I did competing at the National Finals in Lexington, Kentucky in September. Being with people I had only read about, putting faces to the names, and especially competing against them, was an incredible thrill.

The course itself was difficult, the terrain difficult, the sheep were difficult – all of that added to the excitement. I don't think I have been so anxious ever in my life.

My first run was with Kim; "Gosh!" I thought, "this doesn't look so bad." I was not as nervous. Undogged sheep are not so foreign and they are Kim's forte. I thought we could do this with no problem. So, I tried the course. I had no major problems but any error cost heavily. Tiny mistakes were very, very costly.

By the time I was ready to run Nell, I was very anxious. I knew what an incredible difference any error made. If you were off-line, if you missed anything, you were out of it. It had to be perfect.

Nell had a beautiful outrun, a beautiful lift and then I started to flank her. I was creating my fear! I was making mistakes. I quickly changed my handling and let her balance her sheep. I gave her no more commands other than to call her name here and there. She brought the sheep to me dead straight.

We had a good drive. Nell had gotten the right pace and was able to drive them

around the field with ease.

It was then time for the split and I was so nervous. Would these lambs allow me to get near enough to split them? Again, the slightest error and they were gone. Despite my anxiousness, we got a nice split and on to the pen.

One ewe wheeled around and was not

done before. I told them it was one of sheer desperation! They said they would try to remember to use it sometime.

The final run on Sunday was against the top 20 finalists from the day before. I ran 14th. I watched several dogs run. I had never done an International Shed so I needed to watch.

There were many, many outrun problems. Few handlers had outruns without several redirects. And there were several cross-overs in both directions. On her first outrun, Nell did well, though I did have one redirect. She had a nice gather. On her second outrun, she missed a sheep and went behind a panel, so I had to call her in. Once in on the sheep, she brought them straight. We then had to drive the 20 sheep around the course.

By the time Nell ran, it was mid-day and the sheep were hungry, so they stopped often to eat. It was hard to keep them moving. They were undogged lambs that liked to mill and so were tough to drive. I had to

wear them, move the dog back and forth, to move them past the first drive panel. We did, however, have a good crossdrive.

The International Shed – it was now time! The beginning was very good. In an International Shed, you stay on one side of the sheep, the dog on the other. You pick your side. Then you must let the sheep go. I was down to 7 or 8 sheep when one started to bolt. Nell swung out but brought them all back. Once this happens, you must begin again. Then trouble started. I was in very good company since very few actually got the shed. So I ran out of time here. My dog had trouble letting the sheep "go".

Continued on page 13



Cheryl Jagger Williams and Nell pen during her first run at the finals.

going in. The others, however, did. The one didn't fight. She didn't move. She just stared and acted dumb. I flanked Nell a way from her a number of times. I feared a grip since the ewe was acting silly. I kept flanking to avoid a confrontation. Then, the sheep just walked away! I needed to do something, so I slammed the side of the pen with my hand and made a loud noise. This sheep moved and we turned her in.

I had to hustle to the single since I had spent so much time at the pen. I got my single right away and scored a 95 – 3rd place in the qualifying round! The several judges asked me later about my pen maneuver. They said they had never seen it

From the Editors...

We consider ourselves to be objective and open minded individuals capable of seeing both sides of an issue. We try not to impose our opinions on others, thereby leaving them to have the freedom to make judgements and choices on their own. This past weekend we received, as editors of this newsletter, a letter from a member of the Kentucky group that wishes to be the parent group for the AKC. The first reaction was a mixture of anger and hurt since the opening statement that "the last NEBCA editorial and President's message echoed words of hatred and war" was far from the truth. It was later in the day, when reading a letter from another member of this same club in the Ranch Dog Trainer, that we realized we are all reading basically "form letters" originating from a very well educated, highly intelligent and very determined group of individuals who view themselves as "persecuted". There are certain catch phrases such as "This is a free country", "my rights to do with my dogs", "we don't tell you whether you can trial or not", and on and on, that are repeated over and over in these letters, in these publications and on the internet.

You can take any of the arguments presented by both camps and engage in a lengthy academic debate over this issue. Each side makes valid points, each point can be logically, and in most cases, factually refuted. As said earlier, the first reaction was to get caught up in all of this. But after further thought we realized that all of this is just debate and can go on endlessly. This is not the sort of issue that should be determined merely by debate. The issue is not who has the right to do what with their Border Collie, but rather, how many of us has the foresight into the danger of this breed losing its foundation because it runs the risk of being too tampered with by too many of us? The more popular and visible this dog becomes, the more people this dog becomes desirable to. The more people who have a reason to own one, reasons that keep taking the dog further and further away from its roots, the greater the possibility that this dog will be bred for the wrong reasons. How can we guarantee that the proper traits be bred for when the understanding of what has made and will continue to make this dog what it know it to be today, is lacking, or even worse, non-existent?

The main substance that makes the Border Collie what it is, is not its intelligence, though intelligent it is. Its not its responsiveness, though responsive it is. Its not its looks. It's not its temperament. What makes the Border Collie what it is, the foundation and the breed standard is **the Border Collie's innate, instinctive ability to move and control livestock**. The Border Collie was not bred for other types of work though it has many other abilities and does ably perform many other tasks. That is one of the arguments flashed about. "My dog is a 'working' dog. He 'works' doing other things. I don't have sheep, but my dog 'works' tracking, my dog 'works' with the hearing impaired and with the blind, my dog 'works' catching frisbee, my dog 'works' doing agility and obedience". There are many qualities the Border Collie has that are certainly what, in some other breed of dog, would make it solely worth breeding for. But no other dog has the ability, the foundation, the instinct to control and move livestock.

Too many are forgetting this. The way they are being encouraged to look at this issue is in a possessive, "I have my rights....It belongs to me,...Don't tell me what I can and can't do" frame of mind. These are the people for whom debate can go on endlessly. These people look at the Border Collie as a recreational issue with someone's use of the animal in mind, rather than the protection and preservation of the breed and its instincts.

What we need here is not a political campaign. We need individuals capable of thinking for themselves and for the future. We need individuals with the moral fiber to realize that what is at stake here is not anyone's freedom of recreation, but the very nature of this animal, the Border Collie.

We at NEBCA are certainly not going to tell anyone what they may or may not do with their own dogs. There are many pet and obedience homes that have provided wonderful lives for Border Collies. We laud you and support you, but please, don't close your eyes to the real issue and what is at risk. Be honest with yourselves as to whose interests you are looking out for here as you push for AKC recognition of the breed, yours or the dogs. Look at this dilemma as a crossroad. Make your choices not for the present, but for the future. Guarantee that the future offers the same opportunity to experience and admire this dog that we, at present, still know as the Border Collie.

REMEMBER.....

- The deadline for the next issue is December 1st. Have all items for publication to us by that date.
- There are still 1995 calendars left for sale. Great Christmas gifts!!!! See page 7 for details.

The opinions expressed
in this newsletter are
NOT
necessarily the opinions
of the editors,
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the board of directors.

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To join, send your name, address, and the above listed dues to:

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Display Advertising

Prices are for camera-ready ads. Display advertising will only appear in the four quarterly issues.

	Single issue	Yearly
Business Card (2" x 3-1/2")	\$15.00	\$50.00
Quarter Page	\$35.00	\$100.00
Half Page	\$50.00	\$150.00
Full Page	\$75.00	\$225.00

(Non-members, please add 20%.)

If choosing to run a yearly ad, it may not change copy throughout the four issues without an additional advertising fee.

Tommy Wilson

This past August, Tom Wilson of Gordonsville, Virginia, instructed a clinic hosted by Joanne Krause of Maplewood Farm in Colchester, CT. His approach to training Border Collies has been developed over many years of shepherding both here in the United States and in Scotland. We were able to talk to him further and he was gracious enough to share his philosophy and ideas on dog training with our readers.

Over the years, many years, I've had lots of dogs. Back in Scotland when I was a shepherd, I would have and would rear 3 dogs a year to train and be sold once they were anywhere from partly broken to finished dogs. They would be sold either to trial people or to farmers. The reason for my selling them was that I never could find a dog that I thought would stay with me all the time. I kept one little female, Meg, until she died at 11 yrs of age. Roy has been the only other dog I've kept.

Back in those days, I never stayed in only one line of dogs. The female that I kept, Meg, was a good one. She did well for me in trials, and for work you could not beat her. I bred her to good stud dogs, but never got anything worthwhile from the matings. The rest of the dogs I had were from good bitches bred to some of the best stud dogs available at the time. These included: Gilchrist's Spot and Mirk, Richardson's Cap, Sweep and Mirk and Campbell's Hemp.

So over the years, I put through my hands quite a number of dogs. A lot of these dogs turned out well and went on to do well for their next owners, one representing England at the National level, another representing England at the Internationals. Others did well in the US, Canada and Northern Ireland.

As you know, every dog's different – you see this the more you work with them. That is the excitement of it and over time, you get to know what you like and what you are looking for or you keep searching for it. You should have in your mind, as I have in my mind, roughly what you desire to have. Roy came along and was as close to the dog that I was looking for as any that I've had. He gave me most of these things I was looking for.

First of all, you must look for dogs that you like and get a pup from well

bred, good working dogs. The dogs you like do not have to be trial dogs, but they must be dogs whose style and so forth you like. The temperament in the pup must be right. I am looking for a dog with natural ability and a desire to learn. They must have power or I have no use for them.

So, I want a nice natured dog, the nature, the temperament, has to be right in the pup. That's all in the nature. It has to be a natural dog. What I mean by natural is that when you're training him, you're not 'making' him into everything. You won't know that in a pup, but you begin to see it when you're training him.

When Roy started working, he was

brains. But that too develops and you will be able to see more of it as the pup grows older.

The other important thing that the pup's got to have is power. Power – a dog must be able to walk up to the faces of the sheep. A pup must show you this by 8 months old to a year, and sometimes long before that, but at least it must show it, or I will not put much time into that dog.

So, we talked about the brains and natural ability that you look for in the pup and dogs. Every dog has faults, but the less faults that you have to put up with, the better. So it's a case of staying with that young pup and finding out what its going to give you and what you must work along with.

So, I need to see a natural dog, one who's nature is right, and it's got to have power.

Then comes pace – pace is an awfully important thing to me. The late J.M. Wilson said, "If you don't have pace, the dog will never get the rhythm of the sheep". That is so true in all working dogs and Roy gives me that. As far as pace, he has the most I have seen. He could usher sheep, I would say. He would usher sheep or cows without getting them excited or disturbed. The quieter you can move stock, the better for the stock. And in order to keep stock moving at the right pace with less stress, the dog must be right. That is an awfully important thing in a dog.

There are very few dogs that have a good pace. But,

you can make pace. That's a quality you don't have to worry about, but if its there naturally, it's a bonus. It shows up elsewhere, especially in the breeding and other places like that. It's a thing though, that you can help a dog with. If it doesn't have power, you can't make it, but if it hasn't got pace, you can make it's pace for it. But its, oh, so much nicer, if it's got it itself!

That was one of Roy's pluses - he had tremendous pace. Whether you were trying to get in a ewe with a lamb that needed gentle but firm persuasion, whether it was cows, or whatever it was, he could settle these animals and they came in as quiet as could be. He was like another hand when you were busy at lambing time; any time. He never



Tom Wilson & Hope, his home bred and home trained 1993 champion & 1994 reserve champion of the USBCHA Nursery Finals.

the most natural dog I had ever seen. He possessed a gentle power and he needed very little schooling. He just picked things up in his everyday work. There is a down side to this natural dog. Roy would work away all week with little or no commanding. He knew every move to make and was in the right place most of the time. Then we would go to trials. I would need to ask him to come off balance, a thing he was not wanting to give up willingly. They think they know best! But dogs that are natural enough with a good temperament will be more consistent in their training and their breeding.

Then, if they are natural enough, they must have a desire to learn. So you see, you also need a clever pup, one with

Continued on page 14



At the Post...

Question: "Once your dog has been sent on its outrun, when do you feel it necessary to give any commands or redirects?"

According to the rules of the I.S.D.S., "Should the sheep have moved, or be moving from the post, the correct end to the outrun should be when the dog is at the head of the sheep and in the position to bring them on to the course. Any deviations from the line, crossing the course, commands given, or any other mistakes will be penalized as the judge sees fit."

Vergil Holland, Versailles, KY

Answer: In order to answer the question you have asked, I think there are a number of things to consider. The first is of course: there should be no need to direct your dog on it's way out to the sheep, but that doesn't mean you won't need to. I do feel that a stop whistle used at the top is not only o.k., but is preferred. I will try to explain why.

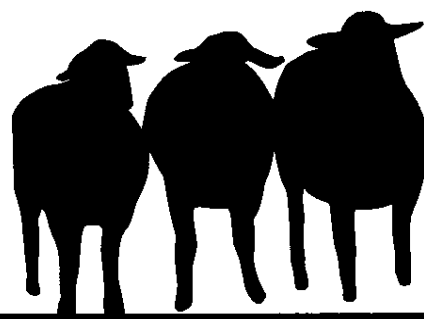
Most sheep at a trial are held with at least one dog and one person. By being held like this the sheep are often giving an unreal or different pressure reading than what they would be giving as soon as the dog starts to move them off the dog and handler that have been doing the job of holding out. A dog can only read the pressure that is there at any given time, but the handler can see and realize that the pressure that the dog is reading may be false for a correct lift. Therefore he needs to intervene to keep a dog from lifting the sheep off line. This same false reading can and often does happen when the sheep are set out with corn.

Chalmers Mean, Otego, N Y

Answer: Giving commands and redirects during the outrun is a matter of "damage control". It is an attempt to minimize immediate point loss while trying to retain a handler-to-dog and dog-to-sheep relationship that assures the best chances for success in subsequent phases of the run. Many situations arise during outruns that call for handler action. The following comments are limited to handler responses to imminent and/or threatened crossovers during the run.

The dog is off, hurtling headlong away from the post. This is not nap time for the handler. Nor is it time to toy with the crook or dig coins or pocket lint from the whistle. Changes in the dog's progress toward the sheep happen

Continued on page 13



Tips for Training

Question: How do you tell that your pup is ready to start training and what is the first thing you strive to achieve?

Eve Marschark, Bedminster, PA

Answer: Attitude and thought. If it is a pup I have raised, or one for which all the right things were done to socialize and prepare him for adulthood, then he already brings a lot with him to the sheep. In those first few sessions, what I look for is to see the pup keen to work, but to show signs of thinking and feeling the sheep, not just playing and flailing around the sheep. I'll try not to lay the dog down but rather by moving around the sheep myself, cause him to change direction as he feels the balance changing. When the pup comes in tight to the sheep, I'll bark an "AHHH" at him and move towards him to block or push him off the stock. Sometimes it is necessary to block him entirely from the sheep, repeatedly until he gets the message that until he includes me in the endeavor, and thinks about what he's doing, he'll not get sheep at all.

It's important to work the pup quietly and calmly without a lot of flailing around on the part of the handler. This helps keep the pup settled. The same goes for voice tone and volume. This way, when I do correct him, it is in contrast to the usual requests. It is more apt to mean something to him then. To begin, I don't speak to the pup much at all. I just provide him with the opportunity to get out there and experience the sheep in a safe, positive setting. A quiet "Shhh" tells him to do what he is thinking, whichever side he is set up to react to, rather than a flanking command. A small ring is the first place I take the pups to start. This helps ensure control. Once he shows me he is thinking a bit, then we go right out to the big field where he can better practice balance and self-restraint.

How do you know when the pup is thinking and feeling the sheep? If you watch the pup's facial expression and body language, his movements and decisions, you can pretty much tell if he is serious or not. Some dogs flag their tails and almost smile as they flip around the sheep in play. Most that are out of control have a glazed over look to their eyes and be panting in an excitable way. A quick way to tell if your pup is out of control is... if you are feeling pressured, hyped-up and angry. Then your pup is

probably not thinking clearly.

Thought comes through as eager responsiveness. That is, responsiveness to your body position relative to the sheep and to your voice tones. A dog with more eye can be perceived as more serious, but on closer inspection may be more frivolous at the job than the loose-eyed counterpart. His stalking and diving in may hold little thought behind it than it does when plays with his companions in the yard. It's like a child attending Kindergarten. If she can't listen to the teacher and respond appropriately to the materials presented, then she isn't going to be able to learn with the same effectiveness as the child who is ready and eager to learn.

Sally Lacy, Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire

Answer: Preparation is the key. The pup is well aware of my Shakespearean actor's range of voice inflections: my disapproving noises, my encouraging noises, and the cautionary sounds. I've taught it to take a voice correction without sulking. We're good friends, but I'm the boss friend.

We start in a 60 foot diameter wood fortress from which the sheep cannot escape, but I can protect them should the pup be aggressive. If it is a sensitive pup, I keep it fun and my voice light. If it is a terror, I am quite a bit sterner.

All I want is to block the dog from going one way around the sheep so it will go around the the other way. By standing so I am not threatening the pup but exerting a repellent pressure to move away from me to get to the sheep. I hope to set it up so the youngster will not go straight at the them, but will swing away from me and around the 4 sheep which are usually huddled against the fence.

The pup may just stand unsure. It may fly in and grab a mouthful of wool. It may go part way in a circle and stop. It may try to leave the ring. It may get the sheep started and then arc back to cut them off. Eventually it will get between the sheep and the fence and I will pop out of the way to let it get through. That's all. If it is brave enough to do this a few more times, then we quit happily. Next time it will circle in both directions. Maybe the time after that it will hesitate when I say "down" and I'll let it continue after that momentary halt. It will stop as soon as it starts to relax. I can always back up against the fence so

Continued on page 13

Tips for Novice Handlers – Crossing the Course and Smooth Turns

by Beverly Lambert

I will be addressing two questions that were asked of me by two pro-novice handlers at dinner at a dog trial. Both had trained their dogs to their current levels of expertise without assistance, and were preparing for the big leap into Open competition. Like many "novice" handlers, they are feeling trepidation about this move.

1) Now that I am getting ready to run in ranch, how do I get my dog to do the big outruns that this class requires?

First of all, take a good look at your dog's current outrun. Is it really good? Can you always count on the dog going to the back of the sheep and making a nice lift toward you no matter what your sheep are doing? If the answer to the question is "no", then there is no point in trying to lengthen the dog's outrun. Mistakes are magnified by distance. A dog that is a little tight on a 100 yard outrun will probably blow the sheep right off the field at 300 yards. So get the short outrun down absolutely right. By this I mean the outrun and lift. At 100 yards it is possible to see how your dog is coming on to the sheep and yell at the dog to get it to take time and behave. At 300 yards this is not possible. The dog has to be making nice lifts before you can lengthen the outrun. However, once you have a really great 100 yard outrun you have done your work. All you must do now is let your dog try a few longer runs so he will get accustomed to looking further away for his sheep. He will go the greater distance just fine because he knows how to run out correctly, where he needs to be behind the sheep and what needs doing when he gets there. 99% of the dogs can be taught to stretch a 100 yard outrun to a 300 yards in a couple of afternoons if the 100 yard outrun is really a good solid one. As with all of the other phases of work, you should practice the longer outruns on several different fields if it is possible before you take it out in public.

2) I need to shed off a few sheep from a larger flock in order to practice penning.

Will it harm my dog's training to teach shedding at this early stage?

Generally speaking it is not necessary to spend much time practicing penning. I understand that what most novice handlers want is a dog that knows it is penning and consequently will need no commands at the pen. The pen is a cooperative effort. You are not just there to open and close the gate. Your ability to read sheep should be as good as your dogs and you should be helping to get the sheep into the pen. What your dog needs to know is to keep off the sheep, work quietly and be willing to let the sheep go, once they start into the pen. These are all skills that are best taught without a pen. Put a fiberglass fence post in the field and stand about 5 feet away from it. Practice putting the sheep between you and the post and then letting them wander away. Ideally you should be able to pass the sheep between you and a post that's two or three feet away. Your sheep may not be good enough to allow this but the



Jet comes in to turn the single for Beverly.

practice will teach you and your dog a lot more than running "penn-wise" sheep in and out of a pen.

So far as the shedding goes, I begin to teach the shed as soon as my dog is driving fairly well. Having to drive shed sheep away from a flock really sharpens up the flanks as the dog drives and is good practice. Also I don't like to wait too late to teach shedding as the dogs seem to enjoy this more if they learn it while they are still fairly young (less than two-years-old). A good shed is really like putting sheep through a sorting chute.

You and the dog are the chute. You make the sheep pass between you. When the sheep you don't want have passed between you, you and the dog stop the remaining sheep and hold them, just as if the dog were a gate between the two groups. This is fairly easy to do with 20 sheep. The sheep will pass between you as fast or as slow as you allow them to go. Use your dog and yourself to adjust the pressure on the sheep to control the speed of their movement and how much the flock is squeezed between you. The shed has many parts and it is best broken down and taught a bit at a time. First teach the chute part of the shed. Using your dog make a chute and pass the sheep between you until you control how fast the sheep move and how many pass at a time. Try to work with 10 to 20 head of sheep for this, more is fine, fewer is tough. When the dog is holding the sheep really well start asking him to walk up. Bring the dog right up to the sheep moving around yourself to keep the flock

between you. This really puts the pressure on the sheep and the dog. This is good practice for both of you. A dog can't shed the sheep unless he is fairly close to them. Next bring the dog up to the sheep and let all the sheep pass. Then call the dog to you as the last sheep goes by. You are asking the dog to run to you past the back end of the escaping flock. The dog needs to come with some alacrity so try stepping back as you call and put some excitement into it. When you have completed

all of these steps, the dog will have the necessary skills to shed.

Remember that you will be shedding on the head of the sheep. That is you let the sheep escape that you don't want and then take control of the sheep remaining that are facing the escaping sheep and the dog. This is also the most natural action for the dog who can control the remaining sheep but can't keep two groups apart that are traveling in the same direction.

When you have narrowed the flock and created an opening call the dog to

Continued on page 12

NEBCA Library Update

The NEBCA library has just gotten two new videos that are GREAT! The first is Elvin Kopp's third video in his excellent series. This tape concentrates on working cattle exclusively. There are awe inspiring scenes of dogs working large groups of cattle as well as lessons on how to train for cattle work. Anyone with cows will really enjoy this one. We also have bought Mike Hubbard's first video, "*Stockdog Training Fundamentals*". It deals with puppyhood through the early phases of training. (This video is reviewed further on page 13.)

The *1994 International Supreme Sheepdog Championship* tape should be here in December. These tapes are so much fun to watch—something to inspire us with over the winter.

Speaking of winter, we have a nifty new book perfect for a winter project – "*The Craft of Stick Making*". From simple

works to elaborate carved horn ones, it's all covered! And if you think it cannot be done, at the next open trial, check out Betty Levin's crook. She made it herself. With this book, you can too!

If you'd like to borrow any items from the library, here's how:

- * Tapes cost \$3.00 each to borrow. (A set is \$6.00).
- * They may be kept for two weeks.
- * There is no charge to borrow books which are loaned for three weeks.
- * Only one book or video may be rented at a time. (Extra requests will be put on waiting list).
- * Overdue fee of 10¢ per day will be charged.
- * Video tapes may not be reproduced.
- * Please request by mail. We will not return calls left on our machine.

Books

Training the Sheep Dog

E. B. Carpenter - The Border Collie: Basic Training for Sheepwork
Katy Cropper - A Dog's Life in the Dales
Tony Iley - Sheepdogs at Work
Glyn Jones - A Way Of Life
Scott Lithgow - Training and Working Dogs for Quiet Confident Control of Stock
Tim Longton - The Sheep Dog: Its Work and Training
Pope Robertson - Anybody Can Do It
Carroll Shaffner - Training A Working Collie
Mari Taggart - Sheepdog Training; An All-Breed Approach
John Templeton - Working Sheep Dogs - Management and Training
Luke Pasio - Heather Jean: The Working Sheep Dog

General/Health

Bruce Fogle, D.V.M. - The Dog's Mind -
Understanding Your Dog's Behavior
Janet Larson - The Versatile Border Collie
Marjorie Quarton - All About the Working Border Collie
Eddie Straiton - Dog Ailments - Recognition and Treatment

Shepherd's Life

G. M. Anderson - Times Remembered
John Barrington - Red Sky At Night
Edward Hart - The Hill Shepherd
Louis Irigaray - A Shepherd Watches, A Shepherd Sings
Phillip Keller - Lessons from a Sheepdog
Michael Mathers - Shepherders - Men Alon

Fiction/Children's

James Herriott - Dog Stories
James Herriott - Only One Woof
Dick King-Smith - Babe the Gallant Pig

Miscellaneous

Jane Burton - A Dog's Life, A Year in the Life of a Dog Family (photos)
E. B. Carpenter - The Blue Riband of the Heather, The Supreme Champions 1906-1988
Betty Cavanna - The First Book of Wool
Donald McCaig - Eminent Dogs, Dangerous Men
Olivia Mills - Practical Sheep Dairying
Jane Simmons-Moake - Agility Training - The Fun Sport for All Dogs
American Rescue Dog Association - Search and Rescue Dogs - Training Methods
Leo Gowan - The Craft of Stickmaking

Videos

1989 British International Supreme (Parts I and II)
1988 International Supreme (Parts I and II)
1994 International Supreme Championship (Available Dec' of 94)
"One Man and His Dog 1990"
"One Man and His Dog 1991", includes part of the 1989 International
"1993 International Supreme Sheepdog Championship"
"Training the Working Border Collie" - Tony Collins (Parts I and II)
"Getting the Right Start" - R & R Graves (Parts I and II)
"Come Bye! And Away! The Early Stages of Sheep Dog Training" - Glyn Jones
"That'll Do! Widening the Sheepdog's Experience" by Glyn Jones (Tape II)
"Training the Working Stock Dog" - Elvin Kopp (Parts I, II & III)
"Stockdog Training Fundamentals" - Mike Hubbard
"How To Get The Most From Your Working Dog" - Scott Lithgow, (companion to his book, "Training and Working Dogs")
University of Guelph Series:
Part 1 - "Selection and Early Training of Border Collies";
Part 2 - "Basic Training for Sheep Work";
Part 3 - "Advanced Training For Sheep Work"
"Training and Working a Border Collie" - Rural Route Video
"The Sheepdog Video - The Training and Handling of a Sheepdog for the Better Management of Small Stock", filmed in South Africa.
"Training the Working Stockdog"
"British Sheep Fairs and Crafts"

Lin Reuther
RR 1, Box 1147
Pittsford, VT 05763

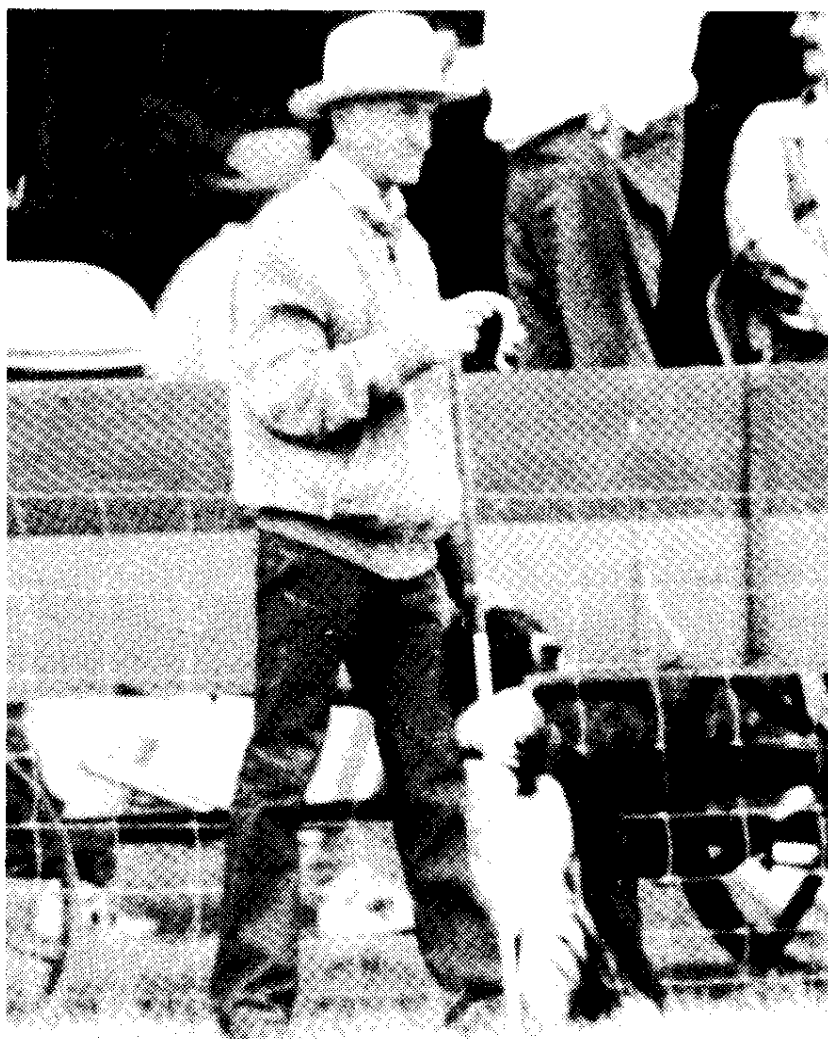
Got any good pictures??

We are still seeking good quality black and white or color photos for the 1996 NEBCA calendar. Send photos to:

Kate Collins
Box 119, Taft Hill Road
Royalston, Mass
01368

The Training, Molding and Future of the B. C.

Developing, and molding can be put into one category. I feel that the BC's mind is the most complex of any animal I have ever known and I feel I owe any of the dogs that have been entrusted to my care all the attention I can give to exercising their minds. This can be done by teaching good kennel habits and obedience with the utmost thought to keeping the pup or dog liking you and gaining



confidence in you as you teach them. The real fun of it is the mental exercise. To me the challenge is to see if I can gain the behavior I am after without putting fear into the dog. I am not always 100% successful in this respect. but it still remains my ultimate goal.

This is one reason I start my pups on the early side. I like to give them a little to think about rather than just look at their kennel wall. If they start showing an interest early, I take extreme care in that their sessions are short, not demanding and only on real broke sheep.

The longer I am at it, the longer it takes me to get a dog ready, as there are more things I want the dog to learn to do on their own, not forgetting that control is the most important factor. We then must learn how and when to use the control.

As to molding, I work at making things right and as close to or exaggeratedly correct in close and then expanding on it. As soon as it goes wrong, I come back in close until it is right. Remember, I said "I work hard and relentlessly "at" it, not always being successful, but feeling if I persevere and use my head, I can figure a way, always trying to think like the dog and deal with his fears."

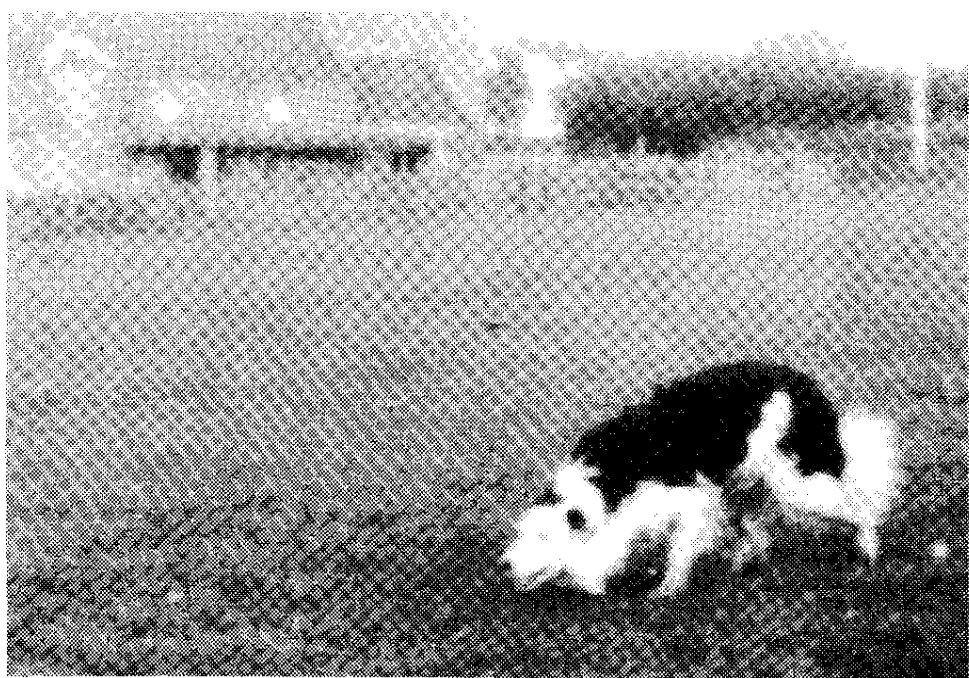
As to the future of the Border Collie, I believe they are the most phenomenal of all the dogs, in their abilities. I believe that there isn't any faction that can spoil that, with the way our sport is growing. We have a tremendous group of border Collie enthusiasts that will continue to selectively breed, and like the thoroughbred horse, the demands of the sport will dictate the evolution of our dog.

Bud Boudreau

Name That Dog!

Sally Lacy has sent us this photo of a well known overseas dog. Who can identify which dog this is? There is a prize for the first correct answer. Please send your answers to:

Sally Lacy
Box 487, Gap Mountain Rd.
Fitzwilliam, New Hampshire 03447



I'll Take Handlers and their Occupations for \$500, Alex!

We see each other almost every weekend. We know one another first as dog trainers and handlers. Each of us has another life we live, in some cases very different from what we would imagine. See if you can match the names to the occupation. The answers will be in the next NEBCA News.

- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1 Dick Williams | a Professional Dog Trainer |
| 2 Beverly Lambert | b Vet Technician |
| 3 Lynn Deschambeault | c College Professor |
| 4 Jean Kennedy | d Agricultural County Agent |
| 5 Chalmers Means | e Electrical Consultant |
| 6 Ken Sigel | f State Police Dept/DNA expert |
| 7 Eve Marschark | g Vet Technician, Lab technician |
| 8 Becky Peterson | h Armored Car Service/Owner |
| 9 Joe Kennedy | i Dairy Farmer |
| 10 Alex McKinven | j Carpenter |
| 11 Steve Wetmore | k CEO, Street & Lot Maintenance Co. |
| 12 Larry Campion | l Ex. Registered Nurse |
| 13 Mike Canaday | m Radiologist |
| 14 Rich Seaman | n Insurance Manager |
| 15 Warren Mick | o Engineer/ Electrical Company |
| 16 Barbara Armata | p Director of Ed Tech at Cornell |
| 17 Roger Millen | q Antique Dealer, Beekeeper, Spinner |
| 18 Bernie Armata | r Home Health Nurse |
| 19 Walt Jagger | s Teacher, Respiratory Therapy Tech |
| 20 Roger Deschambeault | t Insurance Agent |
| 21 Cheryl J. Williams | u Farmer |
| 22 Gene Sheninger | v Philosopher King |
| 23 Gabe Merrill | w Director of Library |
| 24 Heather Millen | x Excavating |
| 25 Dave Young | y Store Clerk |
| 26 Doug McDonnough | z College Professor, Teacher |
| 27 Millie Curtis | aa Teacher, Housewife |
| 28 Betty Levin | bb Dairy Herdsman |
| 29 Maria Mick | cc Director of Library |

For the Hardy (or Foolhardy) Only!!

1-Day Judging Clinic~December 10th

Learn to judge the runs by observation from on the field. Work with a team of open handlers to sharpen up your handling skills by learning what the judging standards are. From novice to open.

One day only. Limited entries. Contact:

**Bev Lambert at 1-203-742-5300 or
Carol Campion at 1-203-537-1386**

Trial Results

Quechee Scottish Festival Open Trial, August 27, 1994

Judge: Beverly Lambert – Story by Lin Reuther

As always, Quechee was a fun trial to watch and to run in! Steve Wetmore managed a well-run trial; Roger Deschambeault provided the sheep which were a challenge to steer smoothly around the slightly uphill course; Beverly Lambert ably judged. The weather was overcast, becoming sunny but not overly hot, the atmosphere was provided by bagpipes, kilts rugby and all things Scottish. Over 30 dogs ran in front of an enthusiastic crowd of spectators often 3 and 4 deep along the fences! Tied scores of Betty Levin and Gabe Merrill resulted in the most exciting run-off in memory, devised by Judge Lambert- A double lift of seven sheep each driving the course with all 14 ewes, then shedding off five ewes and penning them. The run-offs were so close no one could tell who had won until Beverly announced it was Gabe and Meg by a whisker. 31 dogs ran. The Results:

Handler	Dog	Score	Final
1 Gabe Merrill	Meg	88	118
2 Betty Levin	Kelty	88	114
3 Mike Canaday	Robin	85	
4 Mike Canaday	Fern	79	
5 Sally Lacy	Tru	72	
6 Roger Deschambeault	Sue 11	71	
7 Roger Deschambeault	Jack	70	
8 Denise Leonard	Nikki	70	
9 Steve Wetmore	Ben	68	
10 Chalmers Means	Pip	67	

New Hampshire State Championship, E. Conway, NH October 1, 1994 Judge: Walt Jagger Story: Debbie Merrill

We had a beautiful day, with a lot of friendly spectators. The mountains surrounded us with the new fall colors, over all it was a wonderful day. Our thanks go out to Betty Murray ; score tabulator, the sheep crew; Markie Merrill and Dave Murray, and all that set out sheep: Joe Kennedy, Lynn Deschambeault and Gabe Merrill. 34 dogs ran, possible score :100 points.

1 Eve Marschark	Spin	81
2 Roger Deschambeault	Jack	78
3 Cheryl J Williams	Nell	76
4 Betty Levin	Kelty	75
5 Mike Canaday	Fern	75
6 Cheryl J Williams	Taff	72
7 Dave Young	Ben	70
8 Beverly Lambert	Jet	69
9 Beverly Lambert	Lark	68
10 Becky Peterson	Queen	68

There was also a double lift jackpot that Cheryl J Williams and Nell won.

Lancaster Fair Trial , Lancaster NH, August 17, 1994

Story by Kathy Deschambeault

Better weather couldn't have been ordered for the 4th annual Sheep dog Trial at the Lancaster Fair. Sunny Skies prevailed with a great breeze making a perfect day to run dogs. This fair is consistently growing each year and the interest in this area with the sheep dog trial is exciting to see as it expands. The trial was scored as a "Points Trial". Each dog started out with 0 points and earned points for obstacles completed. Each run consisted of 4 sheep, each worth 1 point per obstacle. There were a total of seven obstacles making a perfect run score of 28 points. Ties were broken by time. And as with the Skowhegen Fair, the top 11 dogs reran and combined scores and times for the overall winners. The points trial was a nice change for the handlers and the audience took a more active role, enthusiastically cheering, as they easily understood what the course was.

32 dogs ran, score/timekeeper Kathy Deschambeault, secretary, Debbie Merrill.

Handler	Dog	Score	Time
1 Beverly Lambert	Lark	54	5:54
2 Roger Deschambeault	Jack	52	5:35
3 Roger Deschambeault	Jill	51	6:08
4 Beverly Lambert	Mac	50	5:22
5 Mike Canaday	Jill	50	6:34
6 Lynn Deschambeault	Dandy	49	6:00
7 Rich Seaman	Socks	46	6:00
8 Alex McKinven	Moss	45	4:46
9 Maurice Macgregor	Lynn	42	7:05
10 Steve Wetmore	Ben	41	6:28



Fryburg Fair Trial, October 2, 1994 Judge: Walt Jagger

We had a frosty cool morning for the start of the trial. After all it is October, typical Fryburg Fair weather. It did warm up somewhat as the day went on. We had a lot of spectators through the day and many interested in the Border Collies.

Thanks to all those who helped make the trial run smoothly, to the sheep crew (Mark, Debbie, Tiffany and Dave) for a good job, Joe Kennedy and Dave Young for their help setting out sheep, and Betty Murray for keeping score and Eleanor Jagger deserves a medal for her dedication. 41 dogs ran, the possible score was 110 points.

Handler	Dog	Score	Tie Breaking Score
1 Beverly Lambert	Jet	102	100.5
2 Eve Marschark	Spin	102	95
3 Roger Deschambeault	Don	102	85
4 Mike Canaday	Floss	100	
5 Mike Canaday	Fern	99	
6 Roger Deschambeault	Jill	97	
7 Becky Peterson	Fly	94	
8 Cheryl J Williams	Nell	93	
9 Beverly Lambert	Lark	92	
10 Cheryl J Williams	Taff	92	



Trial Results

Spring Valley Farm Open Trial August 28, 1994 Judge: Mike Canada - Story by Betty Levin

The Spring Valley Farm Trial was a perfect example of how an imaginative use of space can create a really challenging course. In a setting that was naturally beautiful and made more so because of Sarah Root's wonderful gardens, Steve Wetmore used obstacles to advantage. The sheep had to be fetched and driven across a stream in different places, and they had to be driven through a patch of woods. The steep hillside gave the appreciative audience along the road an almost unimpeded view of the sheep and dogs. Roger Deschambeault supplied the sheep. 28 dogs ran.

1	Bev Lambert	Jet
2	R. Deschambeault	Jack
3	Steve Wetmore	Ben
4	R. Deschambeault	Sue II
5	Gabe Merrill	Meg
6	Betty Levin	Kelty
7	Bev Lambert	Lark
8	David Young	Ben
9	Denise Leonard	Nikki
10	Steve Wetmore	Nell

Empire State Sheep Dog Trial, Altamont, NY August 20, 1994, Judge: Nathan Mooney

Novice

1	Heather Millen	Lark	72
2	Janet Larson	Magnum	54

Pro-Novice

1	Barbara Armata	Taff	74
2	Chalmers Means	Bette	72
3	Gene Sheninger	Katy	67
4	John Roche	Glenn	60
5	Maria Mick	Annie	54
6	Kate Collins	Pipin	51
7	Roger Millen	Tripp	47
8	Warren Mick	Winn	35
9	Bernie Armata	Dan	34

Ranch

1	Mike Canada	Floss	66
2	Beverly Lambert	Bill	60
3	Dee Woessner	Queen	58
4	Ken Sigel	Mac	55
5	Barbara Armata	Annie	54
6	Warren Mick	Tara	51
7	John Roche	Glenn	42
8	Gene Sheninger	Katie	39
9	Maria Mick	Fly	37

Open 33 dogs ran

1	Mike Canada	Floss	91
2	Barbara Armata	Kelly	90
3	Cheryl J Williams	Taff	87
4	Walt Jagger	Roy	85
5	R C Gilbert	Ring	85
6	Mike Canada	Robin	84
7	Beverly Lambert	Jet	84
8	Chalmers Means	Pip	84
9	Beverly Lambert	Mac	83
10	Roger Deschambeault	Don	80

Skowhegen State Fair, Skowhegen, Maine August 14, 1994 Story by Kathy Deschambeault

It's that Time of year again! As temperatures cool off and leaves begin to turn colors, suddenly it's State Fair time again. Kicking off the season is the Skowhegen State Fair. This trial was scored as a "Points Trial". Each dog started out with 0 points and earned points for obstacles completed. Each run consisted of 4 sheep, each worth 1 point per obstacle. There were a total of 7 obstacles making a perfect run score of 28 points, ties were broken by time. With the many ties we saw, time played an extremely important role. The top 12 dogs reran and scores and times were combined to determine the overall winner. The crowd very much enjoyed this type of trial as they can follow along and there is an audience involvement with the fast pace of the smaller courses. There is a sense of high energy in the air with applause and enthusiastic cheering by the crowd. The handlers were also seen to be taking different approaches on the course, thus a true display of Border Collie versatility was enjoyed by all. 29 dogs ran, score/timekeeper: Kathy Deschambeault, secretary, Debbie Merrill.

1	Mike Canada	Fern	54	6:06
2	Beverly Lambert	Jet	54	3:43
3	Beverly Lambert	Lark	52	2:54
4	Rich Seaman	Socks	52	3:49
5	Steve Wetmore	Ben	50	3:24
6	Roger Deschambeault	Jill	50	4:55
7	Roger Deschambeault	Don	48	4:58
8	Rich Seaman	Cleo	48	5:39
9	Lynn Deschambeault	Pip	45	5:18
10	Betty Levin	Kelty	43	3:46

Loon Mountain Trial, Lincoln, NH, Sept. 16, 1994 Judge: Michael Dathe Story by Steve Wetmore

26 dogs ran in this first time points trial. The weather couldn't have been more Scottish- cloudy and damp with on and off rain. But a large, interested crowd stuck it out and stayed right through the entire trial and awards.

The sheep were provided by Roger Deschambeault. Kathy Deschambeault did a fantastic job on the P.A. system, keeping not only informed but entertained as well. Groups of four sheep were set out atop a ski trail at the Loon Mt. ski area- a real hill trial! The steep hill presented problems to many dogs during outruns and also made a relatively easy looking course quite difficult. Lynn Dechambeault held 1st place all day with her dog, Jolly, until the very last run when Denise Leonard with Nikki ran a perfect course to win their first open trial. What an exciting finish. Denise's Nikki, Lynn's Jolly and Beverly Lambert's Lark were the only dogs to post perfect scores.

Trial manager Steve Wetmore wants to thank all the handlers who came out for this trial as well as everyone else who helped to make it a success. A special and sincere thank you goes to Carol Goodwin, Clint Brake and Bud Ames- all NEBCA members who pitched in unexpectedly but with a lot of good energy to work in the sheep holding pen all day. It's people like this that make our club an active and fun organization.

1	Denise Leonard	Nikki
2	Lynn Deschambeault	Jolly
3	Bev Lambert	Lark
4	Roger Deschambeault	Jack
5	Lynn Deschambeault	Dandy
6	Bev Lambert	Mac
7	Jean Kennedy	Sue
8	Denise Leonard	Meg
9	Rich Seaman	Cleo
10	Gabe Merrill	Jed

Trial Results

Keystone State Sheep Dog Trials, Doylestown, PA Sept. 16,17 18, 1994 Judge: Lewis Pulfer

Ask anyone who attended the KSSDT and they'll tell you it was a challenging and fun trial. Held at Delaware Valley College of Science & Agriculture, the 16 acre cattle pasture proved a test of handler and dog. The 400 yd. outrun was only to the right as there was a creek that ran the length of the course just off center. The drive was 225+ yds. on the first leg with a creek crossing 20 yds. from the post. The first day the sheep overly scrutinized and agonized about maneuvering the water and creek bed. Watching a think isn't a pretty sight. I rank it up there with watching full grown cattle frolicking... they just aren't made for it. Anyway, once they got up near the first drive gates, many dogs felt insecure about flanking due to the pressures in the field. The second leg was also about 200+ yds. and required another water crossing, then a controlled dash uphill towards the holding pen and second drive gates. The last leg was a downhill return, but not one where you could just let the dog handle a mini-

gather as you fumbled for the rope... the terrain held the sheep off line and some dogs were tricked into following their sheep and not heading them into coming around on a straight line. Each leg of the drive taken separately was humbling. Some handlers actually found the line on the second leg by Sunday afternoon!

The wooled sheep were uniform, but unpredictable over the changing terrain. Dogs needed to have presence. The nursery classes were held on a flat rise of the field to simplify it for the young dogs and novice handlers. Judge Lewis Pulfer ably presided over the three days of competition, helping with adjustments to the course where an expert eye was required.

Saturday's Open class demanded a runoff for first place and so we had a silent gather between Walt Jagger with Celt and Mike Canaday with Fern. The silence weighed heavy as the black and white souls carried out their missions. Not a spectator breathed! It was one of those collective

moments when you felt a connectedness of purpose in the Border Collie community. This was the epitome of why we all do this. Raw beauty. Nature.

Joy Dog Food donated over 600 lbs. of dogfood prizes throughout the event for all classes. Dad's Pet Products contributed 25 lbs. for each first place in all classes. The first place combined award of a hand painted china plate portrait of the winner's dog was awarded to Beverly Lambert. Awards of stained glass, pictures mugs ribbons and trophies were given over the weekend as well as \$1800 purse for Open places 1-10 both days. Agriculture students from the college worked the holding pens and provided a concession stand. Press coverage included a major network and newspapers as well as community supporting spectators. Great food again! A sit-down dinner in the faculty lounge complete with linen tablecloths.

Thanks to all who helped! See you next year!??!

Story by Eve Marschark

Novice			
Fri. Sept 16			
1	Margaret English	Sally	69
2	Margaret English	Jack	67
3	Len Marschark	Tea	65
4	Ron McGettigan	Wilbur	59
5	Eunice Morgan	Sidekick	58
Sat. Sept. 17			
1	Margaret English	Sally	73
2	Eunice Morgan	Sidekick	70
3	Nancy Ortiz	Aquila	68
4	Loni Tuttle	Lady	65
5	Len Marschark	Tea	63

Pro -Novice			
Fri. Sept 16			
1	Nancy Starkey	Bunk	76
2	Mary Brighoff	Ron	73
3	Mike Canaday	Liz	72
4	Nancy Starkey	Mist	69
5	Susanna Craddock	Roy	64
Ranch			
Fri Sept. 16			
1	Barb Armata	Annie	62
2	Jeff Hoffman	Glen	62
3	Tom Lacy	Dot	61
4	Mary Brighoff	June	59
5	Mary Brighoff	Craig	58

Pro -Novice			
Sat. Sept 17			
1	Tom Lacy	Neil	78
2	Nancy Starkey	Mist	73
3	Mike Canaday	Liz	70
4	Mary Brighoff	Ron	68
5	Warren Mick	Winn	67
Ranch			
Sat Sept. 17			
1	Jeff Hoffman	Glen	69
2	Tom Lacy	Dot	65
3	Mary Brighoff	June	64
4	Gene Sheninger	Katy	60
5	Mary Brighoff	Craig	59

New York State Championship Sheep Dog Trial, August 21, 1994

Judge: Nathan Mooney

35 dogs ran			
1	Beverly Lambert	Mac	85 78
2	Beverly Lambert	Lark	85 75
3	Mike Canaday	Floss	75
4	R. Deschambeault	Jack	84
5	Barbara Armata	Kelly	84
6	R. Deschambeault	Jill	84
7	Cheryl J Williams	Kim	83
8	Mike Canaday	Jill	82
9	Carol Champion	Queen	80
10	Walt Jagger	Roy	80

Sept. 17, 37 dogs ran			
1	Walt Jagger	Celt	93
2	Mike Canaday	Fern	93
3	Bev Lambert	Lark	92
4	Jeff Hoffman	Nik	89
5	Quinn Tindall	Shep	89
6	Dick Williams	Jesse	88
7	Mike Canaday	Robin	86
8	Cheryl Williams	Nell	85
9	Gene Sheninger	Sweep	81
10	Bev Lambert	Jet	80

Sept. 18, 34 dogs ran			
1	Bev Lambert	Lark	94
2	Bev Lambert	Mac	92
3	Cheryl Williams	Kim	92
4	Quinn Tindall	Shep	91
5	Mike Canaday	Robin	89
6	Gene Sheninger	Katy	89
7	Gene Sheninger	Sweep	88
8	Walt Jagger	Celt	87
9	Dick Williams	Jess	86
10	Jeff Hoffman	Nik	84

High Points Overall 1st Beverly Lambert & Lark 2nd Walt Jagger & Celt



The top 10 winners of the Keystone State Sheep Dog Trials, from the left: Beverly Lambert, Cheryl J Williams, Dick Williams, Judge, Lewis Pulfer, Walt Jagger, Gene Sheninger and Mike Canaday.

1994 NEBCA Fall Foliage Winners



The top 10 winners of the 1994 NEBCA Fall Foliage Championship, from the left: Dave Young, Eve Marschark, Barbara Armata, Cheryl J. Williams, Betty Levin, Dick Williams, Becky Peterson, Beverly Lambert, Mike Canaday and Walt Jagger.

1994 National Finals September 20-24, Lexington, Kentucky

This past September, 4 members of the Northeast Border Collie Association competed in the National Finals in Lexington, Kentucky. There were quite a few members of NEBCA who qualified, but only three of these members were able to attend. Cheryl Jagger Williams with Kim and Nell, Eve Marschark with Spin and Beverly Lambert with Lark and Jet, were fortunate enough to compete in the open class, while Gene Sheninger and Kate competed in the Nursery. Also running in the Nursery was Sally Lacy's Bob handled by Barb Ligon.

The competition was incredibly steep with over 70 dogs competing in the nursery alone, and over 160 competing in the open class. The course was difficult with the trial being held on the steeplechase course at the horse park. The steeplechase obstacles were left standing which, in addition to running undogged lambs and the terrain itself, added greater depth to the word "difficult". Our NEBCA competitors performed well with Cheryl Jagger Williams and Nell making it into the finals.

Congratulations to Cheryl and Nell, and thanks to Gene, Beverly and Eve for their participation and for so proudly representing the Northeast!

Top Ten Placings

1	Eve Marschark	Spin	547
2	Barbara Armata	Kelly	547
3	Mike Canaday	Robin	536
4	Bev Lambert	Jet	532.5
5	Dick Williams	Jess	527
6	Dave Young	Ben	515.5
7	Becky Peterson	Roy	510.5
8	Walt Jagger	Celt	505.5
9	Walt Jagger	Roy	500
10	Beverly Lambert	Lark	496.5

1994 NEBCA High Point Champions

1	Beverly Lambert	Jet	500
2	Eve Marschark	Spin	500
3	Beverly Lambert	Lark	439
4	Beverly Lambert	Mac	434
5	Cheryl J. Williams	Nell	376
6	Dick Williams	Jess	347
7	Mike Canaday	Robin	341
8	Cheryl J. Williams	Kim	301
9	Walt Jagger	Roy	297
10	Betty Levin	Kelty	278



Eve Marschark & Spin shedding at the National Finals in Kentucky.



Beverly Lambert and Lark on deck at the National Finals.

Tips for Novice Handlers, continued from page 5

you through the opening. The first few times you do this just get the dog to come into the flock and then praise him for doing a really great job. This is really a new thing for the dog. Very soon the dog will want more, however. They know that there is more to this than just running into the sheep. So as the dog comes toward you turn him to walk up. Don't worry if you loose a few sheep around the dog as he takes control. Just make sure that you have shed off enough sheep so is something left for the dog to take control of. Work with the dog and help him hold the sheep. Don't try teaching the dog to shed on five sheep. It just isn't enough sheep and you will have a very hard time.

Once the dog gets the hang of controlling the shed sheep you can begin decreasing the numbers you are working with and the amount of help you give the dog in holding the shed, until you can take off just two sheep and hold them. Don't rush into teaching the single. Wait until the dog has learned the necessary skills before asking him to hold one half crazed ewe, and then be prepared to move around and help him hold her. This is not easy and the dog needs to learn how to read the ewe's intentions and counter them before he has a hope of winning a head to head with some old girl out for blood. Finally, if the dog grips to keep the two groups separated, allow it. It is more important that the shed be held than that the dog not grip. Time enough when the dog's skills are perfected to worry about him the shed is held. If you get after the dog for gripping he will end up unsure about what you are asking for at the shed and lacking the confidence to go head to head with the really ornery sheep he must someday shed. The dog should learn that holding the shed is all important. However, if the dog is running around like a wild thing gripping everything that moves then you had better back up and work on his driving skills before you go back to the shed.

Finally, I would like to address a complaint I have heard at a number of dog trials from various novice handlers. Namely that Open handlers are intimidating or unfriendly, and never offer any advice to newcomers. Most of the successful open handlers are very committed to this sport and the dogs. The open handlers are glad for new competition and enjoy watching dogs run or they would never have stuck it out in the sport for as many years as it takes to become really competitive. I know very few handlers who would not be flattered to be asked their advice about your handling or your dog. I also know of no open handler that

would be so rude as to offer this advice unsolicited. If you want advice, you will have to ask for it. Ask a handler whose work you admire to watch you run your

dog and critique your run. Most will be pleased to do so. Don't expect a free clinic at a dog trial, but don't hesitate to ask for advice. ♦

Tom Wilson Clinic

by Joanne Krause

August 6th was a wonderful day. It couldn't have been better if I picked it myself. The rain had stopped, the heat and humidity left. What a way to start the weekend. There were 24 dogs in the clinic.

All the dogs were of good quality and the handlers of mixed experience. Tom Wilson proved to be all and a lot more than what people expected of him. He has a considerate nature, both of sheep and of dogs. His wealth of experience from generations of dog handlers and trainers provided us with lots of new ideas, even the most experienced learned something. At the end of the two days, everyone was excited about what they had learned.

I would like to thank everyone who attended and all those who helped. Without you it could not have been so successful.



Tommy Wilson works with these handlers to show one method he uses to help build confidence in young, timid dogs.

While competing at a trial in Altamont, New York this past summer, I had the opportunity to run Queen, my newer dog, on Mike Canaday's large course. Queen had been competing in the nursery classes, so this was a rather challenging course for her with its marathon drive. When Queen first came to me, she was somewhat of a mechanical dog and I had spent a lot of time freeing her up, encouraging her to use all of the balance she is so full of.

Mike's outrun is about 325 yards long and the field perfectly flat. Queen is a good outrunner and proceeded to get herself out correctly behind the sheep in no time. After she lifted the Barbs and started on her fetch, I blew her a stop whistle, then again, then again. At one time very mechanical, I was surprised to see that she did not respond to any of my stop whistles until the sheep were almost at my feet. I was secretly pleased however, as her fetch was straight as an arrow with Queen needing no flanks to guide the sheep down the field.

My husband, Larry Campion, was sitting across the street on the hill watching my run with the other handlers. Along side of him was seated Roy Johnson of Virginia. Roy didn't know that Larry and I knew each other, let alone were married.

As Queen blared the sheep down the fetch, with me blowing my stop repeatedly with it likewise being ignored repeatedly, Roy leaned over and said to Larry, "Why won't that bitch lie down?" Larry, straightfaced as could be, turned to Roy and replied,

"Which one?"

VIDEO REVIEW

"Stockdog Training Fundamentals"

by Mike Hubbard

This is a well put together tape of the early basics of puppy training. The quality in picture and sound are excellent, the best I have ever seen, really a joy to view. The actual running time is 60 minutes making it easy to view. My only disappointment was that it was mostly on sheep. For some reason, I was expecting a cattle tape.

This is an excellent tape for a real novice to view before the purchase of your first pup. It also could be helpful to refresh some memories on some early foundation training. Don't look for any advance training. (Maybe on tape #2.) The how and why of getting a puppy to come to you every is stressed and demonstrated very well, as is introducing your dog to sheep for the first time. A very interesting theory is explained on the misuse of "down" to correct a dog. That is the difference between this tape and a lot of others. It may be worth viewing just for this one point.

As with most dog tapes, this one starts on sheep and advances to cattle, so don't expect a lot of cattle action. Its very informative on early training, but could be a little short for the more experienced trainer. But being the first of a series, it starts where it should, at the beginning! ♦

Cheryl, continued from front cover

The course for the finals took 30 minutes. Basically it took everyone 13 to 16 minutes to get to the shed. It took the rest of the time to shed. The pen was not difficult. They were willing to go in once they were cut off. But not more than 6 or 7 got the shed. It was very exciting and a real challenge. I learned a great, great deal just sitting and watching. I was able to talk dogs to some of those whom I had never met. Ceri Jones, Glyn Jones' daughter, was there and I got to visit with her for a long time about the runs and dogs. She thought there were some very good dogs and some disappointing ones. She thought there were some weak dogs. She liked Nell, though. She called her "A splendid" dog!

The the course and trial were well set up and smoothly run. One of the more interesting things there was the man putting out the sheep. He used a cutting horse and dog. A couple of times, the horse took him by surprise and he was bolted out of a stupor while the horse moved to cover and hold the sheep! It was very nicely done.

I would say now that I did feel ill-prepared. In the future, I think it would be wise to offer jackpots of double-lifts and International Sheds at our trials so that we can learn to do these. ♦

Chalmers, continued from page 4.

suddenly and most often unexpectedly. Regardless of the dog's past experiences in completing error-free outruns, the handler cannot be complacent at this critical stage of the run. I speak from (too much) experience!

The four most common cross-over scenarios are:

1) While at the post, the dog "fixes" on the sheep, but runs rapidly or slowly, but directly towards them.

2) The appears to but in fact does not see the sheep from the post, runs part of the way out then turns inward, searching to locate the stock.

3) The dog sees the sheep from the post, but in response to his preferred or dominant handedness, pressure sources or terrain, he prematurely swings toward the center line.

4) The dog sees the sheep from the post but loses visual contact with them due to the terrain, misjudges the distance and begins an early inward swing.

Additional factors can lead to crossovers. For example, at a recent trial on a large beautiful course, the dogs readily saw and fixed on their sheep before their outruns. However, about half-way out, they spotted a group of "sheep" under the shade of several large trees to the right of the fetch line. These "sheep", the dogs discovered, turned out to be several aged, barkless stumps and logs!

When should the handler give the redirect in these scenarios? In the first situation above, immediate corrective action is needed. The sooner the dog begins its outward swing in the chosen direction, the fewer the points deducted. Immediate correction also increases the opportunity for a quiet, workman-like lift and fetch.

When the handler should act in Scenarios 2, 3, and 4 is more complex. These situations require greater thought and judgement. Typically, in these cases, the dog will run with its head up ears forward or with its head and eyes casting from side to side. The handler must be ready to act instantly upon observing these cues. Any action, though, must be based on a vital data, facts processes through the handlers "computer". The outcome of this instant computation will be, at best, probabilities, informed gambles. Known fact – a problem exists, crossovers result in major point deductions, redirects result in relatively minor point reductions, the dog's record of crossing the fetch line is ?????, the dog's past responses to to redirects in similar circumstances have been ??????. Other facts to be considered include: the dog's running speed at the moment, distance from the handler to the dog, the lightness

of the sheep, the distance between the dog and the fetch line and the terrain yet to be covered.

The probabilities resulting from the handler's instant computations should address these questions: Will the dog correct his outrun on his own? Will he respond to a "stop" command in this instance? Will he take a redirect? Is a stop required in order to get him to take a directional command? Is no handler action better than intervening in this instance? Obviously, the better the handler knows his dog, the better its responses can be predicted.

As with all stock dog handling situations, there are few formulae, few pat answers. It is ultimately a matter of handler judgement. Whenever and however that judgement is exercised, it should be done in a "non-hyping" manner. Frenetic or anger-driven shouts and whistles tend to frustrate and/or excite dogs, making bad situations worse.

While this question focuses on handling decisions during trials, in the final analysis, good outruns result from appropriate training as well as handling strategies employed prior to approaching the post and at the post. Simulating trial conditions, using large, rolling practice fields, practicing "blind" outruns, giving commands and redirects during practice outruns and consistently walking directly toward the sheep prior to sending the dogs are training activities that should be practiced frequently. At trials with long, challenging outruns, it may be wise to have the dog watch several outruns from an off-the-field point behind the post. Setting up the dog at the post in a way that encourages him to "kick-out" immediately can be an important requisite to wide, trouble-free outruns. ♦

Sally Lacy, continued from page 4.

that it has no place to go, then ask it to lie down.

These training sessions will be very short. They will be interspersed among the little "jobs" around the farm it is "helping" the older dogs with. ♦

Membership Renewals

The NEBCA membership year runs from January 1st of each year to December 31st of each year. The only exception is for new members that joined after October 31, 1994. They need not renew until January 1, 1996. All other subscriptions and memberships run out December 31, 1994. Please send dues to:

Kathy Deschambeault, Secretary
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Tom Wilson, continued from page 3

flustered your sheep and he never got things upset.

When your dog goes out and lifts his sheep at a sheep dog trial, it's the pace that can make or break a good trial run. So, its pace is very important.

Now - the Border Collie's essential job is to work, and it must work. To me, it must be able to do a days work. What I mean by doing a days work is for it to stick in, even if the going gets tough. If the cows are trying to go for shade or won't go through a gate, the dog sticks with it and give it his best. He really puts in good turns, and does what he's told, and is there like a hand that's helping you all the time. The opposite would be a situation where if you were trying to get stock in and he stopped and wanted to sniff something, or if you had to show him how to go around cows, or if you had to leave the gate you were holding to go and help him do something. That dog is not giving you 110%. I know you have to help your dog, but what I'm saying is, in the working place, if you have to go back and help a trained dog, then that dog is lacking something. You want this dog to be able to do as much as it possibly can and be there for you. That includes a good days work, and the next day. So a dog with a lot of scope, I would say, is a dog that can get himself about and get the job done, and can be ready for the next job.

Look for this scope in dogs, too. You don't want any soft natured dog that would let you down, say, a nervous dog that may dart the wrong way or get confused. If you yourself get excited a bit when you are working, you might confuse this nervous sort of dog and you won't get a 100% effort from him. Sometimes he'd be wondering what you're doing and maybe he would go back off his stock to see. So, all these things come to make a good dog. These are some of the reasons that some of the dogs don't make it with me. I find out how much is in the dog.

So you've raised this pup and you start training him, but while you're training him, he's also getting work. When I was a shepherd, that's all that you did. You trained him as he grew up. He was getting real work and increasing his knowledge everyday.

So, with a young dog, you've got to be careful to take your time and let him come on without any force or too much pressure. I find in a work situation, it's more relaxed for the dog and I'll not constantly try and fix everything. When you're working a bigger bunch of cows or sheep, mistakes are made by the dog and you that you may not see or don't try to correct. Things are rougher, so the

dog is free to move back and forth on the bigger group of sheep. Once you have 2 or 3 sheep in a field, if he's moving back and forth, the sheep are slashing back and forth - so you need to be getting onto that dog. As I say, in a bigger bunch, that would be acceptable and the dog wouldn't feel any pressure and you're still getting the same job done. So in these instances, this is where pressure comes in, when you get into actual training. A dog gets to know if you're "making" work instead of doing real work.

So with a young dog, you've got to allow the dog the freedom to develop his herding instincts, his brain and his intelligence. But you also have to be firm while letting him express himself as far as the natural ability he can give you. At the same time, any corrections must be firm. If you say something, mean it and get through to him. This can be done with a harsh tone of voice, or your hand against your leg, or whatever. Every dog is different and what it takes depends on the dog. But in every case, best results will follow firmness, accompanied by the least severity. So in other words, if you're consistently firm and fair with him and don't loose your temper or be too severe with that young dog, you will find that the dog will respect you. With the massive complexity involved, you must wisely be "molding and fashioning" him into the finished dog.

I do believe in starting my dogs young-4 months. Neither do I want them shut up in a kennel until they are 4 months. Their brains must be developing. After 4 months, I'll take them to sheep. There'll be no pressure put on that dog up to another 2 or 3 months. There'll be nothing - all that is expected is for that young dog to come back to me when I call it. That's all, but there is firmness there, too. If it doesn't come back to me when I call it, I'll walk it down. By "walk it down" I mean, I go through the sheep to the pup. I carry it off the sheep and walk away with it.

My belief is that if you start the dog young, you are in command of it. You've got its respect and they've gotten respect for you. You can chastise them quietly, slowly and not severely. If you leave them to a year, it is my belief that you've got a pretty good athlete that's capable of running much faster than you and he's had that year to develop whatever he wants to. In his brain it's "lets have fun and lets chase" and things like that.

Just go quietly. I'm not saying this dog will finish up any better than the year old dog that is started, but to my way of thinking, I think I have molded it into just a little bit more than the year old dog that has all this energy and

knowledge to catch up on.

So, that's my philosophy on the young dogs. Start them, but be firm and be fair and let them express themselves. Be with them. Get with them. Get with their way of thinking. Try to make them see your way of thinking, but be firm when you need to.

In my father's time, when a dog didn't work, it was done away with. That's going back years. Once dogs became valuable, everything was kept. People, shepherds, would keep and work with lesser quality dogs. They would sell them and then they would be bred. The next best would breed with them and this has resulted in a lot of weaker, softer dogs. I think it's sort of ruined, spoiled, the Border Collie to a certain degree. But, that's the way of life and you can't change it.

In the old days in Scotland, there were lots more shepherds per sheep. The sheep experienced more shepherding and as a result, were heavier. But now, some of the sheep that are used at trials have never seen a dog and we get the lighter sheep, and the lighter, weaker dogs are winning these trials. You can sometimes see it, but if you get light flowing sheep, the weakness doesn't always show up. The powerful dog will scare the sheep and has to be held back off the sheep.

So that's a thing we've got to remember. It was the **real work** that we bred for and that's where we need to go in our breeding. If you want to have good dogs down the line in years to come, it has to come from the stronger dogs. The other ones won't make it. If we keep breeding weak ones, and nervous ones, and soft ones, then down the road we will be in a sorry state. You can sort out lots of faults in a dog and he may turn out a top trial dog, but he will only breed to the level of his ability before his faults were fixed.

So, we've got to keep in mind that the working ability must be keep to the fore. If the nature of the dog is right, you can teach it anything, but you need natural ability on stock and you need intelligence so it learns and obeys and wants to please you. These are the basic things I would be looking for in a dog.

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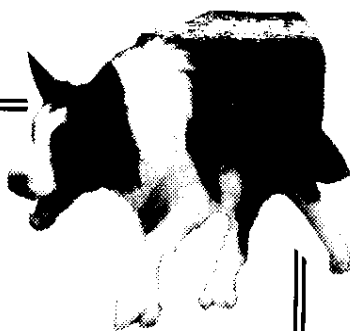
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