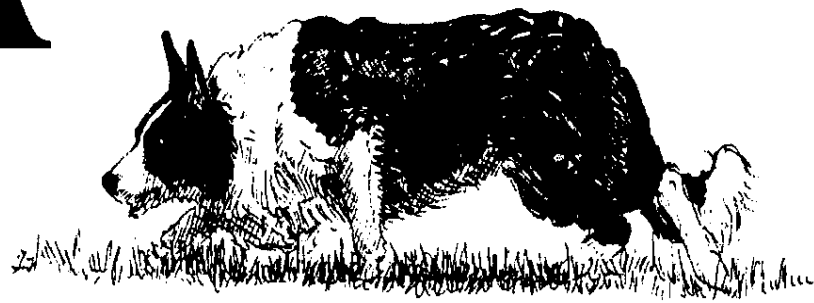
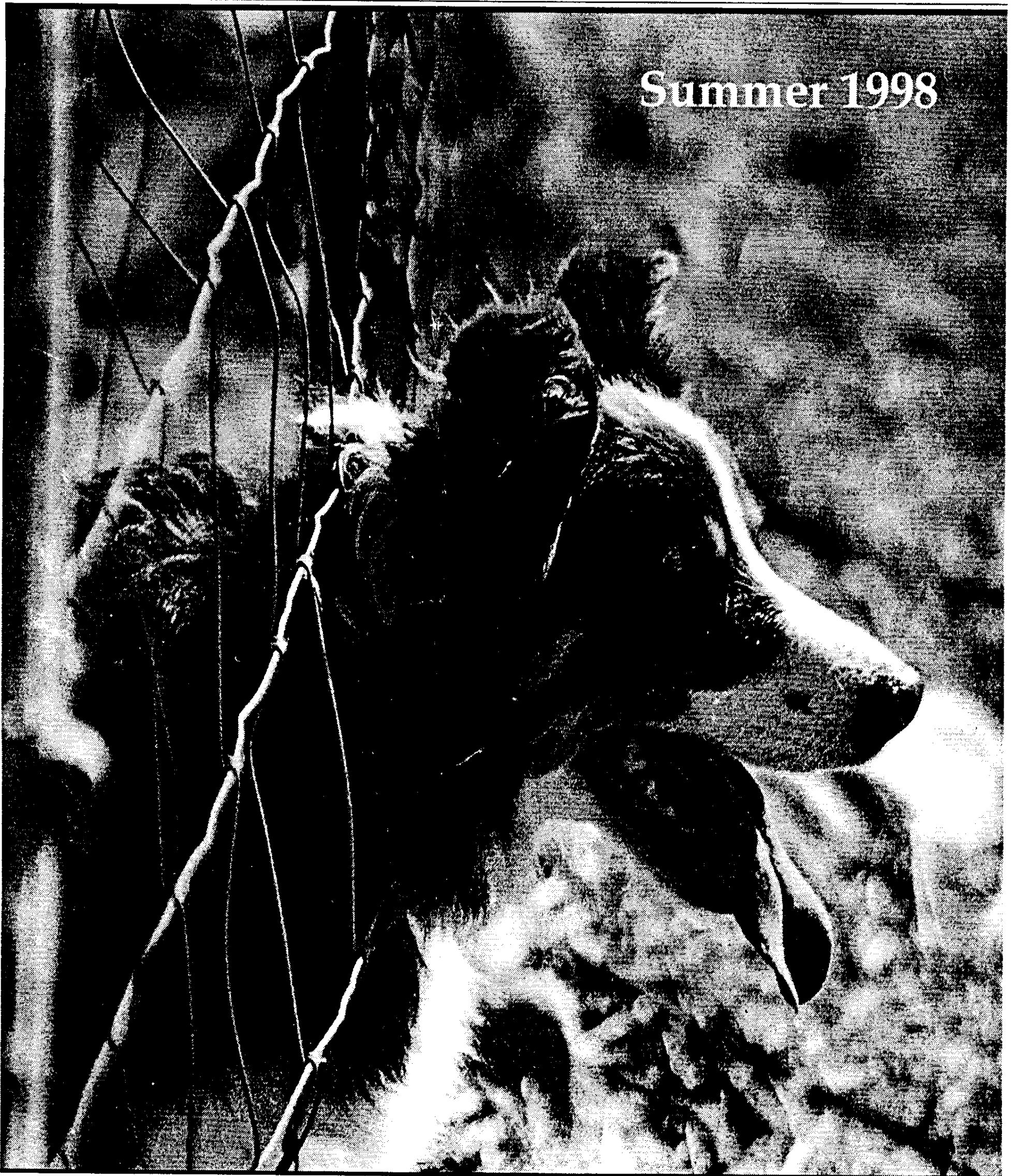


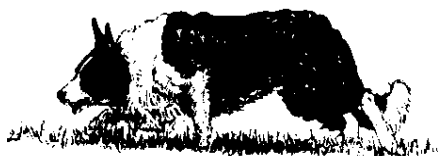
# NEBCA NEWS



An Official Publication of the North East Border Collie Association



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An Official Publication of the  
North East Border Collie Association

**Publisher:** NEBCA  
**Editors:** E. & W. Carleton  
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## Correction:

The Breeder of Robin (NASD 33490), sire of Beverly Lambert's Lark is Edgar Gould, not Virgil Holland as erroneously stated in the ABCA pedigree.

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The North East Border Collie Association was formed to promote the breeding and training of the Border Collie as a working dog.

This group is dedicated to preserving the Border Collie as a stock dog for any livestock or poultry.

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# NEBCA Spring Fling Benefit Trial

Nearfield Farm, E. Conway, NH, May 2-3, 1998



Open Judge Roger Deschambeault and Secretary Lana Pettey



Dave Young demonstrating "THE SHED"



Ja'hn Deschambeault winning "Combined N/N Award". Also shown Aunt Lynn and N/N judge Joe Kennedy.

*On behalf of all NEBCA members, I would like to thank Lynn Deschambeault for holding the First NEBCA Benefit Trial. The support and efforts of members who donated their time, money, and prizes made the trial a resounding success. In all, more than \$1,000.00 was raised to help the club.*

*Joanne Krause, Treasurer*

The first NEBCA Benefit Trial was held on a raw, wet weekend in East Conway, at Nearfield Farm. Held to benefit the NEBCA treasury, all the judging, prizes, fields, sheep and even the porta-potty were donated. Many thanks go to Roger Deschambeault for the fields, sheep, porta-potty and the warm kitchen for our meeting and potluck supper.

Joe Kennedy, Maria Mick, Roger Deschambeault, and Gabe Merrill offered their services as judges. Dave Young, Debbie Merrill, Fran Wheeler, and Warren Mick served as set-out crew. A very special thanks goes to Stuart Miller who worked in the sheep pen for two long, wet, cold, muddy days. I want to commend everyone who ran their dog in a class or two higher than they normally run, some *very* competitively. (Great job Ed H and Joy!)

This trial was meant to be fun, and speaking for myself, I think we had a great time. I had expected to be so busy I wouldn't have time to run a dog, but everyone kept volunteering to set out sheep on Saturday, so on Sunday I even got to run a dog.

Fran Wheeler donated beautiful plaques for the first and second place finishers in each class for Saturday and Sunday. She also had participant ribbons for everyone. Dave Murray gave beautiful handmade trophies for the two-day overall champions in each of the three nursery classes. Those wooden Border Collie cut-outs were beautiful! Gabe Merrill donated one of her hand-embroidered sweatshirts for the two-day winner in the open class-which she won so she donated it to someone else.

Hamburgers and hot dogs were available for sale both Saturday and Sunday, with all of the proceeds going to NEBCA. Also, raffles were held throughout Saturday and Sunday. Each handler was entered as many times as he or she ran a dog. Dee Woessner donated a copy of each of her Working Dogs books. There were also many other prizes available to choose from.

Sunday we were given a special raffle prize and tickets were sold for a hand-made woolen sweater with sheep. This sweater was made and donated by Lola Layne for NEBCA — thanks Mom!

Again, I'd like to thank EVERYONE who came in spite of the weather to support this trial, and I hope everyone had a good time.

AND THE WINNERS WERE....Saturday:

## Novice/Novice

1. Sally Lacy	Gypsy	66
2. Ed Hobart	Joy	63
3. Dave Murray	Bess	55
*4. Ja'hn Deschambeault	Jessie	55
5. Michael Nunan	Jed	54
6. Kate Collins	Buddah	47
7. Bud Ames	Luke	47
8. Stuart Miller	Ben	41
9. Cynthia Arnold	Jess	36

## Pro Novice

1. Maria Mick	Craig	67
2. Ed Hobart	Joy	56
*3. Sarah Ames	Sam	53

Starred handlers are junior handlers: Ja'hn is 5; Sarah is 12 and they ran with the "big hats" — keep an eye on them in the future —THEY'RE GOOD!!

## Ranch

1. Ed Hobart	Joy	77
2. George Northrup	Kyp	72
3. Warren Mick	Reggie	71
4. Bud Ames	Sam	61
5. Joe Kennedy	Meg	51
6. Fran Wheeler	Tweed	46
7. Fran Wheeler	Jock	35

continued on page 24

# SILK

By Donald McCaig

One of our sheepdogs is dying. Silk's got an osteosarcoma, an acorn-sized growth on her muzzle. It's too near her optic nerve to operate. Though the vets say Silk might live an additional three to eight months if we drove her to the University of North Carolina's vet school for chemotherapy, with an 11-year-old, deaf sheepdog, it's hard to see the point. So far, Silk feels fine; she's unaffected by her cancer. When it gets bad, I'll bring a vet out to the farm so Silk can die in her home.

My wife Anne and I operate a 280 -acre sheep farm in the western mountains of Virginia. When lambs are born, we use dogs to bring them and their mothers into the barn. We use dogs to fetch sheep for feeding, worming, shearing and foot trimming. Our dogs sort sick sheep from the flock and take them to a pen where we can doctor them. When a neighbor's bull smashed through our wire fence en route to another neighbor's heifer, our dogs dissuaded him from his amours. Night or day I never go to the livestock without a dog at my side.

*Border Collies  
are too wired to  
make good pets  
and many of the  
best ones are  
quite homely.*

We've got four Border collies and I admit we are soft on them. All four sleep in the house: Gael on a corner of the couch, Silk behind her chair, Harry on his dog pad, Moosie hidden behind the dresser. For the dogs, living indoors is a trade-off: they lose the peace and quiet of the kennel, are caught up in every domestic emergency and learn a range of household behaviors that don't interest them much; in exchange, they are closer to humans and for reasons I don't understand, that's their preference.

As a pup, Silk showed great promise. Her sire, Jack Knox's Craig, was the best working sheep dog in North America and her dam, Jed, could make my heart stand still. I remember a time on a farm outside Winchester, when a goofy young ewe jumped a fence and got in among a herd of wild cattle. Sheep are clever about avoiding predators. It knew that the cattle would attack any dog that came near. Despite their charges, Jed peeled that ewe away in 30 seconds and pushed her right into Jack Knox's arms.



photograph by cokie hamm

Unlike most dogs, Border collies are bred only for their abilities, never for their looks. That centuries-old policy has produced fanatical herding dogs that'll work for anyone, anyplace, anytime. You can work a good one, literally, to death. Dogs that leave their work for a bitch in heat aren't bred from. Border collies are too wired to make good pets and many of the best ones are quite homely. It is considered mildly insulting to tell a sheepdog man how "pretty" his dog is. With her black and white mottled coat and blue and brown eyes, Silk is pretty. Gael, her rival, is half Silk's size, black and tan ratty looking, and Gael yearns with every ounce of her bitchy little





heart to be Queen of the Pack — a wish she'll have gratified soon enough. Meantime, whenever Gael pesters Silk too much, Silk puts her in the closet. With nary a snarl or growl, using pure moral authority, Silk marches forward and Gael disappears behind the coats and shoes.

As it happens Silk's blue eye was her undoing. In dogs, blue eyes are sometimes linked to deafness. Her hearing loss was progressive. Border collies are taught their trade from eight months to 30 months of age and Silk who picked up the basic stuff easily, couldn't go on to the next step, in which the collie drives the sheep away from you by relying on your whistles. I am ashamed how long I failed to understand that the reason she wasn't doing as I asked was because she couldn't hear my asking. I finally taught Silk hand signals but because my dogs often work half a mile away and sometimes out of sight, Silk is almost useless.

Silk does like to load sheep. She is both gentle and implacable and the sheep clamber up the loading chute into the truck without protest. Every week last April, we loaded lambs for market and after I backed the truck up to the chute, I'd let Silk out of the house. By the time I got back to the truck, she'd have 22 lambs loaded and waiting to go.

As the least able dog, she is the most neglected. Although I often take a dog to town, it's never Silk. When a neighbor phones — he's got cows out, can I bring my dogs and help? — I don't bring Silk.

In the afternoon when I take a dog out for refresher training — Border Collies get rusty just like we do — it's never Silk. When I go to sheepdog trials, Silk's hated rival Gael goes with me; Silk stays home.

After we learned Silk was dying, Anne and I decided to do something for her so we wouldn't feel quite so rotten about her neglect. But what can you do for a dying dog? Silk won't care if her name's in the paper; she's indifferent to bright, noisy pet toys. If Silk could read a menu, she'd order deer liver and lamb kidneys, au naturel, but afterwards, she'd go out in the yard and eat grass.

*Silk won't care if her name is in the paper;*

Many pet owners think their dogs are chowhounds, mistaking dog courtesy ("these humans are excited about this stuff, maybe I should show some enthusiasm") for unbridled appetite. Silk couldn't care less.

Dogs are symbolists, exquisitely attuned to correct gesture, assuaged by custom and ritual. Silk likes it when Anne takes her on solo walks because, in a four-dog pack, it is a privilege to be walked alone. Me, I take her out for training. I stand in the middle of our flock and signal her: Go left, go right. I show her the bottom of my palms: Lie down. I signal her to walk upon the sheep; when they brake, she covers them. The fat, old, deaf, dying dog runs around the sheep until her tongue is hanging out.

*Dogs are symbolists, exquisitely attuned to correct gesture, assuaged by custom and ritual.*

Afterwards, she comes up to me for a pat and she is quite pleased with herself — "Aren't I such a good sheepdog?" And when she goes back into the house, she promptly puts Gael in the closet.

All that we can give a dog that the dog will value is our time, of which I have more than Silk does. 🐾

# Judging the Fetch

By Gene Sheninger

Novice handlers at times asked what would be judged more favorable:

A straight fetch, but on an angle; missing the fetch panel by approximately 10 feet; or a zig zag fetch that makes the fetch panel.

The answer depends on a number of things, one being that each judge views things a bit differently. Most, however, will agree on how you judge "off-line," if not how "wide" that line is.

If the sheep are easy, then most judges will narrow that "line", perhaps even making it only one-sheep wide. If the sheep are particularly difficult, that "line" might be as wide as the distance between the fetch panels (21 feet, if the "standard" is followed). However, a "one-sheepwide" line is a bit impractical if we have a group of three that wants to be at exactly the same place on the field at the same time -- not coming down the field in single file. However, once a judge establishes the width of the line, then it should stay that way for the remainder of the trial.

Now we know what the width of the line is. (If you are not sure, better ask the judge at the handlers' meeting). Anytime the sheep deviate from that "line," points will be deducted. Let's assume, for example, the line is the width of the opening between the fetch panels. Most judges will set up in their mind's eye a series of additional parallel lines running from the hold-out point to the handler's post. The spaces between these lines form zones, and each time the sheep move across a line from one zone into the next, points will be deducted. Let's make the width of our main "line" --for argument's sake-- 20 feet. If the sheep move more than 10 feet (1/2 of 20) from the center of the "line" (they are now in the 1-point zone), the judge will deduct 1 point. If the sheep move more than 30 feet (half plus another line) into the 2-point zone, there goes another point, etc. So, zigzagging sheep will be hit a point for each time they pass the 10 foot mark (1-point zone) and another point for passing the 30 foot mark (2-point zone), and so on. As anyone can see, zig zagging sheep can rack up 20 points (the total allotted for the fetch) rather quickly as they pass from one side of the "line" to the other.

Let's look at a fetch that stays "off-line." Suppose the sheep get to be 11 feet from the center of the "line" and stay there (let's ignore the fetch panels for the moment).

Judges vary on how they handle this situation. I know judges who break each segment of the fetch into parts --some break it down to 2 or 3 segments between the hold-out and the fetch panels, and another 2 or 3 segments between the fetch panels and the handler's post.

Some judges say that sheep in the 1-point zone will lose additional points each time they pass from one segment to another.

For example, a 3-segment judge will deduct 3 points for 3 sheep in the 1-point zone between hold-out and fetch panels, and another 3 points between the panels and the handler's post for a total of 6 points. A 2-segment judge will deduct 4 points.

In the same way, sheep that move to the 2-point zone lose a total of 12 points under a 3-segment judge and 8 points under a 2-segment judge. All of this is a rather simplified explanation, omitting variations of what happens if sheep stay in the 1-point zone too long and then move into the 2-point zone, etc.



"... on the right course, directly and with minimum delay ..."

I personally prefer a less complicated approach to handling a fetch that remains off-line. I like to think in terms of what is a "workmanlike" way to put the sheep back on line. I expect the handler to put the sheep on the right course, directly and with minimum delay --at a right angle to the line of the fetch.

However, when that is accomplished depends on the situation. I would expect a judge to determine how long the sheep have been off-line and deduct another point for not rectifying the situation. In other words, not acting in what the judge considers a "workmanlike" way.

In either a zig-zagging or off-line fetch the rules leave the amount deducted totally up to the "judgment" of the judge. Clearly, a wide zig-zagging pattern that makes the panels easily may cost more points than a slightly off-line fetch that misses the panels under a judge who establishes a narrow "line" and deducts 1/2 point for missing the panels. On the other hand, a judge with a wide "line" and 3 points per sheep for missed panels, might hit an off-"line" fetch that missed the panels more severely than a fetch that zigs and zags within the fetch line and makes the panels. 🐾

# Finding the Right Trainer

By Beverly Lambert

If you are looking for weekly lessons and you have a choice of more than one trainer in your area, you should ask to observe a lesson from each. You will probably be able to tell pretty fast if you would feel comfortable with the instructor, if the physical set-up is conducive to teaching the dog, and if the instructor knows what he/she is doing and is doing it in a manner with which you are comfortable.

While you are observing, ask yourself: Does the dog being trained seem to learn anything? Does the person working with the instructor seem to be learning anything? Does the instructor have students competing in trials at the level you want to compete? The answer to most of these questions is should be yes.

If you are not comfortable with either the person or his/her techniques, you are probably going to be unwilling to follow through on the things he/she shows you. If the physical layout of the training area is such that the sheep are always escaping through the fence or can't be worked then you are wasting your time.



photograph by cokie hamm

**"Resist the temptation to take a young dog to many different clinics in search of the 'perfect' instructor".**

If you are not looking for lessons so much as a mentor, there are many, many good handlers who give an occasional clinic or give advice when asked. Again, try to find a person who works in a manner you like. Does he/she look at the post the way you would like to look (tall, thin, rich). But seriously: are they handling the way you want to? Does their dog work the way you want yours to?

There are many different approaches to training and handling. You should be familiar with those differences before you select a handler. For example, how much control do you want to put on your dog? How much do you want to rely upon the dog doing the work naturally? How much do you want the dog to push? How much do you want the dog to follow? The best way to answer these questions is to watch different handlers in action, or get advice on the same problem from two or three different handlers and select the one whose advice you like best.

Resist the temptation to take a young dog to many different clinics in search of the "perfect" instructor. Leave the dog at home and go and observe. There are now a lot of people out there giving clinics. I am not sure that I would trust all of them with my young dog. I certainly would not want four or five different people working a young dog in the course of a few months in the high pressure atmosphere you get at a clinic.

No one is going to train your dog during a half hour clinic lesson. **You** are the one who is supposed to be trained at a clinic. **You** learn the lesson, **you** learn how to fix what is wrong with your dog and then **you** fix the dog. The only reason to take the dog to the clinic is so the dog can show the instructor exactly what is wrong, not so the instructor can train the dog.

In the final analysis, the best instructor is the dog. Let the dog tell you if what you are doing is working. If not, explain to yourself clearly what is wrong with the dog. Break the problem down into as many small parts as you can and then figure out a way to change the behavior. If what you are doing is not working then think of another way to teach the lesson.

Good luck! 🐾



photograph by janet larson

Lynn Deschambeault's "Dandy"

Building a dog's skill  
and confidence.

## Sheep for the Dogs

By Mike Neary

Extension  
Sheep Specialist  
Purdue University

You've heard it before: A dog has a difficult run and the handler says, "Gee, those sheep were light (or "sticky," or just plain "bad")! Chances are, however, it wasn't the sheep that were the problem, but rather the dog's lack of experience with the "bad" behavior, whatever it might have been.

Many factors go into building a dog's skill and confidence, but among the most important is exposure to many kinds of sheep and sheep behavior. The more "real" work a dog can get, the better the dog will end up. Having five sheep and doing nothing but drilling and training is boring for a dog (and most people, too), regardless of the breed of sheep or how they act toward dogs. And boredom, of course, stifles learning.

Most of the best trialers here and abroad share a common feature: they and their dogs know stock. The way to know stock is to do the nitty gritty daily work. Some people don't have the time or resources to do this, so handlers must assess their own particular situation and objectives, and tailor activity to the constraints of their own life-style. The important thing is to get in as much variety of work as possible.

Some bemoan "difficult" sheep such as Suffolks. Yet there are some very real learning opportunities with sheep like these. When I first moved to Indiana to work at Purdue, I brought two of my dogs with me. (My wife and the rest of our dogs came a few months later.) The two I brought were a five-year-old strong-eyed bitch that was tough as hell, and her 14-month-old pup that I had started to

work. He, too, was a naturally strong dog, but was green. One of our tasks was to dog-break the University sheep. They consisted of mostly Suffolks (about 100 head) and about 50 other sheep including Rambouillets and crosses. If you think dog-breaking a *few* Suffolks is hard, try a hundred or so. It was fun (not to say challenging), but it taught that young dog how to handle tough sheep.

Those lessons still come in very handy to him now that he is almost 10 years old. In fact, at trials where the sheep are very tough, and many dogs have trouble shifting them, he often can lay down a decent run and place.

There are almost always teachable moments that will stay with a dog for along time. Working young dogs on as many types of sheep in as many locations as possible increases the number of "teachable moments."

For starting a young pup it is really hard to beat Dorset or Dorset cross ewes that are already dog-broke. They are medium size, will move readily but not too fast, are good farm flock sheep and are reasonably gentle. They will rarely fight a dog, unless they have young lambs.

Once Dorsets get really dog-broke, however, the pups will outgrow them. And they can get awful pokey, especially if they are kept in a small flock. When this happens, it's time to begin thinking of ways to broaden the dog's experience with different sheep.



## *Some recommendations for keeping sheep for the dogs:*

1. Keep as many sheep as you possibly can. This will help simulate a real farm situation. Also, this will allow you to keep a reasonable variety of sheep that can be split into smaller or different-size groups to change the training or work routine.
2. If one is having trouble keeping sheep "fresh," work with other people in your region or club. Switching sheep for a few weeks (and the resulting change of location) can freshen them up. (This can lead to sheep health problems and people disagreements, so take precaution to prevent these.)
3. Get someone with experienced dogs to help dog-break sheep correctly for young pups. This is not always possible because of time or distance. However, I absolutely love working unbroke sheep with either started or trained dogs, and many other experienced handlers do also.
4. Be creative in your work. Work against the natural habits of the sheep. If they always head a certain direction in a field, set up your work to go against these habits.
5. Buy or lease a stock trailer and move sheep to fresh fields. (It helps to get permission first.)
6. Work your sheep in situations as real as possible. Lewis Pulfer told me once when I was just getting started that a half day of real work is equal to a month of 15-minute training sessions. You may not have a half day of real work, but 15 minutes of real work is better than 15 minutes of rote training.
7. Buy, sell or borrow sheep on a regular basis or when they get too dog-broke.
8. Match breeds to your needs. In general, hill sheep (Cheviots, North Country Cheviots, etc) are faster than lowland or down breeds (Hampshires, Suffolks, Dorsets, etc.). Fine Wool breeds are usually tight flocking and not the most intelligent of creatures. Hair sheep of course are usually fast, stay fresh and don't require shearing.
9. Be imaginative. Be determined. Necessity is the mother of invention.
10. Lastly, learn as much about sheep as you can. It will help in your dog training. Be curious about sheep; every experience can be a learning one. When I'm at a trial I almost always ask trial organizers a gazillion questions about their sheep. Often, if they have a large flock, I'll ask them to show me their ewe flock, rams, or operation. If they don't have time they often will "point me in the right direction" and I'll go look at them myself. 🐾



## The Sheep-Dog or Shepherd's Dog

Johnson's Natural History, Volume I, by S.G. Goodrich. New York:  
A. J. Johnson, Publisher, 1872.

James Hogg, the celebrated Ettrick Shepherd, living in his early days among the sheep and their quadruped attendants, and an accurate observer of nature, as well as an exquisite poet, gives some anecdotes of the colley—the Highland term for sheepdog—with which the reader will not be displeased: "My dog Sirrah," says he, in a letter to the Editor of Blackwood's Edinburgh Magazine, "was, beyond all comparison, the best dog I ever saw. He had a somewhat surly and unsocial temper, disdaining all flattery, and refusing to be caressed; but his attention to my commands and interest will never again be equaled by any of the canine race. When I first saw him, a drover was leading him with a rope. He was both lean and hungry, and far from being a beautiful animal; for he was almost black, and had a grim face, striped with dark brown. I thought I perceived a sort of sullen intelligence in his countenance, notwithstanding his dejected and forlorn appearance, and I bought him. He was scarcely a year old, and knew so little of herding, that he had never turned a sheep in his life; but, as soon as he discovered that it was his duty to do so, and that it obliged me, I can never forget with what anxiety and eagerness he learned his different evolutions; and when I once made him understand a direction, he never forgot or mistook it."

Hogg tells us, and very truly, "that a single shepherd and his dog will accomplish more in gathering a flock of sheep from a Highland farm than twenty shepherds could do without dogs; in fact, that without this docile animal the pastoral life would be a mere blank. It would require more hands to manage a flock of sheep, gather them from the hills, force them into houses and folds, and drive them to markets, than the profits of the whole flock would be capable of maintaining. Well may the shepherd feel an interest in his dog: he it is indeed that earns the family bread, with the smallest morsel of which he is himself content,—always grateful and always ready to exert his utmost abilities in his master's interests. Neither hunger, fatigue, nor the worst treatment will drive him from his side, and he will follow him through every hardship without murmur or repining. If one of them is obliged to change masters, it is sometimes long before he will acknowledge the new owner, or condescend to work for him with the willingness that he did for his former lord; but, if he once acknowledges him, he continues attached to him until death." 🐾

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- Sheep for trials
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# Do You See What I See?

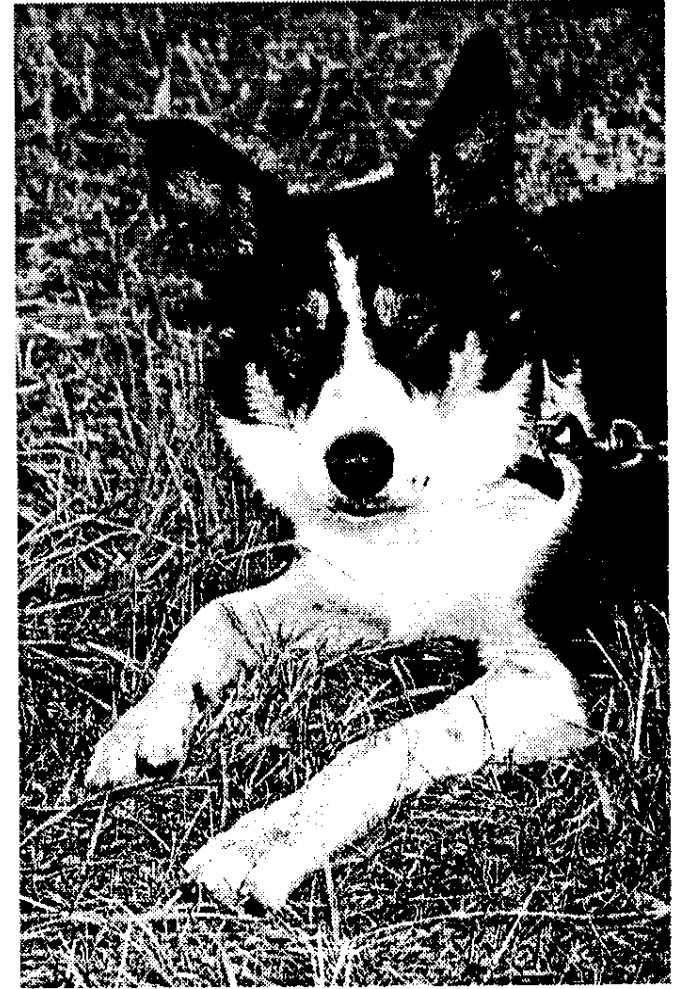
Part 1 of 2

What do our dogs see when they look out at the world? While we can't precisely answer that question because dogs can't *tell* us what they see, understanding how the canine eye works can give us a glimpse into the dog's visual world.

Dogs are better than people at seeing the peripheral "big picture," but their close-up vision is not as sharp as a human's. This is due in part to the placement of the eyes in the dog's skull (see illustration). The dog's lateral eye placement allows better wide-angle vision but hinders depth perception and close-up viewing because there is minimal visual overlap (*binocular convergence*) between the two eyes. Hence, your dog can easily snag a ball moving sideways but may have trouble catching a ball tossed right at his nose.

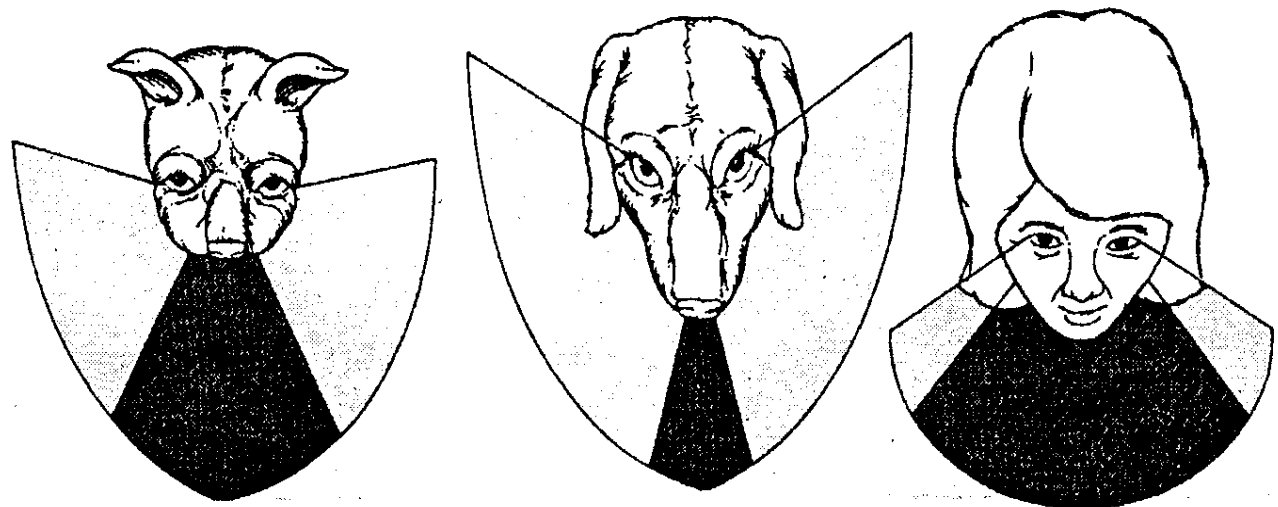
The structure of the dog's retina helps explain other idiosyncrasies of canine vision. Abundant light-sensitive cells called *rods* in your dog's retina help it detect motion and see well in dim light—clear advantages for canines stalking prey at dusk or dawn or guarding territory against intruders. In contrast, the human retina is made up predominantly of *cones*—receptors that are better at detecting color and processing bright light.

Contrary to popular belief, dogs are not completely colorblind for they *do* have cones in their retinas. But dogs can't distinguish the full spectrum of colors.



What *do* they see?

The *tapetum lucidum* is another ocular structure that gives canines enhanced ability to see in dim light. This thin, reflective tissue is part of the *choroid* layer, which lies behind the retina. The tapetum reflects light back through the retina, giving the retina a second opportunity to absorb light. You may be more familiar with the function of the tapetum lucidum than you think: it's what causes the bright reflection from a dog's eye when car headlights shine on them at night. 🐾



## COMPARATIVE FIELDS OF VISION

Total field of view appears in light grey. Binocular vision is shown in dark grey. Note that short-nosed (brachycephalic) dogs with frontally placed eyes have greater binocular vision and less peripheral vision than long-nosed breeds with laterally positioned eyes.

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# ABCA Eye Committee Report

Submitted by Sally Lacy, ABCA Eye Committee Chairman

Note: For the report in its entirety, please contact Sally Lacy.

The members of the Association's first Eye Committee, Amanda Milliken, Steuart Ligon, DVM, and Donald McCaig, recommended in 1994 that the ABCA

- 1) encourage eye examinations by certified ophthalmologists,
- 2) establish voluntary publication of the examination results, to include an indication on the registration papers of the result and date of the most recent eye examination,
- 3) formulate a list of dogs with negative eye exams within the registry, and
- 4) sponsor a free eye clinic at the National Finals.

The Association has acted by subsidizing the National Finals clinic in 1997, and Cornell University's Baker Institute researcher, Dr. Gregory M. Acland, who has a particular interest in retinal diseases, generously donated his professional services to the 1996 and 1997 National Finals clinics. The more we learn, the more complex the subject of heritable eye diseases becomes.

## CERF

In 1997, the Association took out a breed club membership with the Canine Eye Registration Foundation (CERF) which records and categorizes data sent them by cooperating ophthalmologists who are Diplomates of the American College of Veterinary Ophthalmologists. We receive updates on the number of Border Collies and the abnormal conditions that are seen. The most recent report we have follows:

Between January, 1991, and November, 1997, a total of 6,374 Border Collies have been seen by CERF ophthalmologists (The DATA department at CERF says about 90% of all their research reports distributed to DACVO ophthalmologists are sent to CERF after an examination).

Of the 2,926 males & 3448 females examined since 1991, the three categories of most interest at the present time are:

**Lens problems (Cataracts): 170 males & 127 females affected for a total of 5.08%.**  
(CERF doesn't differentiate between hereditary and non-hereditary cataracts.)

**Choroidal hypoplasia, a manifestation of Collie Eye Anomaly (CEA): 69 males & 82 females affected = 2.37%**

**Retinal Atrophy - Generalized: 19 males & 0 females affected = 0.30% (males = 0.65%)**

## 1997 Seminar and National Finals Eye Clinic

The activities of the committee included the eye clinic conducted by Dr. Acland at the trial field during three days of the National Finals. Both Dr. Wall and Dr. DeMille helped Dr. Acland, who examined 287 dogs over the three-day period.

In the past several years, Dr. Acland has examined the eyes of nearly a thousand Border Collies. He has seen two dogs with classic cases of Progressive Retinal Atrophy (PRA) and a PRA-suspicious case, but has not found any dogs related to them having the disease. *He is interested in hearing from anyone knowing of Border Collies with PRA and especially where multiple members of the family have the disease.* Finding PRA-affected dogs from the same family will help in determining the heritability of PRA in our breed. *To date, CERF data for Border Collies records 19 dogs, all male, as being diagnosed with generalized retinal atrophy out of 6374 examined since 1991. These data would indicate that PRA is likely to be sex-linked in Border Collies.*

One form of progressive retinal disease, cPRA, has not been seen in North America in any breed for decades. It used to be seen in Great Britain and on the Continent, but it is no longer seen there, either. The rapid disappearance, in combination with scientific evidence showing **diets deficient in Vitamin E could cause a similar disease**, suggests to geneticists that cPRA has a **strong environmental component** and is not a directly heritable eye disease, as was once thought.

The declining figures in the International Sheep Dog Society's published list of affected dogs, which does not differentiate between forms of PRA, probably reflects the disappearance of cPRA.



*It is of interest to note that a high incidence of a form of non-hereditary retinal disease called Focal Multifocal Retinopathy (FMR) is also present in the breed. This is an inflammatory disease of the retina thought to be caused by invasion of the retina by either roundworms, bacteria, fungus or even a bursting of a capillary underneath the retina due to high stress of over-heating/over-activity. Distinctive inflammatory retinal lesions result from these insults and can lead to blindness. The ophthalmologists we have talked with are well aware that FMR lesions are not PRA, and that in early stages, the two are extremely different from one another. However, once there is a large number of these lesions (and when it occurs in both eyes), the degeneration becomes wide spread enough that it is extremely difficult to differentiate between PRA and FMR. These acquired FMR lesions are seen in an estimated 10% of Border collies, and can be troublesome enough to warrant our interest in searching out their cause.*

*The most commonly reported eye disease in all dogs is in the lens. This is true with Border Collies: CERF reports that 5.11% of the Border Collies examined by ophthalmologists have cataracts. Some are hereditary, some may be hereditary, and some are not hereditary. This is a murky area, to be sure, and one that demands attention in the future.*

The clearly hereditary disease of the retina that threatens working Border Collies happens when an area near the optic nerve center fails to develop properly. This is called *Collie Eye Anomaly* after the breed in which it is endemic. It is currently thought that the same gene in several breeds is responsible for CEA. A number of investigators are working to find this gene, although not specifically in Border Collies, along with any other that might affect the expression of the disease, and they seem to be getting closer and closer to identifying it. Devising a DNA test to determine carriers would soon follow.

*One of the conditions complicating the diagnosis and control of CEA is that sometimes, as a puppy matures, other tissue grows over the area that failed to develop and hides it from view. As a puppy is born with CEA, this "go-normal" phenomenon occurs sometime during the first few months of the puppy's life, and it may be certified as normal in later examinations. This condition was not thought to be common in Border Collies until Dr. Acland and Dr. DeMille went to British Columbia following the Finals. They saw six Border Collies which clearly were "go-normal"*

*CEA cases. A "go-normal" dog is affected with CEA and can produce affected puppies the same as can an adult who obviously has CEA.*

These are the findings and recommendations of the current eye committee. Because several diseases may develop at any time during a dog's life which may be hereditary, **dogs used in breeding should have annual eye examinations.** More observation and research is needed to determine the causes and impact of retinal diseases, including PRA, and lens diseases in our breed. CEA is being carried by enough of our dogs to be considered a significant threat. We recommend

- 1) that eye notation on the registration papers be used to denote a dog which has been examined and found clear of CEA before it reaches the age of 12 weeks, and
- 2) that ABCA set aside funds for research that will lead to a DNA test to find carriers of CEA in the Border Collie.

While much more has to be learned about most eye diseases before we know how to eliminate the ones that are genetic, Collie Eye Anomaly is different. Although finding carriers through DNA tests will be a far superior method, enough is known now to "breed through" CEA, thereby eliminating it, should it be found in a good working line. 🐾



Scratching a Lot and No Fleas?

# Allergies

By Sarah A. Foley, D.V.M.  
Animal Hospital of Orleans

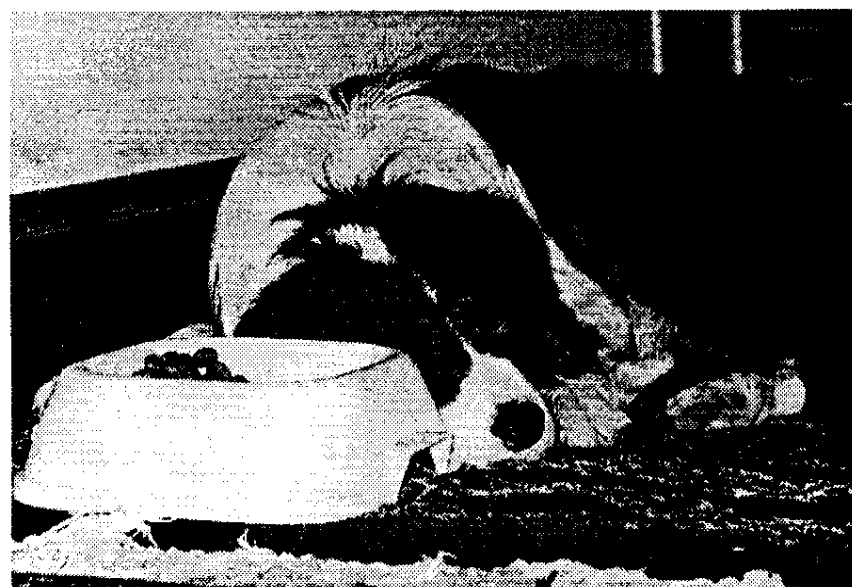
Is your dog scratching himself nonstop without a flea in sight? Dogs have allergies just like people. Some dogs will get red eyes, while others scratch themselves raw until full blown "hot spots" develop. While there are a number of allergies (*Sarcoptic Mange, Contact Allergy, Bacterial and Insect Hypersensitivity*), the most common causes for severe pruritis (itching) are: *Atopy, Flea Allergy Dermatitis (FAD), and Food Allergy Dermatitis*. The biggest challenge in allergic dermatitis is not the diagnosis, but effective treatment.

**Atopy** is an intensely itchy skin condition, caused primarily by inhaled allergens such as molds, pollens, and dust mites. Dogs with atopy are generally predisposed to this condition, and certain breeds are more commonly affected than other breeds. Atopy initially starts between one to three years and is seldom seen in dogs older than six, unless some environmental change occurred. Atopy may be either seasonal or nonseasonal, but most dogs with atopy eventually display nonseasonal symptoms.

Itching is the main sign of atopy. Chewing, scratching, and secondary bacterial infection results in damage to the skin and haircoat. The face, feet, and abdomen are usually the first areas affected, and ear infections are reported in at least half the dogs seen. Skin and blood tests are used to identify the cause of the allergy. While intradermal (skin) testing is usually performed by dermatology specialists, blood testing has recently shown good results and is acceptable in situations where referral to a dermatologist is not practical.

Treatment for atopy is likely to be lifelong. The aim is to control clinical symptoms, not to cure the disease. In some cases the disease may become progressively worse as more allergies develop or the intensity increases, and relapses are likely to occur. When the cause is known, and avoidance possible, this would be the best means of atopy control. Treatment with antiinflammatory drugs such as antihistamines, essential

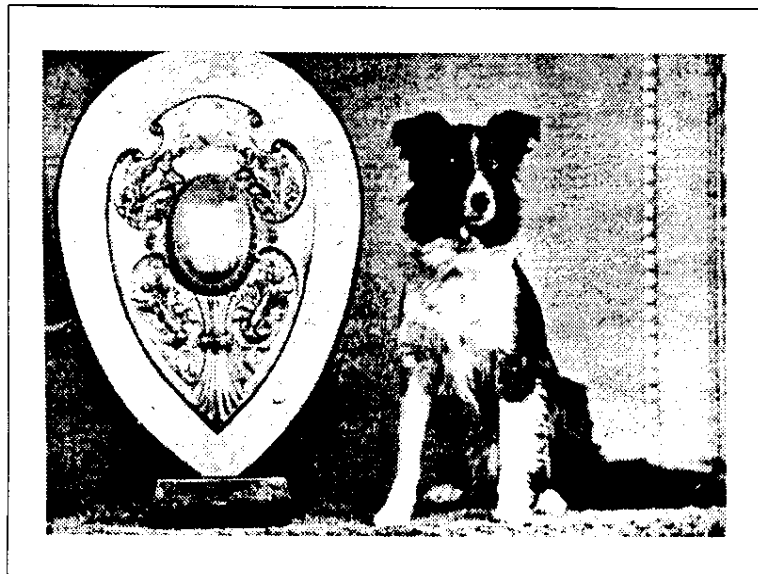
fatty acids, and/or corticosteroids, is often initially effective. These drugs, however, can become less effective over time, and some may cause undesirable side effects at higher dosages. Desensitizing injections ("allergy shots") may help if avoidance or drug therapy is ineffective. Regular bathing and grooming frequently help and various products are available, including shampoos, rinses, and sprays.



The majority of dogs with Food Allergies have been on the same diet for more than two years.

**Allergies to Specific Foods** is recognized as a cause in dog's skin disease. Skin may be affected in various ways, and there is no "classic" set of skin changes specific for food allergy. The most common sign is nonseasonal itching that is poorly responsive to drug treatment. Other signs are very similar to atopy, including loss of hair, crusts, sores, scaliness, redness, hives, and chronic ear infections. Concurrent gastrointestinal problems occurs only in 10 to 15% of cases. Although we often think of food allergies connected to a change in diet, the opposite is usually true. Research has shown that approximately 70% of dogs with food allergies have been on the offending diet for more than two years. The true role of additives and preservatives is currently not known, but exists to some extent. A long term elimination (select limited antigen) diet with subsequent changes is the best way to diagnose food allergy.

## In the NEBCA Library:



1928: J. M. Wilson's FLY

## THE BLUE RIBAND OF THE HEATHER

*The Supreme Champions 1906-1988*

E. B. Carpenter

This is the first and only pictorial record of the International Sheep Dog Society's Supreme Champions, giving brief pedigrees and citing awards won in ISDS trials from 1906 to the 1988. There is information on such handlers as the legendary J. M. Wilson and W. J. Evans (the only man to win the Supreme title for two different countries), and the achievements of such competitor families as the Longtons and Millars are traced.

The book will thus be of great interest to all breeders, handlers, and workers of the Border Collie, not to mention the armchair enthusiast.

Born in 1921, E. Barbara Carpenter has owned sheepdogs since 1942. She bought her first pedigree pup in 1947 and became interested in the pedigree lines. Both she and her late husband bred and trained their own dogs – Brocken Robbie, who appears in many of the modern champion pedigrees, being the best known.

Her many successes on the trials field include twice winning the West of England Championship. Since 1983 she has held the popular annual ladies' trial at Pastors Hill, the only trial specifically for women.

In 1971 she and Brocken Robbie were shown on BBC television in 'He's not a Bad Old Dog', one of the 'Look Stranger' series. A past president of the South Wales Sheepdog Association and current president of the Border Collie Club of Great Britain, Barbara Carpenter has also published "The Border Collie: Basic Training for Sheepwork".

### Guidelines for Library Use:

- Borrowers must be members of NEBCA.
- Books are loaned free of charge for three weeks.
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Checks may be made payable to NEBCA.



## Allergy - continued

**Allergic Contact Dermatitis** is an allergic skin reaction occurring in the thin-skinned areas of the dog's body that contact the floor or ground when laying down. The abdomen, lower chest, underside of the tail, scrotum, ears, chin, and back of paws are commonly affected. The degree of itchiness varies but may be severe enough to cause intense scratching or chewing with resulting skin damage. Dogs may also react to plastic feeding dishes or chew toys. In that case, sores are usually confined to the chin and mouth. When the causative material is known, avoidance is the best therapy. In many cases, however, the offending material is either unknown or impossible to avoid. Antiinflammatory drugs in those cases are the best treatment. Routine bathing is beneficial in removing the causative substance from skin and coat.

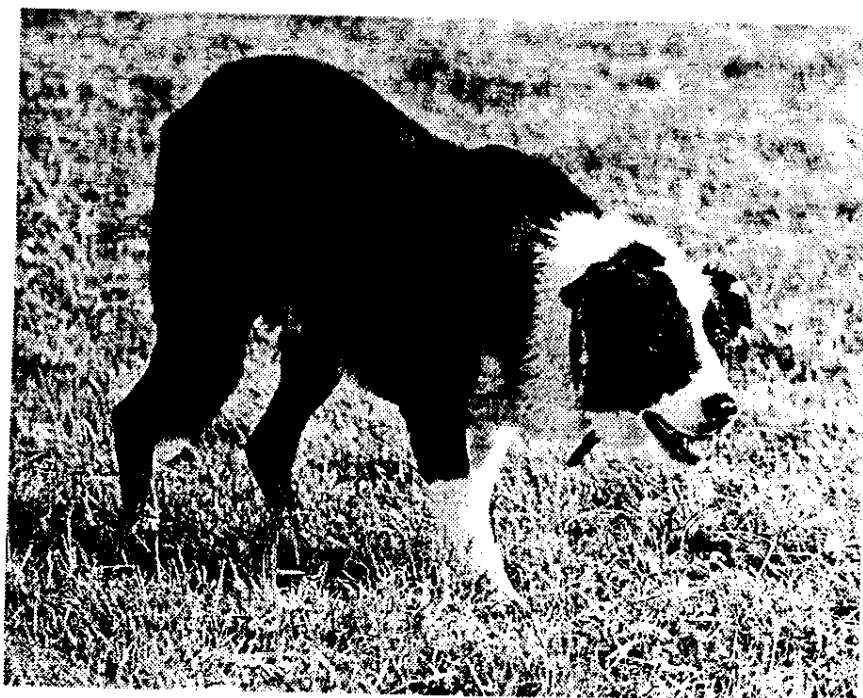
It should be remembered that most dogs have concurrent allergies. Allergic individuals become itchy only when all allergic factors exceed the dog's threshold. Often, by eliminating one or two of the offending allergens, the dogs will return to "clinically normal."

A step-by-step diagnostic and treatment program should be developed with your veterinarian. And please, once started don't give up on your protocol: A lapse in treatment could result in weeks of antibiotics and cortisone therapy. 🐾

# NEBCA CHAMPIONS

## Robin:

### American Border Collie Association, Inc.



ABC No: 25479

Name: Robin\*

Sex: Male Date of Birth: 12/1/90

Owner: Mike Canaday

Breeder: Mike Canaday

Color and Markings: bl/wh/wh collar; smooth;medium

\* 1995 and 1997 NEBCA High Point Champion,  
winner of 15 open trials.

SIRE	Imp Ben ABC 10912	Mac ISDS 116944	Tweed ISDS 92886	Chip ISDS 70369
Owner	M Canaday, NY	W D Jones, UK	T W Japp, Eng	T W Japp, Eng
Breeder	W M Knight	W M Owen, UK	Fly ISDS 103521	# Mirk ISDS 52844
	Llandiloes Powys, Wales	Jill ISDS 110568	W M Owen, UK	J Richardson, Scotlnd
		W M Knight, Wales	Craig ISDS 72737	June ISDS 86004
			A Jones, Englnd	T J Jones, UK
			Bonny ISDS 96510	Moss ISDS 57707
			C Lloyd, Wales	A Jones, Wales
			#Scott ISDS 57965	Vick ISDS 74888
			T Flood, Ire	E Griffiths
			Nell ISDS 109735	Floss ISDS 74698
			W Hallinan, Ire	David Morgan, Englnd
			Spot ISDS 89309	Risp ISDS 45699
			J Welsh, Scot	H Brady, Ire
			Snoopy ISDS 87374	Nell ISDS 43414
				M O'Neill, Ire
				Roy ISDS 76015
				A T Quinsey, Ire
				Eve ISDS 68978
				S O'Leary, Ire
				Don ISDS 73710
				W Welsh, Scotlnd
				Maud ISDS 80584
				T M Hutchinson, Scot
				# Ben ISDS 56646
				D McTeir, Scotlnd
				Nan ISDS 46359
				F W Macgregor, Scot

#### FLASHBACK From the NEBCA News Archives

Overheard at Altamont: Dogs improve with time, especially after they've died.

When they're alive it's, "That old son of a gun, Ben." One year after death, "Old Ben." Three years after death, "Good Old Ben." Seven years after death, "Great dog, that old Ben." Ten years after death, "That Ben was the best dog I ever had!"



# 1998 NURSERY POINTS

For those of you concerned about the Novice Point System, Novice, Pro-Novice and Ranch Dogs will continue to accumulate points according to the method used in 1997. It is too late to change the system as some dogs had already earned points last fall. Any questions, contact Becky Peterson or Dave Young.

For updated listings refer to "Novice Standings" on the NEBCA web-page (<http://www.nebca.cornell.edu/standings.htm>).

Handler's Name	Dog	Class	Total	Handler's Name	Dog	Class	Total	Handler's Name	Dog	Class	Total
Ames, Bud	Sam	R	51	Geier, Joyce	Troy	R	5	Larson, Janet	Magnum	P	27
Ames, Sarah	Sam	P	4	Good, Paul	Georgia	N	4		Twill	N	42
Armata, Bernie	Dan	R	41	Goodwin, Carroll	Betsy	N	29		Totsi	N	42
Baker, Kim	Beth	N	17		Haze	N	7		Robbie	N	42
Brake, Clint	Angus	N	3		Floss	N	1	Leigh, Tom	Kate	N	27
	Switch	N	4	Gregor, Bill	Brew	R	22	Leonard, Denise	Meg	R	13
	Callum	N	20		Willie	R	15	Leverett, Barbara	Queen	R	3
Brighoff, Mary	Mirk*	R	60		Maggie	N	8	Levin, Betty	Maddie	R	24
	Hope	P	22	Haines, Bill	MacGregor	P	3	Levinson, Barbara	Tess	R	1
Burr, Cheryl	Tess	N	4		Scott	P	4		Ivy	R	4
Campion, Carol	Roy	P	27	Hamilton, Dale	Piper	P	30	Lynch, Allan	Jen	R	33
	Fly	R	4	Hamm, Cokie	Zouk	N	36		Scout	R	2
	Dell	R	6	Hamm, Greg	Gaelen	P	28		McDuff	R	12
Canaday, Jay	Zak	N	18	Heidenberg, Paul	Heidi	R	44	Lynch, Peg	Pepper	P	2
Canaday, Mike	Zak	R	0	Higgins, Michelle	Kilt	N	25		Jill	P	16
Carleton, Evi	Jack	N	35	Hobart, Ed	Joy	N	31	Marschark, Eve	Belle	P	3
Cassel, Gwen	Flair	P	19		Jemma	N	4	Mason, Judy	Moy	P	4
Chambers, Maggie	Joy	P	4	Hughes, Kathy	Isabella	R	7	McCaig, Don	Josie	P	4
Collins, Kate	Pippen	R	39		Summer	N	33	McGettigan	Wilbur	R	24
	Queen	P	12		Summer	P	4	Means, Chalmers	Bette	R	67
Craddock, Susanne	Roy	R	8	Jackson, Jane	Toff	N	3		Clip	P	1
	Mick	N	23	Jagger, Walt	Gail	R	14	Merrill, Debbie	Brie	R	11
	Barbie	P	19		Jim**	R	50	Merrill, Gabe	Abbie	R	10
Crowell, Joanne	May	N	7		Moss	P	43	Mick, Warren	Reggie	P	37
Curtis, Millie	Spot	N	3		Moss	R	0	Milan, Nancy	Elvis	P	21
	Fern	R	3	Kennedy, Jean	Jill	P	2	Milberg, Sandra	Samantha	P	17
DeMille, Melissa	Beebe	R	3		Robin	P	0		Scott	P	8
	Stella	N	3	Kennedy, Joe	Bonnie	N	9	Millen, Heather	Lark	R	29
Deschambeault, L.	Bess	P	25		Meg	P	39		Buck	R	9
	Bess	R	4	Klimek, Merry	Jet	N	3		Kate	N	25
Deschambeault, R	Jenny	P	10		Ben	R	15	Milliken, Amanda	Atlas	R	11
DiMarcello, Louise	Hope	N	7		Tweed	R	32	Murray, Dave	Bess	N	37
	Sally	N	8		Jeep	R	31	Northrop, George	Kyp	R	31
Duchesne, Kathy	Rose	N	13	Krause, Joanne	Meg	N	26	Nunan, Michael	Jed	N	2
Eitapence, Carlene	Lass	R	6		Spice	N	22	Nunan, Sharon	Kep	R	0
	Floss	N	7		Hope	P	14		Jim	R	17
	Ladd	N	32	Kroemmelbein, Chris	Queen 1	R	19		Fan	R	16
Elkins, Lindy	Thorn	N	2		Fred	R	17	Overly, Edie	Gale	P	7
	Tess	N	12		Fan	P	17		Tess	R	4
Fallon, Maryanne	Faith	P	7		Dell	N	28	Pabst, Ed	Jade	N	2
	Spy	P	16		Qun.Mary	P	24		Kate	N	6
	Spot	N	2		Floss	P	33	Parrot, Brooks	Jet	N	3
Flowers, Bill	Ted	N	6	Lacy, Sally	Chess	R	25		Rush	P	39
	Jack	N	3	Lacy, Tom	Quick	R	3	Peterson, Becky	Libby	P	15
Flowers, Hilary	Kate	P	10		Faith	P	3		Taff	P	10
	Jill	N	10		Thomas	R	8	Petty, Lana	Souix	P	17
Fossetta, Linda	Lizzy	P	4	Lambert, Beverly	Tammy	P	31		Galen	R	5
	Meg	N	6						Lugh	N	10

continued next page

# 1998 NURSERY POINTS - continued

Handler's Name	Dog	Class	Total
Philips, Elizabeth	Kate	R	41
	Queen	N	39
Philips, Phil	Ruthy	N	1
Priest, Anne	Nell	P	29
Reuther, Lin	Jaff	P	1
	Jen	R	22
	Patti	R	35
	Fan	P	9
Rice, Shannon	Ben	N	2
Roberson, Fiona	Jess	N	15
Robert, Yves	Nalla	N	4
Roche, John	Jack	P	10
Schoen, Sue	Jim	N	9
	Asa	P	11
	Jet	P	5
Sheninger, Gene	Shep	R	34
Sigel, Ken	Taff	R	3
Skillings, Ellen	Creed	P	3
	Paige	P	27
Smart, Bruce	Charlie	R	29
	Maggs	P	29
Smith, Sherry	Mick	N	29
Somers, Jody	Chip	N	37
Starkey, Barbara	Bessie	N	41
	Bessie	P	0
	Katie	P	37
	Meg	R	1
Starkey, Nancy	Bunks	P	19
	Mist	R	2
Strohecker, Jim	Rudy	R	1
Thrasher, Bob	Loch	P	3
	Cash *	R	62
Tuttle, Loni	Kricket	P	30
	Lady	N	9
Tuttle, Rob	Loch	P	6
Tuttle, Robbie	Lady	N	4
VandeCar, Peter	Pepsi	N	3
	Spot	R	27
Weigand, Carol	Ty	N	4
Wetmore, Steve	Moss	R	5
	Ralph	R	7
Wheeler, Fran	Tweed	R	4
	JJ	N	27
	Jock	P	3
Williams, Cheryl	Meg	P	31
Williams, Dick	Craig	R	44
	Hope	P	9
Woesner, Dee	Fly	R	40
	Jake	P	2
Worthington, Joan	Tess	N	8
Yazwinski, Emily	Tair	N	11
Young, Dave	Shim	R	19
	Streak	P	18
Yurfest, Joshua	Montana	R	13
	Tessa	N	15

# 1998 EVENTS

## CLINICS

### June 6-7/98

Training Clinic  
at Janet Larson's in Lee, NH  
Instructor, Cheryl Jagger Williams  
Contact: **Janet Larson at (603) 659-7046**

### July 7-8/98

Training Clinic and Private Lessons at  
Bittersweet Farm  
**July 7th:**  
Private Lessons with Herbert Holmes  
**July 8th:**  
All-Breed Training Clinic with  
Herbert Holmes.  
Contact: **Carol Campion (860) 455-9416**

### July 20/98

Training Clinic at Kelmscott Farm  
For more details contact:  
**Ann Marie at (207) 763-4088**

### August 4/98

Roddy McDiarmid (\$ 80.00)  
Milliken Farm, Kingston, ON  
Contact: **Armanda Milliken or  
Mark Bustard (613) 531-9405**

### August 22/98

John Atkinson (England)  
Truro, N.S., 10:00am, (\$ 40.00)  
limited to 15 handlers on a first come,  
first served basis. Supper provided.  
Contact: **Kate Broadbent or  
Bill and Hilary Flower (902) 634-4833**  
e-mail: flower@ns.sympatico.ca

### August 29-30/98

Clinic taught by Cheryl Jagger Williams in  
Greenfield, MA.  
For more information contact  
**Denise Leonard**  
389 Adams Road, Greenfield, MA  
call (413) 773-5232  
or e-mail: dal@shaysnet.com

### September 19/98 (Saturday)

**THIRD ANNUAL 8 in 1 Seminar/Cli**  
Eye Testing, Tattooing,  
Micro-chip implanting, Pennhip Procedure  
Seminar, Agility, Flyball, Herding Instinct  
Testing and Herding Clinic.  
Thompson's \Lacy's Farm, Richmond, VA  
Contact:  
**Dr. Karen Lacy at (804) 226-4338**

### September 26-27/98

Training and Handling Clinic  
Tommy Wilson Instructing  
Trial & Error Acres  
Mt. Airy, Maryland  
Contact: **Nancy Starkey at  
(301) 253-4732**  
e-mail: NCStarkey@aol.com

### Training Clinic

tentative October 1998  
at Louise DeMarcello in  
Springville, PA  
Instructor, Cheryl Jagger Williams  
Contact: **Louise DeMarcello  
(610) 296-5273**

### 1998 KEYSTONE ALTERNATIVE FARM TRIAL

Ivyrose Farm, Bedminster, PA

**Fri** start 9am N/N, followed by  
P/N and Ranch, USBCHA Ranch  
**Sat** start 8am Novice-novice, Pro-  
novice, then Open  
**Sun** start 7am Ranch followed by  
Open

Handlers are invited to attend the  
Keystone Alternative Farm Trial  
which will be a three-day event  
comprised of two days of Nursery  
Classes and two days of the Open  
Class. Despite the negative outcome  
regarding our extensive efforts  
toward procuring a large trial field  
suitable for the Keystone State Sheep  
Dog Trials, we are pleased to be able  
to provide for our fellow competitors  
an alternate site until the KSSDT can  
be resumed.

This Keystone Alternative Farm  
Trial is a USBCHA, NEBCA and  
Mid-Atlantic BCA sanctioned trial  
and will be focused on fun and fair  
competition on a challenging course!

Trial managers:

Nancy Ortiz-Sharp (215) 453-9068  
and Eve Marschark (215) 795-2023



The Dutchess County SPCA  
would like to invite you to join  
our "Paws in the Park 98" fun day and  
fundraiser to benefit the animals of the  
DC SPCA on Saturday, September 12,  
1998 at Bowdoin Park in Poughkeepsie,  
rain or shine. In addition to a petwalk,  
we have a full day of Border Collie  
demonstrations, entertainment, vendors,  
and contests. Please come!

# 1998 NEBCA TRIAL SCHEDULE

## June 13-14, 1998

**Cape Cod SDT**  
Cape Cod, MA.  
Two 1-day Novice Trials  
Sue Schoen  
51 Marvin Circle, Falmouth, MA 02540  
(508) 548-5347

## June 18-21, 1998

**PA Championship Stock Dog Trial**  
Hop Bottom, PA  
Two 1-day Novice Trials  
Two 1-day Open Trials  
USBCHA, Purina  
Walt Jagger  
Box 233, Hop Bottom, PA 18824  
(717) 289-4663 or 289-4733

## July 3-5, 1998

**North East Independence Day Trial**  
Altamont, NY  
Three 1-day Novice & Open Trials  
USBCHA, Purina  
Mike Canaday  
889 Meadowdale Rd., Altamont, NY 12009  
(518) 861-6049

## July 10-12, 1998

**Bittersweet Farm Trial**  
Hampton, CT.  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials  
Carol Campion  
109 Hammond Hill Rd., Hampton, CT 06247  
(860) 455-9416

## July 17-19, 1998

**West Branch Sheep Dog Trial**  
Pottsgrove, PA.  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials  
Allan Lynch  
RD2, Box 168, Turbotville, PA 17772  
(717) 649-6212

## July 18-19, 1998

**Milliken - Bustard Farm SDT**  
Kingston, Ontario  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials  
USBCHA  
(only open is NEBCA sanctioned)  
Mark Bustard  
RR2, Kingston, Ontario K7L 5H6  
(613) 531-9405

## July 18-19, 1998

**Kelmscott Farm Sheep Dog Trial**  
Camden, ME.  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials  
Mindy Empey  
RR2, Box 365, Lincolnville, ME 04849  
(207) 763-4088

## July 24(7:00pm) -26, 1998

**Lennoxville International SDT**  
Lennoxville, Quebec  
Two (and 1/4) 1-day Novice & Open Trials, USBCHA  
Dave Young  
32 Flanders Rd., Sawyerville,  
Quebec J0B 3A0  
(819) 889-3276

### Please Note:

The USBCHA Nursery will start **Friday evening, July 24th at 7:00pm.**

On Saturday, July 25th, we will start with Open, afterwards Ranch, Pro-Novice, and finish with N/N on Sunday, July 26th.

## August 1-3, 1998

**Nation Valley Sheep Dog Trial**  
Winchester, Ontario  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials  
USBCHA  
Werner Reitbock  
Box 424, Winchester, Ontario K0C 2K0  
(613) 448-3266

## August 5-6, 1998

**Renaissance Farm SDT**  
Sydenham, Ontario  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials  
J. P. or Angela LaLonde  
RR1, Sydenham, Ontario K0H 2T0  
(613) 376-3659

## August 7-9, 1998

**Pittsburgh Township Dog Trial**  
Grass Creek Park, Kingston, Ontario  
One day Novice Trial  
Two 1-day Open Trials, USBCHA  
(only open is NEBCA sanctioned)  
Amanda Milliken  
RR2, Kingston, Ontario K7L 5H6  
(613) 531-9405

## August 14-16, 1998

**Leatherstocking Sheep Dog Trial**  
Cooperstown, NY  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials  
Chalmers Means  
RD2, Box 190, Otego, NY 13825  
(607) 432-4903

## August 15-16, 1998

**Lamprey River Farm**  
Two 1-day Novice Trials  
Janet Larson  
76 Lee Hook Rd., Lee, NH 03824  
(603) 659-7046

## August 15-16, 1998

**Western Ontario SDT**  
Palmerston, Ontario  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials USBCHA  
Margaret Lambkin  
RR1, Palmerston, Ontario N0G 2P0  
(519) 343-5573

## August 22, 1998

**Scottish Festival Open Trial**  
Quechee, VT  
One day Open Trial  
Steve Wetmore  
PO Box 54, Strafford, VT 05072  
(802) 765-4466

## August 23, 1998

**NY State Championship Dog Trial**  
Altamont Fair, Altamont NY.  
One day Open Trial.  
Mike Canaday  
889 Meadowdale Rd.  
Altamont, NY 12009  
(518) 861-6049

## August 23, 1998

**Ross Farm Museum SDT**  
New Ross, N.S.  
One day Novice Trial  
Bill and Hilary Flower  
(902) 634-4833  
e-mail: flower@ns.sympatico.ca

## August 27, 1998

**Lancaster Fair Sheep Dog Trial**  
Lancaster, NH  
One day Open Trial (points)  
Roger Deschambeault  
2440 East Conway Rd.  
Center Conway, NH 03813  
(603) 939-2255

## August 28-30, 1998

**1998 Keystone Alternative Farm Trial**  
Ivyrose Farm, Bedminster, PA  
Two 1-day Open and Novice Trials  
Eve Marschark  
PO Box 397, Bedminster, PA 18910  
(215) 795-2023

## September 5-7, 1998

**New Jersey State Sheep Dog Trial**  
Fosterfields, Morristown, NJ.  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials  
Gene Sheninger  
213 Split Rock Rd., Boonton, NJ 07005  
(201) 299-9785

continued on next page

## 1998 NEBCA TRIAL SCHEDULE - continued

### September 5-6, 1998

Blue Hill Fair & Northeast US SDT  
Blue Hill, ME.  
Two 1-day Open Trials (points)  
Jim Davidson  
North Country Farm,  
Round Pond, ME 04564  
(207) 677-2224

### - CANCELED -

### September 7, 1998

Windsor Fair Open Trial

### September 11, 1998

NH Highland Games  
Loon Mountain, NH  
One day Open Trial (points)  
Lynn Deschambeault  
RR1 Box 897 B, Bridgton, ME 04009  
(207) 452-2898

### September 19-20, 1998

Brush Run Farm SDT,  
Charleroi, PA  
Benefits the Parental Stress Center and  
Fallowfield Township Volunteer Fire Dept  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials - USBCHA  
Allison Gebaurer  
66 Zippay Rd., Charleroi, PA 15022  
(724) 483-7432

### September 21, 1998

Cumberland Fair Trial  
Cumberland, ME.  
One day Open Trial  
Gabe Merrill  
RFD1, Box 25, Brownfield, ME 04010  
(207) 935-2520

### September 21-22, 1998

Eastern States Exposition SDT  
West Springfield, MA  
Two 1-day Open Trials  
Carol Campion  
109 Hammond Hill Rd., Hampton, CT 06247  
(860) 455-9416

### September 26-27, 1998

NEBCA Novice Championship



sponsored by  
CENTRAL CAPE DODGE

Sheriff's Youth Ranch, Marstons Mills, MA  
Joe Kennedy  
West Barnstable, MA 02668  
(508) 362-3005  
e-mail: jkennedy@capecod.net

### End of 1998 Open Season

### October 3, 1998

NH State Championship Dog Trial  
East Conway, NH  
One day Open Trial  
Roger Deschambeault  
2440 East Conway Rd., Center Conway,  
NH 03813 (603) 939-2255

### October 4, 1998

Fryeburg Fair Sheep Dog Trial  
Fryeburg, ME  
One day Open Trial  
Gabrielle Merrill  
RFD1, Box 25, Brownfield, ME 04010  
(207) 935-2520

### October 10-11, 1998

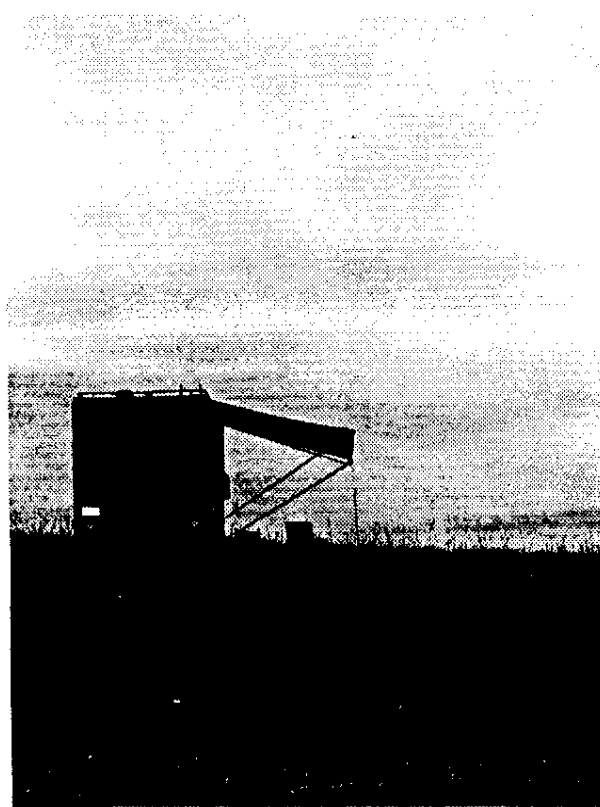
NEBCA Fall Foliage Championship  
Old Chatam, NY (Tentative site)  
Warren Mick  
750 Meadowdale Rd., Altamont, NY 12009  
(518) 861-5854

### October 17-18, 1998

Mountain Meadow Nursery Trial  
Lebanon, NH  
Two 1-day Novice Trials  
Bud Ames  
46 Eastman Hill Rd., Lebanon, NH 03824  
(603) 448-5429

### October 24-25, 1998

Maplewood Farm Halloween Trial  
Two 1-day Novice Trials  
Joanne Krause  
571 Westchester Rd., Colchester, CT 06415  
(860) 267-6125



photograph by cokie hamm

## 1998 East Coast TRIAL SCHEDULE

### Jun 26-28, 1998

Autumn Hill Sheep Dog Trial  
Union Bridge, MD  
Two 1-day Novice & Open Trials  
USBCHA  
Mary Brighoff,  
9512 Bessie Clemson Rd.,  
Union Bridge MD 21791  
(301) 898-1132

### Jun 28, 1998

Scottish Highland SDT  
Chesapeake City Park,  
Greenbriar Pkwy. Chesapeake, Va  
Judge: Alasdair MacRae.  
Sanctioned by the USBCHA and the  
Va Border Collie Assoc.  
Contact: Carol M. Calhoun  
(919) 335-5156  
carolm@ecsu.campus.mci.net.

### Aug 16, 1998

Lawrence Town Exhibition SDT  
Novice Novice and ProNovice  
Lawrence, Nova Scotia  
Contact: Roy Robinson  
(902) 825-4596

### Aug 29, 1998

Truro Rece-way SDT, Truro, NS  
Judge: John Atkinson (England)  
Contact:  
Fred Hamilton (902) 689-2410  
e-mail: fred.hamilton@ns.sympatico.ca

### Sep 19-20, 1998

Hawkridge Farm SDT, Morton, Ontario  
Contact: Jennifer Davies  
(613) 387-2669

### Sep 30, 1998 (Wednesday)

22nd VIRGINIA STATEFAIR SDT  
Richmond, VA  
Contact: Dr. Karen Lacy  
(804) 226-4338

### Oct 21-25, 1998

1998 NATIONAL & NURSERY  
FINALS, El Reno, OK

### Oct 24-25, 1998

2nd ANNUAL  
STRAWBERRY HILL SDT  
Highland Games & Celtic Festival  
Location: The VA State Fairground  
Contact: Dr. Karen Lacy  
(804) 226-4338



## Joy Seclusival Sheep Dog Trial Shipman, Virginia April 16 - 19, 1998

### THURSDAY April 16th

#### Novice/Novice

1. Samantha Furman Tucker
2. John Bible Liz
3. Samantha Furman Jill

#### Pro/Novice

1. Karen Thomason Bart
2. Jeanne Weaver Cuinan
3. Amanda Milliken Gin
4. Kate Broadbent Rex
5. Dal Kratzer Paddy
6. Kate Campeau Sweep

#### Ranch

1. Tom Lacy John
2. Tom Wilson Dot
3. Lyle Boyer Zeke
4. Ralph Pulfer Pat
5. Ralph Pulfer Tweed
6. Lena Bailey Teak

### Open/SATURDAY April 18th

1. Alasdair MacRae Cap
2. Alasdair MacRae Nan
3. Sally Lacy Tru
4. Karen Thomason Quill
5. Stu Ligon Nap
6. Karen Thomason Tweed
7. Beverly Lambert Lark
8. Beverly Lambert Pat
9. Buzz Shearon Spot
10. Amanda Milliken Eucher
11. Steve Clendenin Jan
12. Bobby Ford Megan
13. Ralph Pulfer Cap
14. Stu Ligon Keele
15. Lendon Wilson Chip
16. Florence Wilson Jay
17. Tom Wilson Vic
18. Florence Wilson Lad
19. Mike Canaday Ben
20. Bernie Feldman Bryn

### FRIDAY April 17th

#### Novice/Novice

1. Samantha Furman Jill
2. Rebecca Ryan Bandit
3. Samantha Furman Tucker

#### Pro/Novice

1. Amanda Milliken Gin
2. Dal Kratzer Paddy
3. Denise Wall Joy
4. Buzz Shearon JJ
5. Lena Bailey Mac
6. Tom Lacy Judy

#### Ranch

1. Tom Lacy John
2. Bud Boudreau Wasp
3. Tom Wilson Dot
4. Beverly Lambert Nap
5. Gina Kirwin Toss
6. Marc Christopher Mitch

### Open/SUNDAY April 19th

1. Alasdair MacRae Cap
2. Tom Wilson Vic
3. David Henry Holly
4. Amanda Milliken Grace
5. Beverly Lambert Pat
6. Tom Wilson Hope
7. Karen Thomason Quill
8. Ralph Pulfer Cap
9. Amanda Milliken Eucher
10. Kent Kuykendall Bill
11. Alasdair MacRae Nan
12. Lendon Wilson Chip
13. Steve Clendenin Zoro
14. Steve Clendenin Jan
15. Lyle Boyer Jayce
16. Mike Canaday Smut
17. Stu Ligon Keele
18. David Henry Roy
19. Kent Kuykendall Gyp
20. Mike Canaday Ben

Bob Post Memorial Trophy for top Novice/Novice handler went to Sam Furman in honor of Joy Dog Food's company representative who originally welcomed our sport and handlers so well.

You will all be relieved to hear that Alasdair's new dog, Cap, seems to be able to turn in the same nearly flawless runs that Ben was turning in last year. I know that you must have shared my concern that Alasdair would suddenly become a mortal dog handler like the rest of us—never fear, he was well on his way to winning the overall champion and reserve champion at Seclusival by Sunday afternoon ;-)

Alasdair was first and second on Saturday with our own Sally Lacy and Tru nipping at his heels with a beautiful 90 point run for third place. **There were over 100 open dogs both days and more than 130 novice dogs run.** The running was flawless, with each dog getting a fair shot at some interesting and fun sheep on a field that was perfect for inexperienced young dogs. The open used the wooded top to the field and added a sometimes unwelcome element of difficulty for the open dogs. The novice weather was perfect US trial weather; Saturday and Sunday would have been perfect in Scotland or Southern California—rain and cold.

A great trial. If you missed this year be sure and get to next year's. I think they could easily run another 50 dogs.

Beverly

## Available for Stud: Imp. Craig ABC 98616

Sixth in 1994 Scottish Nursery Finals.  
Texas Triple Crown Winner (open ranch).  
Stylish, keen, all around quality dog,  
super disposition.



Inquiries:

Warren and Maria Mick, Altamont, NY  
(518) 861-5854, mickwa@capital.net

# TRIAL RESULTS



An excellent turnout this year for Edgar Gould's annual Nursery Trial at his Cooperlane Farm. 31 dogs and their handlers, some experienced, some new to the joys and frustrations of trialling, took on Edgar's "Horned Dorsets" and the ever-present, heavy pressure to the exhaust gate. These sheep know where "out" is and make a determined effort to get there.

Heavy fog lifted off the field in time for the first N/N runs and the day turned out overcast and mild: just right for dogs and sheep. Traditionally, this trial features a slight departure from the norm in the N/N class in that after dog and handler wear the sheep through the drive panel, the dog must hold the sheep while the handler moves to the pen. The dog is then asked to gather and fetch the sheep to the pen.

Our thanks to Michael Dathe for fair and even judging of all classes; to Ellen Skillings for performing what was a sometimes difficult job of setting sheep all day. Thanks also to Edgar for his continued support of young dogs and inexperienced handlers.

By George Northrop



Paige (right) and Ellen

## Cooperlane Farm Nursery Trial

Shelburne, MA

May 3rd, 1998

Trial Manager: Edgar Gould, Judge: Michael Dathe



Edgar Gould, Jack, Craig, and Ellen Skillings

### Novice/Novice - 10 Dogs

1.	Lindy Elkins	Tess	72
2.	Emily Yazwinski	Tarr	71.5
3.	Carlene Eitapence	Floss	67
4.	Clint Brake	Callum	66
5.	Carol Wiegand	Ty	63
6.	Clint Brake	Switch	53
7.	Wendy Warner	Kate	42
8.	Bud Ames	Luke	27

### Pro-Novice - 12 Dogs

1.	Becky Peterson	Taff	73
2.	Denise Leonard	Kate	69
3.	Evi Carleton	Jack	61
4.	Becky Peterson	Libby	59
5.	Wendy Werner	Abbie	56
6.	Gwen Cassel	Flair	55
7.	Kathy Hughes	Summer	48
8.	Melissa Demille	Stella	44

### Ranch - 9 Dogs

1.	Ellen Skillings	Paige	78
2.	Peter VanDeCar	Spot	75
3.	Dee Woessner	Fly	70
4.	George Northrup	Kyp	69
5.	Melissa Demille	BeeBee	67
6.	Carlene Eitapence	Lass	42

## Hancock Shaker Village Trial

Pittsfield, MA

May 9-10, 1998

Trial Manager: Eric Johnson, Judge: Bernie Armata

The Hancock Shaker Village in the Berkshire Region of Massachusetts ran its first-ever sheep dog trial on May 9 and 10. The trial was part of the sheep and wool craft day they've had the last several years. Despite two days of clouds and rain, the Village's historic buildings, period landscaping and lush green Berkshire hills which surround them were a picturesque and peaceful setting in which to spend the weekend.

There was a good turnout of handlers and dogs. Even a few visitors braved the weather to watch the dogs in action.

The novice classes ran on Saturday with the open on Sunday. The trial field was about 250 yds long, 100 yds wide and mostly flat with a high point near the back end. The sheep used were the super-fit katadins of Peg and Allan Lynch. These usually well mannered ovines surprised some handlers, being tough to move at times and light and touchy to pen at others. Bernie Armata ably judged all the classes.

Speaking for all the handlers, we extend a big thank you to the folks at Hancock Shaker Village for hosting the event and especially to farm manager Eric Johnson and Joshua Yurfest for their efforts in organizing and running it. We sincerely hope to see this trial again next year.

The Results:

### Novice-Novice 14 dogs ran

1. Cheryl Burr	Tess	71
2. Hal VanDerCar	Rocket	66
3. Molly King	Lida	58
4. Carlene Eitapence	Floss	55
5. L. Hotchkiss	Jayne	50
6. Bud Ames	Luke	50
7. Emily Yazwinski	Tarr	49
8. Cokie Hamm	Zouk	45
9. Liz Phillips	Jacko	44
10. Lana Petty	Austin	43



"Congratulations, Tess"  
(actually more like: "Where have YOU been?")

Best Outwork - Cheryl Burr with Tess

Best Pen - Cokie Hamm with Zouk

Most Promising Young Dog - Cheryl Burr's Tess

### Ranch 16 dogs ran

1. Allan Lynch	Jen	78
2. Warren Mick	Reggie	78
3. Liz Phillips	Kate	76
4. Allan Lynch	McDuff	74
5. Chalmers Means	Bette	73
6. Bud Ames	Sam	68
7. Peter VanderCar	Spot	66
8. Ellen Skillings	Paige	66
9. George Northrop	Kyp	66
10. Walt Jagger	Lass	62

### Pro-Novice 22 dogs ran

1. Maria Mick	Craig	71
2. MaryAnn Fallon	Spy	70
3. Peg Lynch	Jill	68
4. Melissa DeMille	Stella	68
5. Peg Lynch	Pepper	65
6. Pecky Peterson	Libby	64
7. Cheryl J. Williams	Ben	63
8. Jean Kennedy	Jill	63
9. Warren Mick	Reggie	62
10. Greg Hamm	Galen	55



Craig and Maria

Best Outwork - Cheryl J. Williams with Ben

Best Pen - Jean Kennedy with Jill

Most Promising Young Dog - Melissa Demille's Stella

### OPEN 32 dogs ran

1. Cheryl J. Williams	Sadie	94
2. Maria Mick	Ken	88
3. Jean Kennedy	Max	88
4. Michael Dathe	Cobb	87
5. Warren Mick	Tim	86
6. Cheryl J. Williams	Slip	85
7. Barbara Armata	Taff	83
8. Walt Jagger	Nan	76
9. Betty Levin	Maddie	75
10. Steve Wetmore	Keegan	74

Best Outwork - Maria Mick with Ken

Best Shed - Michael Dathe with Cobb

Best Drive - Cheryl J. Williams with Sadie

continued page 24

# TRIAL RESULTS

## NEBCA Spring Fling Benefit Trial - continued

### SATURDAY

#### Open

1. Dave Young	Streak	95	6. Warren Mick	Annie	86
2. Maria Mick	Ken	95	7. Dave Young	Shim	84
3. Dave Young	Ben	90	8. Warren Mick	Tim	68
4. Warren Mick	Reggie	89	9. Gabe Merrill	Abbie	68
5. Gabe Merrill	Meg	86	10. Lana Pettey	Sioux	64

### SUNDAY

#### Novice/Novice

1. Lana Pettey	Austin	68	5. Dave Murray	Bess	43
*2. Ja'hn Deschambeault	Jessie	59	6. Lana Pettey	Lugh	35
3. Brenna Huntington	Spot	58	7. Cynthia Arnold	Jess	19
4. Stuart Miller	Ben	49			

#### Pro Novice

1. Lynn Deschambeault	Grace	69
2. Maria Mick	Craig	56

#### Ranch

1. Steve Wetmore	Ralph	72	5. Millie Curtis	Robbie	41
2. Steve Wetmore	Keegan	68	6. Fran Wheeler	Jock	33
3. Steve Wetmore	Moss	64	7. Fran Wheeler	Tweed	32
4. Joe Kennedy	Meg	64			

#### Open

1. Warren Mick	Tim	98	5. Steve Wetmore	Ralph	86
2. Roger Deschambeault	Jack	96	6. Maria Mick	Ken	83
3. Gabe Merrill	Meg	96	7. Gabe Merrill	Abbie	73
4. Steve Wetmore	Keegan	90	8. Warren Mick	Reggie	66

### OVERALL CHAMPIONS — TWO-DAY TOTAL

Novice/Novice	Ja'hn Deschambeault	Jessie	114
Pro Novice	Maria Mick	Craig	123
Ranch	Joe Kennedy	Meg	115
Open	Gabe Merrill	Meg	182

The "Brownie" award, judged by the Trial Manager to be the most helpful over the two days: **BETTY MURRAY**. Betty did all of the paperwork.

Award: two packages of Betty Crocker Brownies.

The ARM & HAMMER Award, also judged by the Trial Manager, went to the person who had the thankless task of handling the sheep in the holding pen. This award went to **Stuart Miller**. Award: Gallon of laundry detergent.

In closing, I would like to thank everyone again for making this trial a success. We raised \$1070.00 for NEBCA. If I have forgotten to thank anyone, I thank you now.

Lynn Deschambeault



## Hancock Shaker Village Trial - continued



Walt Jagger and Lass

The weekend's "Good Sportsmanship Award" goes to Walt Jagger for his open run(s) with Roy.

Their run started with a very good outrun, lift, and fetch. While turning the post, Bernie noticed there were two lambs in Walt's group instead of one, and ruled the run to be restarted with a new group—having the correct makeup of two ewes and a lamb. Well, the rerun was

even better going (near flawless, Bernie said afterwards) only to find that there were three ewe's in the group this time.

Again, Bernie stopped the run, ordering a re-re-run. As luck would have it, the third group of sheep was in fact two ewes and one lamb, but probably also the worst group of the day, creating a run I'm sure Walt would rather soon forget.

Afterwards, Walt smiled and said simply "that's the way it goes sometimes". As Walt surely knows, running a sheep dog trial is not an exact science. There are countless variables which go our ways some days, and not our way on others.

We all need reminding of this, so that like Walt, we accept the bad luck as graciously as we accept the good.

## OATLANDS FINAL OPEN RESULTS

May 9 - 10, 1998

Alasdair McRae	Nan	134
Amanda Milliken	Hazel	133
Stu Ligon	Keele	133
Tom Wilson	Hope	132
Amanda Milliken	Grace	132
Florence Wilson	Jay	128
Tom Wilson	Vic	127.5
Florence Wilson	Lad	114
Barbara Ligon	Roy	112
David Henry	Holly	112
Roy Johnson	Jim	112
Mike Canaday	Robin	111
Linda Fogt	Meg	110.5
Mike Canaday	Ben	110.5
Stu Ligon	Nap	110

## A Special Moment at Oatlands

By Myra W. Soden

The run that made my weekend complete was Sally Lacy and Tru. There is no dog better named than Tru - he is. I noticed what appeared to me to be a very balky sheep being set out for his first gather. But the top end handled things well and off Tru went to his left. Anyone who has ever seen this dog, or any of his littermates or their sire, KNOWS nothing EVER happens badly on the lift. Tru was lifting his sheep altho' the sheep seemed



## Oatlands Highlights - continued

balkier than his usual absolutely smooth style. Sure enough, one sheep broke big time and bolted dead away back to the put-out. There is Tru, 350 yards away from his handler and did he grip? No. He did everything he could to cover that sheep but he was honest and did not take advantage of the situation. *No way* was he going to stop her without a full body slam and grip and he didn't do it. Instead, she ran back into the corner and ducked between the black tarp and the fence. Tru went back and was inching along the fence gently, then someone at the top end from inside the pen shoved the sheep back out from behind the tarp. Tru picked her up and brought her back to the other two and went on as if nothing unusual had happened. Sally stood at the post and let her dog handle things (although I wonder still what she must have been thinking or feeling, as she occasionally got on tiptoes to see what was going on).

Things went along pretty nicely after that—for a while. The second gather and fetch was fine; the drive went very well. Of course, many of us wondered how much time had been lost and whether Sally and Tru would beat the clock. Sally set up for the shed and this got accomplished. Then that one sheep reared her ugly little head again and tried to duck around the pen and bolt away. Tru wasn't having any of it! He was going for the body slam and the grip this time, but Sally said "*Tru! Don't!*" and with a dog hair's breath to spare, he barely brushed by this soon-to-be-lambchops, turning his head (jaws open and ready) at the last instant to avoid a DQ. And they penned the three sheep before the clock ran out.

Did they win? No. But, to me, there was no less thrill watching this run than watching the winning one. Here's a dog who was thinking for himself, willing to pull out all the stops to get a job done, *and* pulling out all stops to do what he knows his handler wants and needs him to do. What good would all of his integrity at the top end have done if he'd gone through all of that, keeping his head and his cool, only to grip out and DQ at the last moment? He deserved to finish his run honorably and he did, also honoring his handler and taking care of things she couldn't even see. With all the discussion recently about gripping, here's a situation where a dog has a grip and would have used it without any problem. And the sheep deserved it, too. Her behavior was not caused by the dog's handling of the sheep, any error on his handler's part, or anything else but the nature of that particular sheep. On the farm, the grip might have been employed from the start and gotten things going quickly and efficiently. But we weren't on the farm today. We were at the Oatlands Open, in front of hundreds of spectators. Every millimeter of finesse was used, and the end result was a completed run with a respectable score. If there had been an award given for the best work in the face of adversity, Tru would have won it.

Sally, of course, is still probably trying to normalize her heart rate. I know mine took two more runs to slow down! And if I feel guilty about all the stuff I should have gotten done this weekend (cleaning, laundry, working my own dogs) instead of driving 2.5 hours each way 2 days in a row, in the rain, to watch a trial. Well, thanks to Tru, I don't even care. I wouldn't have missed those 10 minutes for the world.



photograph by cokie hamm

## Arthur

By Noelle Williams

The lambing yard doesn't seem like the best place to train the green dog, but it is a good place to see some real intelligence at work. I'd like to relate one episode:

One day I had a young dog named Arthur in training helping me to move ewes with newborn lambs out of the yard and into the pasture. This young dog is tall for a border, and with long gangly legs, a large head and an equally large mouth.

As the sheep were passing through a gate a gang of lambs bounced out of the flock and started to cover ground much to the consternation of their mothers. The dogs moved out to cover the flock and I put young Arthur dog on a stern down. Just as I did, a 3 day old lamb was separated from its mother in the chaos and ran frantically, blindly away from the flock while its mother cried for it. The lamb ran right for the young dog, in his down/stay, at a full-out sprint.

Arthur did not flinch but merely opened his jaws. The tiny lamb ran smack into the dog, its head lodging deep within the dog's large mouth as a thrown baseball lodges into a fielder's glove. It occurred to me that if the dog wanted to it could crush the tiny head or break the tiny neck by shaking, but I was so fascinated that I held my breath and just watched.

The lamb and the dog were motionless for several seconds. I recall noting that Arthur WAS breathing as a thin fog of breath trailed out of the corner of his mouth that freezing morning. Then the dog slowly open his jaws and gently push the lambs head out of his mouth with his tongue and looked at the lamb. The lamb shook its head and calmly turned around and walked back to its frantic mother, as if nothing had happened.

Arthur watched but never left his down. It was my impression that the dog used its mouth, its "grip", much as we humans use our hands, and just as gently. I am not always privileged to see intelligence in the dogs in action, but that day I was blessed. 🐾

## Border Collie Rescue Services:

### Sharon Nunan(PA)

3329 Foulk Road  
Boothwyn, PA 19061  
(610) 497-4378 home  
(215) 863-4586 work

...

### Nancy Cox Starkey (MD)

12985 Colonial Drive  
Mt. Airy, MD 21771  
(301) 253-4732

...

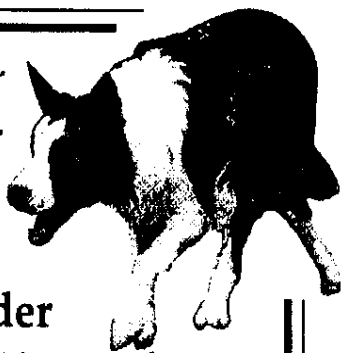
### Mary Ann O'Grady (CT)

16 Corrigan Lane  
Greenwich, CT 06831-2904  
(203) 622-3031

If you do Border Collie Rescue or wish to, please join the North American Border Collie Rescue Network (NABCRN)

As our name implies, we are a resource network and nationwide (US and Canada) support system for Border Collie Rescue people. We operate without profit and independent of any breed organizations. For information, the NABCRN List, or to be listed, phone or write:

**NABCRN, Box 843,  
Ithaca, NY 14851 USA  
(607) 659-5868**



### Trial Managers, Spectators, and Participants:

**Please** submit trial results and, hopefully, some good photos of the winners - whatever is worthy to be shared with your fellow members. Not everyone can make it to all the trials or has access to a modem, and results are of interest to a lot of people. It's up to you to keep our members informed.

### Question:

How many of the dogs that have dysplasia have parents that tested normal? I'm sure there must be some.... Can this condition skip generations? Just curious.

### Answer:

Web sites for "up to date" information are

#### Orthopedic Foundation of America (OFA)

<http://www.prodogs.com/chn/ofa/index.htm>

#### PennHip Cover Page

<http://www.allsaint.com/pennpak.html>

#### PennHip Fact Sheet

<http://www.allsaint.com/pennfaq.html>

In addition, there is good information on the USBCC home pages and if you search on hip (elbow, shoulder) dysplasia, there is a "wealth" of information out there.

The sad note is I've been formally involved "in dogs" for over 32 years—it seems like we are no closer to "real answers" than we were years ago. Having a complete "family's" x-ray history gives one a much better picture of that group of dogs' health in this area than x-rays of only the dam and sire of a pup, or the dog itself.

The concept of type, family relationships, etc. is sort of foreign here in working dogs, but all the old breeders in this country and in G.B. used followed family lines, not just individuals dogs. However, there are a couple of us (breeders) here in the N.E. that do "complete families" (or as many as we can).

Gwen Cassel, O'BRAE Border Collies/Montadale Sheep

## More Classified

### Pups For Sale

Whelped May 1st. Imp. **Jet X Jim** (Kennedy's Sue X Max). Both nice working dogs with great temperaments. OFA good. Eyes fine. Black and White rough coats.

**Call Sue Schoen at:  
(508) 548-5347**

### Dog-Broke Romneys For Sale

A good, healthy starter group: Four ewes and one ram. They are used to dogs, but not sour. The ram will challenge but gives in easily.

**Border Bay Junction Farm  
on Cape Cod  
(508) 375-0948**

### Border Collie Puppies

- dam Reuther's imp. **Fan**, sire MacRae's **Nap** (son of Berhow's Nick), both excellent working trial/farm dogs, biddable, great temperaments with people, kids, dogs. Hips/eyes clear.

Pups raised in house -well socialized. Males and females, short and long coats, black and white, one male tri. Wormed, shots, ready to go mid-May.

**Lin or Bill Reuther,  
(802) 483-9321**

### Started Dog For Sale

Coming 3 year old neutered male. Nice for farm work, mostly sheep, some cattle. Long gather, driving. A great dog for the right person.

**Becky Peterson  
Leyden, MA (413) 624-5562**

### Two Litters due in May:

Out of **Jolly** and **Dandy** (Open and Retired Open Trial Dogs). Both hip and eyes clear. This cross has produced excellent obedience, agility, and trial dogs.

Out of **Grace** (Jolly and Dandy) and Mike Canaday's—previously Alasdair Macrae's—**Ben**. Grace is just starting her trial career. She is a natural, willing worker who has been easy to train.

She is hip- and eye- cleared.

Ben has won or placed in Open throughout the UK and U.S. and is the winner of the "1996 Purina High Point" award and the 1996 U.S. National Championship.

All dogs have wonderful temperaments! Blue Merles, Black and Whites, and possibly Blues expected.

Contact:

**Lynn Deschambeault (207) 452-2898  
RR1, Box 897B, Denmark, ME 04022**

# Classified

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### Border Collies and Kathadin Hair Sheep

Merle and black and white puppies;  
occasionally started dogs.

All breeding stock Penn Hip, OFA  
certified and eye checked. Proven  
producers of trial and obedience  
winners.

*Kathadin Hair Sheep originated in  
Maine; excellent for working dogs; no  
shearing, no tail-docking necessary.*

**Lynne Deschambeault**

Merlynn Kennels, RR 1, Box 897B  
Denmark, ME 04022-9607  
(207) 452-2898

## Registered Border Collies

Stud service, puppies, started dogs  
from proven, working bloodlines!  
Breeding and guaranteeing satisfaction  
of versatile, working Border Collies  
since 1973!

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**Tom and Karen Lacy**

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Richmond, VA 23231  
(804) 226-4338

## Border Collie Training Services Available:

Take advantage of lots of sheep and a  
large variety of working areas.

Lessons and started dogs  
available. New covered runs.

Handling Border Collies for 15 years.

**Barbara Leverett**

1512 Burrell Road  
St. Johnsville, NY 13452  
(518) 568-2833

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Private lessons, clinics,  
and exhibitions.

Pups through started dogs available.

**Cheryl Jagger Williams**

RR 1, PO Box 1374  
Hop Bottom, PA 18824  
(717) 289-4733

## Border Collie Books

Reprint of Scottish classic  
*Sheep Dogs and Their Masters*  
by J. H. McCulloch (\$15).

Also three volumes of true working  
dog stories from Australia (\$14 each).

Shipping \$1.50 for one or more.

Old books for sale occasionally.

**D. Woessner**

188 Flat Hill Rd, Lunenburg,  
MA 01462

(tofteast@ma.ultranet.com)

**Hoop & Becky Peterson** are now  
distributors of

***Ration Maker Premix***

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products.

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sheep producers to evaluate your  
sheep mineral needs.

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(413) 624-5562

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receives and records entries,  
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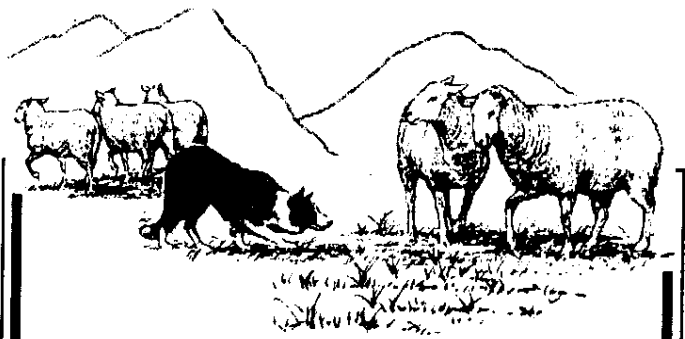
**Pre-Trial Management Services**  
9512 Bessie Clemson Road  
Union Bridge, MD 21791  
(301) 898-1132

## Standing at Stud: "Shim"

2 1/2 year old son of Milliken's Boy  
(imp) and Hazel. Powerful sheep and  
cattle dog. Both hips and eyes clear.

**Contact Dave Young at:**

(819) 889-3278



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## Standing at Stud: Imported "Ken"

Powerful, yet biddable.

Has placed in Northeast OPEN trials  
with "Best Gather" at Hop Bottom,  
and "Best Shed" at Cooperstown.

Won trials in Texas.

Pedigree back to Templeton's "Roy",  
Dalziel's "Dryden Joe", and C. Jones'  
"Bwlch Taft". OFA good, eyes clear.

Inquiries:

**Maria Mick (518) 861-5854**

## Pups due Mid May

from Dell and Roy

Dell is a successful open trial dog  
imported from Ireland where she  
finished 4th over 150 dogs  
in the Irish Nursery.

Roy is the son

of Karen Thomason's "Lad" and  
grandson of Tom Wilson's "Roy".

**Carol Campion (860) 455-9416**

# Breeders Directory\*

This listing of breeders of Border Collies is for informational purposes only and in no way represents an endorsement of these breeders by the Northeast Border Collie Association. When making inquiries for purchasing a pup, NEBCA strongly recommends selecting from sound, proven, working stock. We suggest you see both parents work. If you are not able to see the parents working at the farm, do attend the trials and see them working there. Watch for trial results and seek the advice of experienced handlers. *\*Not all breeders listed here are handlers.*

Clint & Linda Brake  
Tommy Hawke Farm  
76 Valhalla Road  
Hillsboro, NH 03244  
(603) 478-3560

Carol & Larry Campion  
Bittersweet Farm  
109 Hammond Hill Rd.  
Hampton, CT 06247  
(860) 455-9416

Michael & Pat Canaday  
889 Meadowdale Road  
Altamont, NY 12009  
(518) 861-6049

Gwen Cassel  
O'Bræ Border Collies  
PO Box 44  
Sherburne, NY 12009  
(315) 653-7764

Richard M. Cody Sr.  
Cody Farms  
363 Old Stage Rd. R.D.#2  
Groton, NY 13073  
(607) 898-3812

Kate Collins & George Northrop  
Aurora Ranch  
PO Box 119, Taft Hill Road  
Royalston, MA  
(508) 249-4407

Lynn Deschambeault  
Merlynn Kennels  
RR1, Box 897B  
Denmark, ME 04022-9607  
(207) 452-2898

Roger Deschambeault  
Nearfield Farm  
2440 East Conway Rd.  
Center Conway, NH 03813  
(603) 939-2255

Edgar Gould  
Cooperlane Farm  
Shelburne Falls, MA 01370  
(413) 625-6496

Walt & Eleanor Jagger  
Sheepy Hollow Farm  
PO Box 233  
Hop Bottom, PA 18824  
(717) 289-4663

Joseph & Jean Kennedy  
Borderline Farm  
575 Willow Street  
W. Barnstable, MA 02668  
(508) 362-3005

Chris & Sue Kroemmelbein  
Lilly Hill Farm  
156 Gallmeier Road  
Milford, NJ 08848  
(908) 996-6163 or 996-3339  
Voicemail: (908) 935-8748

Sally M. Lacy  
Keswick Farm  
PO Box 487  
Gap Mountain Rd.  
Fitzwilliam, NH 03447  
(603) 242-3017

Beverly Lambert &  
Douglas McDonough  
280 Hebron Road  
Andover, CT 06232  
(860) 742-5300

Janet Larson  
76 Lee Hook Road  
Lee, NH 03824  
(603) 659-7046

Barbara Leverett  
1512 Burrell Road  
St. Johnsville, NY 13452  
(518) 568-2833

Betty Levin  
16 Old Winter Street  
Lincoln, MA 01773  
(781) 259-8799

Allen & Margaret Lynch  
RR2, Box 168  
Turbotville, PA 17772  
(717) 649-6212

Eve & Len Marschark  
Ivyrose Farm  
PO Box 397  
3118 Farm School Road  
Bedminster, PA 18910  
(215) 795-2023

Alex McKinven  
Cessnock Farm  
RR 1, 26 University Road  
North Hatley  
Quebec JOB 2CO  
Canada  
(819) 842-2975

Gabrielle Merrill  
Misty Lane Border Collies  
RFD 1, PO Box 20  
Brownfield, ME 04010  
(207) 935-2520

Maria & Warren Mick  
750 Meadowdale Road  
Altamont, NY 12009  
(518) 861-5854

Dave & Betty Murray  
RR 1, PO Box 628  
W.Charlestown, VT 05872  
(802) 895-4154

Becky & Hoop Peterson  
Orchard Vailey Farm  
41 Bell Road  
Leyden, MA 01337  
(413) 624-5562

Gene & Lynne Sheninger  
Wayside Farm  
332 Split Rock Road  
Boonton, NJ 07005  
(201) 299-9785

Ellen Skillings  
10 Purington Lane  
Colrain, MA 01340  
(413) 624-0271

Steve Wetmore &  
Sara Root  
Spring Valley Farm  
PO Box 54  
Strafford, VT 05072  
(802) 765-4466

Richard Williams &  
Cheryl Jagger Williams  
Culleymont  
RR 1, PO Box 1374  
Hop Bottom, PA 18824  
(717) 289-4733

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