

NEBCA News

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Debbie Donahue and Hep finishing their winning run at the VT No Frills Novice Trial.
Photo by Charles Denton, Thundering Paws Farm.

Stopping Top Ten 8/22/13 by Warren Mick....Pages 17-18

The Northeast Border Collie Association's Mission

... IS TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE BORDER COLLIE AS A WORKING STOCK DOG THROUGH THE SANCTIONING AND REGULATION OF COMPETITIVE HERDING TRIALS BY PROVIDING INFORMATION ON TRAINING, HEALTH AND BREEDING.

NEBCA News Editor:

Jim Allen: 301-223-7481
bcbirth@earthlink.net

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Send articles to Molly King,
mollyking59@gmail.com

NEBCA Bylaws & Rules are available online at www.nebca.net. If members require hard copies, please contact The Secretary, Martha Walke, P.O. Box 66 S. Strafford, VT 05070. 802-765-4935, mwalke@sover.net

Membership Information: Dues are \$20 for individuals or \$25 per farm/family. Renewals are due by January 1. New members may join at any time. If joining after October 1, you will automatically be paid through the following year. To join or renew your membership, send your name and address along with your dues to: The Secretary, NEBCA, Martha Walke, P.O. Box 66, S. Strafford, VT 05070.

You can also join or renew online at www.nebca.net

NEBCA Officers

President, Warren Mick, 518-861-5854
mick.nebca@nycap.rr.com

Vice President, George Northrop, 978-249-4407
george01368@yahoo.com

Secretary, Martha Walke, 802-765-4935
walkem@sover.net

Treasurer, Ellen Rusconi Black, 203-457-1459
dragonflyfarm@att.net

Board of Directors

Chair: Dave Sharp, 215-453-9068
dbsharp1@verizon.net

Lynn Deschambeault, 207-452-2898
merlynn@fairpoint.net

Barb Levinson, 973-540-1506
sblevinsonnj@gmail.com

Michael Nunan, 802-649-8011
nunan@myfairpoint.net

Committees

Open Trials Committee
Chair: Rob Drummond, 603-478-0846
robnebca@bcaddict.com

Denise Leonard, 413-773-5232
dleonard@schoolph.umass.edu

Nancy Phillips, 802-496-7625
nphillips@madriver.com

Werner Reitboeck, 613-448-3266
wernerr@xplornet.com wernerr@xplornet.com

Bud Ames, 603-838-2018
bud@blaktop.com

Novice Trials Committee
Chair: Anne Devine, 860-608-4447
info@eyespybordercollies.com

Pam Davies, 908-361-1335
pamdavies30@gmail.com

Wally Dury, 973-727-3836
wallydury@gmail.com

Eileen Wilentz, 860-738-9802
ewilvet@sbcglobal.net

Judging Education Committee
Chair: Dave Sharp, 215-453-9068
dbsharp1@verizon.net

Lori Cunningham, 570-768-5953
loricunningham@windstream.net

Wally Dury, 973-727-3836
wallydury@gmail.com

Rose Redick, 518-465-6808
roser@aol.com

Learning Trials Committee
Co-Chairs:
Val Pietraszewska, 603-256-6333
revap@myfairpoint.net
&
Emily Yazwinski, 413-774-3386
yazfam@verizon.net

Ellen Black, 203-457-1459
dragonflyfarm@att.net

Debbie Donahue, 802-457-4389
5404deborah@comcast.net

Jill Horton Lyons, 413-548-3940
jill@winterberryfarm.org

Rose Redick, 518-465-6808
roser@aol.com

Wendy Warner, 413-743-4733
farmgirl.4@hotmail.com

Calendar
George Northrop, 978-249-4407
george01368@yahoo.com

Library
Martha Walke, 802-765-4935
walkem@sover.net

Newsletter
Jim Allen, 301-223-7481/802-333-4396
bcbirth@earthlink.net

Website
Joanne & Jim Murphy
613-283-7212
jomur9@hotmail.com

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Please support Border Collie Rescue

New England Border Collie Rescue

<http://nebcr.org/>
info@nebcr.org

Northeast Border Collie Rescue

<http://northeastbordercollieresue.org>
nbcr@verizon.net

Mid Atlantic Border Collie Rescue

<http://www.mabcr.org/>
slr@mabcr.org

Glen Highland Farm

<http://glenhighlandfarm.com/sbcr.htm>
sweetbcrescue@citlink.com

Border Collie Rescue Ontario

<http://www.bordercollieresueont.com/home.cfm>
cindy@bordercollieresueont.com
sharon@bordercollieresueont.com

From the President

Hello Fellow Members,

Another busy trial season is underway with many well-attended competitions, clinics, and events already history and several more still to come. As fall approaches it's time for our annual club championship trials. The Novice and Open trial committees are busy preparing for the year end championships (the Novice Finals and the Fall Foliage Championship) and I'm sure both will be great events. I hope you have the chance to attend. We also have the 2013 USBCHA finals to look forward to this October in Virginia. Many NEBCA region members will be there to compete, watch and volunteer.



There are three new documents on the NEBCA web site. Two are concerned with club policies regarding information, nominations, elections, audits, and proxies. The two policy documents are located on the members only page and will be maintained by the board of directors. The third document is intended to aid new trial managers in putting on a trial. The "Trial Managers Handbook," as it's called, is located in the "Trials" section of the web site main page menu. It will be maintained by the open trial committee. The handbook has lots of good information now, but will surely be improved and expanded with help for the membership and many veteran trial managers. All three documents are open for comment from the membership.

The nominating committee for the elections at the 2014 annual meeting will be announced soon. There are two board of director positions to be filled. If you are interested or would like to nominate someone, contact the nominating committee or the secretary, who will forward the information to the committee.

Best to all,

Warren



A Note from the Editor

Many thanks to the readers who contributed to this issue: Christine Koval's article on diagnosing lameness should be very helpful to all of us, as should Rose Reddick's article on organizing your first trial, as well as Janet Langdon's article on the benefits of learning trials and mentoring. My favorite, possibly because it applies so directly to me and my dog, is Warren's article on how, why and when to stop your dog (or not).

Jim Allen

Nearfield Farm, June 7-9 (Submitted by Gabe Merrill)

Open June 8th 55 dogs

1. Steve Wetmore/Gile/89
 2. Werner Reitbock/Tara/89
 3. Roger Deschambeault/Bob/88
 4. Linda Comeau/Joe/87
 5. Werner Reitbock/Roy/85
 6. Roger Deschambeault/Trim/80
 7. Fiona Robertson/Mirk/79
 8. Maria Amodei/Song/78
 9. Jim Perkins/Ben/77
 10. Fiona Robertson/Tap/75
 11. Kathy Keats/Craig/71
 12. Lynn Deschambeault/Chip/69
 13. Steve Wetmore/Floss/68
 14. Sharon Perkins/Cash/67
 15. Mary Lou Campbell/Dyna/67
 16. Peter Van de Car/Lief/64
 17. Maria Amodei/Levi/63
 18. Fiona Robertson/Fen/61
 19. Rich Seaman/Star/61
 20. Dave Young /Bess/60
 21. Denise Leanard/Maggie/60
 22. Emily Yazwinski/Mac/56
 23. Denise Leanard/Emmy/54
 24. Chris Bowen/Bella/51
 25. Jim Perkins/Z/47
 26. Warren Mick/Dale/40
 27. Sally Butler/Sky/38
 28. Chris Bowen/Sam/34
 29. Sharon Perkins/Bett/Ret
 30. Rob Drummond/Casey/Ret
 31. Emily Yazwinski/Teal/Ret
- ALL the rest retired

Open June 9th 55 dogs

1. Mary Lou Campbell/Dyna/90
2. Steve Wetmore/Gile/88
3. Warren Mick/Shep/88
4. Fiona Robertson/Tap/87
5. Chris Bowen,Bella/85
6. Denise L./Maggie/85
7. Kathy Keats/Craig/82
8. Sue Schoen/Peat/81
9. Roger D./Bob/80
10. Lynn D./Chip/79
11. Fiona Robertson/Fen/79
12. Peter Van de Car/Leif/78
13. Jim Perkins/Ben/78
14. Kate Collins/Ela/77
15. Fiona Robertson/Mirk/76
16. Werner Reitbock/Tara/76
17. Maria Amodei/Song/75
18. Rob Drummond/Casey/73
19. Lynn D.Dru/69
20. Anne Devine/Rob/68
21. Jim Allen/Nick/68
22. Steve Wetmore/Floss/66
23. Rob Drummond/Cub/65
24. Warren Mick/Eddie/64
25. Roger D. Nick/63

26. Dave Young/Pic/61
 27. Gabe Merrill/Roy/59
 28. Linda Comeau/Tim/59
 29. Emily Yazwinski/Mac/59
 30. Werner Reitbock/Roy/59
 31. Maria Amodei/Levi/55
 32. Sharon Perkins,Roy/52
 33. Nancy Phillips/Susie/49
 34. Jean Farry/Boo/45
 35. Bruce Smart/Lucy/43
 36. Werner Reitbock/Sigi/42
- Rest retired or DQ

NURSERY (3 DAYS)

June 7th 8 dogs

- Roger Des./Tess/78
 Roger D ./Nell/64
 Anne Devine/Tess/47
 Anne Devine/Maybe/36
 Lynn Des./Flo/35
 Maria Amodei/Cass/R
 Maria Amodei/Marcus/R
 Sally Butler/Lucky/R

June 8th 10 dogs

- Anne Devine/Maybe/70
 Roger D./Nell/67
 Lynn D./Flo/51
 Maria Amodei/Marcus/R
 Jim Perkins/Jag/R
 Roger D./Tess/R
 Sally Buttler/Lucky/R
 Anne Devine/Tess/R
 Anne Devine/Becca/R
 Maria Amodei/Cass/R

June 9th 8 dogs

- Roger D./Tess/72
 Lynn D./Flo/47
 Sue Schoen/Rue/43

- Maria Amodei/Cass/R
 Anne Devine/Maybe/R
 Anne Devine/Tess/R
 Maria Amodei/Marcus/R
 Roger D./Nell/R

Novice/Novice 4 dogs entered
 Victoria Snowden/Teak 34
 All others retired

Pro/novice 21 dogs entered

- Jan Berger/Badger/74
 Rob Drummond/Allie/72
 Anne Devine/Tess/68
 Brenda Buja/Lil/65
 Lynn D/Flo/61
 Debbie Donohue/Britt/57
 Anne Devine/Maybe/56
 Brenda Buja/Floss/56/
 Emily Jazwinski/Paige/43
 Anne Devine/Becca/Time
 Bruce Smart/Moss /34
 Brenda Buju/River/ 25
 Rob Drummond/Mac/R
 Tom Leigh/Asia/R
 Molly King/Meg/R
 Betty Levin/Morag/R
 Martha Walke/Cal/R
 Victoria Snowden/Gypsy/R
 Janet Langdon/Arlo/R
 Rose Redick/Rose/R

Ranch 6 dogs entered

- Eileen Wellentz/Ray/64
 Molly King/Allie/61
 Betty Levin/Tyne/54
 Clara Stites/Tess/R
 Sally Butler/Lucky/R
 Clara Stites/Kip/R

A thank-you note from Gabe Merrill to Roger and Krys, and to those who helped out

Another trial held at Nearfield Farm .Well done.

There is a lot that goes into making a good trial. . Hard work and preparation before the actual trial. Warren Mick and Rob Drummond helped all three days in so many ways .Rob worked out a rotating crew to keep things running smoothly with handlers and dogs if needed to push sheep out to the set out post Thanks Rob.

To all that helped scribe many thanks to you too.

Betty Murray was great as usual keeping the scores straight and posted. We would miss her as she is a help in so many ways.

The weather was not bad each day, a little shower but not bad. Thankfully the heavy rain came overnight and was clearing up by the time the trial started at 7:00 Sunday morning.

The Dorsets worked well if the dogs handled them right. There were many good runs as the scores will attest.

Dave Young judged the Novice classes and George Northrop judged the open both did an excellent job. Not an easy task for either one!!!!!!!.

Have a good summer all, sure you all are looking forward to the National Finals in October.

Good luck to all

Thanks

PA Championship SDT, Hop Bottom, PA, June 15-18 2013

Open 6/15/2013

Fogt, Bruce Wyn 1
 Ortiz-Sharp, Nancy Mirk 2
 Eddy, Joyce Katty 3
 Millen, Roger Rock 4
 Boyce, Dawn Gage 5
 Boyce, Dawn Slim 6
 Williams, Dick Mick 7
 Savage, Lorna Kaylee 8
 Fogt, Bruce Cam 9
 Lalonde, JP Craig 10
 Williams, Cheryl Fleet 11
 Mick, Maria Bodie 12
 Anderson, Rose Bitti 13
 Mick, Warren Shep 14
 Millen, Heather Kate 15
 Zieser, Walt Rose 16
 Millen, Roger Taggart 17
 Van De Car, Peter Leif 18
 Dathe, Michael Q 19
 Wetmore, Steve Floss 20
 Mick, Warren Eddie 21
 Evans, Joe Chip 22
 Court, Emma Mia 23
 Williams, Dick Mirk 24
 Sheninger, Gene Sweet 25
 Thompson, Mary Beauty 26
 Higgins, Michele Rush 27
 Sheninger, Gene Nick 28
 Anderson, Rose Jing 29
 Weeks, Dan Anna 30
 LeFever, Gwenn Soot 31
 Weir, Ivan Jim 32
 Palmer, Ann Dot 33
 Simpson, Alasdair Bet 34
 Obernier, Nancy Lisa 35
 Hoeber, Tom Mia 36
 Simpson, Alasdair Roy 37
 Simmons, Nancy Joyce Black 38
 Cox, Diane Monk 39
 Sharp, Dave Tot 40
 Worthington, Joan Hope 41
 Comeau, Linda Tim 42
 Thompson, Mary Rio 43

Open 6/16/2013

Fogt, Bruce Wyn 1
 Mick, Warren Shep 2
 Klein, Barbara McKenna 3
 Evans, Joe Mist 4
 Boyce, Dawn Slim 5
 Williams, Dick Mirk 6
 Millen, Roger Rock 7
 Anderson, Rose Bitti 8
 Anderson, Rose Jing 9
 Van De Car, Peter Leif 10
 Sheninger, Gene Nick 11
 Wetmore, Steve Floss 12
 Dathe, Michael Keef 13
 Eddy, Joyce Tess 14
 Savage, Lorna Kaylee 15
 Sharp, Dave Tot 16
 Williams, Dick Mick 17
 Ortiz-Sharp, Nancy Mirk 18
 Lalonde, JP Craig 19
 Mick, Maria Bodie 20
 Campbell, Mary Lou Dyna 21
 Comeau, Linda Tim 22
 Williams, Cheryl Fleet 23
 Williams, Cheryl Spot 24
 Millen, Heather Kate 25
 Sharp, Dave Cyrmo 26
 LeFever, Gwenn Soot 27
 Wetmore, Steve Gile 28
 Worthington, Joan Hope 29
 Obernier, Nancy Lisa 30
 Savage, Lorna Tyler 31
 Court, Emma Mia 32

Simmons, Nancy Joyce Fly 33
 Bowen, Chris Sam 34
 Palmer, Ann Moss 35
 Nadelman, Heather Bo 36
 Fogt, Bruce Cam 37
 Molloy, Sally Kip 38
 Boyce, Dawn Gage 39
 Higgins, Michele Flint 40
 Thompson, Mary Beauty 41
 Weeks, Dan Tilly 42
 Higgins, Michele Rush 43
 Hoeber, Tom Tazz 44
 Weeks, Dan Anna 45
 Zieser, Walt Rose 46
 Williams, Malcolm Wilson 47

USBCHA Nursery 6/16/2013

Anderson, Rose Juli
 Fogt, Bruce Kate
 Klein, Barbara Wes
 Devine, Anne Maybe
 Devine, Anne Becca
 Millen, Roger Finnegan
 Anderson, Rose Rose
 Anderson, Rose Skeeter
 Klein, Barbara Craig
 Millen, Heather Scout

Novice/Novice 6/17/2013

Davies, Pam Dilys
 Quigley, Megan Dare
 Thompson, Diane Belle
 Reiter, Sara Speck
 Place, Laurie Magic
 Johnston, Lynn HL Finn
 Snowden, Victoria Teak
 Ponstingle, Jean Daisy
 Gambill, Judy Finn
 Dury, Wally Chip

Pro-Novice 6/17/2013

Devine, Anne Becca
 Sharpe, Liz Hex
 Fogt, Bruce Kate

Clark, Linda Meg
 Williams, Eileen P Annabel
 Clark, Linda Lyn
 Brighoff, Mary Cap
 Tkacenko, Alex Joe
 Lippolis, Kim Becky
 Snowden, Victoria Gypsy
 Lockwood, Sandy Joy
 Worthington, Joan Ben
 Reiter, Sara Rye
 Hoeber, Tom Quinn
 Quigley, Megan Dot
 Tkacenko, Alex Jock
 Florentino, Terri Lass
 Davies, Pam Ben
 McClure, Cathy Mickey
 Acres, Kathryn Swift
 Czekalski, Diane Toby

Ranch 6/17/2013

Anderson, Rose Juli
 Thompson, Mary Paris
 Anderson, Rose Rose
 Millen, Roger Finnegan 76
 Davies, Pam Patch
 Davies, Pam Jet
 Sharon, Fran Liz
 Weeks, Dan Anna
 Davies, Pam Teilo
 Devine, Anne Tess
 Stites, Clara Tess
 Devine, Anne Maybe
 Williams, Malcolm Wilson
 Sharpe, Liz Joss
 Fossetta, Linda Murk
 Williams, Malcolm Jock
 Dawkins, Morgan Gilly
 Bigourdan, Jean-Louis Zac
 Castanzo, Kyra Tess

Photos by Megan Quigley: Lorna
 Savage & Kaylee; crooks for the
 silent uauction



MA Sheep and Wool Festival, Cummington, MA, May 25-26, 2013

Open 5/25/2013 52 dogs ran			Novice Classes 5/25/2013			ProNovice 47 dogs ran		
1 Mick, Warren	Shep	97	Novice/Novice 7 Dogs ran			1 Brighoff, Mary	Cap	71
2 Schoen, Susan	Esther	95	1 Bradford, Carol	Dash*	69	2 Nunan, Michael	Star	69
3 Evans, Joe	Chip	89	2 Reiter, Sara	Speck	63	3 Devine, Anne	Maybe	63
4 Leverett, Barbara	Tot	89	3 Fowler, Ellen	Celt	48	4 Holmgren, Bob	Slick	62
5 Robertson, Fiona	Fen	88	4 Warner, Wendy	Vinnie	39	5 Devine, Anne	Tess	61
6 Bowen, Chris	Bella	87	ProNovice 43 dogs ran			6 Langdon, Janet	Arlo	57
7 Mick, Warren	Eddie	86	1 Pietraszewski, Valerie	Kep*	76	7 Eriksen, Danielle	Quinn	57
8 Drummond, Rob	Casey	85	2 Devine, Anne	Tess	76	8 Worthington, Joan	Ben	57
9 Leonard, Denise	Maggie	84	3 Nunan, Michael	Star*	73	9 Freeman, Jean	Billy	56
10 Berger, Jan	Moss	84	4 Hartz, Rebecca	Bella*	73	10 Lippolis, Kim	Becky	55
11 Leverett, Barbara	Bess	82	5 Brighoff, Mary	Cap	73	Ranch 13 dogs ran		
Open 5/26/2013 49 dogs ran			6 Levin, Betty	Morag*	72	1 Woessner, Dee	Meg*	76
1 Drummond, Rob	Casey	86	7 Worthington, Joan	Ben	72	2 Schoen, Susan	Rue*	41
2 Mick, Warren	Eddie	85	8 Dickinson, Donna A	Gel	70	3 Stites, Clara	Tess*	40
3 Drummond, Rob	Cub	84	9 Clark, Linda	Lyn	68	4 Armata, Bernie	Sam*	40
4 Leonard, Denise	Emmie	83	10 King, Molly	Allie	68	5 Millen, Roger	Finnegan*	38
5 Mick, Warren	Shep	83	Ranch 9 dogs ran			Novice/Novice Overall Champion Sara Reiter and Speck		
6 Millen, Roger	Rock	82	1 Armata, Bernie	Sam*	69	Novice/Novice Long Road Award Carol Bradford and Dash		
7 VandeCar, Peter	Leif	77	2 Armata, Barbara	Kate*	65	ProNovice Overall Champion Mary Brighoff and Cap		
8 Schoen, Susan	Esther	77	3 Murphy, Jim	Hemp	62	ProNovice Long Road Award Michael Nunan and Star		
9 Wetmore, Steve	Gile	76	4 Black, Ellen	Peig	62	Ranch Overall Champion: Bernie Armata and Sam		
10 Leverett, Barbara	Tot	74	5 Levin, Betty	Tyne*	31	Ranch Long Road Award: Bernie Armata and Sam		
Overall Champion Warren Mick and Shep			Novice Classes 5/26/2013					
Overall Long Road and Shep			Novice/Novice 11 Dogs ran					
			1 Reiter, Sara	Speck	74			
			2 Fowler, Ellen	Celt	65			
			3 Fincher, Holly	Maat*	58			
			4 Bacskey, Patricia	Vic*	54			
			5 Bradford, Carol	Dash*	53			
Nursery 5/25/13 8 dogs ran								
1 Leverett, Barbara	Bob	73						
2 Schoen, Susan	Rue*	51						

Ossipee Valley Fair SDT, South Hiram, ME, July 11, 2013

Nursery- 9 dogs ran

- 1) Rose Anderson & Rose
- 2) Lynn Deschambeault & Flo

Open- 21 dogs ran

- 1) Lynn Deschambeault & Chip
- 2) Lynn Deschambeault & Dru
- 3) Rose Anderson & Bitti
- 4) Roger Deschambeault & Nick
- 5) Rose Anderson & Jing
- 6) Roger Deschambeault & Trim
- 7) Sharon Perkins & Cash
- 8) Rob Drummond & Cub
- 9) Jim Perkins & Ben
- 10) Sharon Perkins & Roy



Lynn Deschambeault and Flo at the pen, VT No Frills Novice trial. Photo by Charles Denton

Tanstaaf Farm Novice/Novice SDT, Greenfield, MA, June 29**Results**

Karen Gorman	Bryce	68
Pam Hunt	Torrie	65
Karen Gorman	Ticket	64
Mary Wasielewski	Bryce	63
Ellen Fowler	Celt	62
Pat Bacskey	Vic	62
Liz Shaw	Jura	58
Betty Belliveau	Fios	52
Linda Foland	Cowboy	49
Betty Belliveau	Ava	48
JP Maillet	Hurricane	40
Diane Menard	Dually	Ret
Sara Reiter	Speck	Ret
Sheila Crepeau	Luna	Ret
Constance Smith	Tyne	Ret
Jan Marcotte	Kai	Ret
Diane Menard	Dare	Ret
Cheryl Oetting	Brie	Ret

The Tanstaaf Farm Novice/Novice Sheepdog Trial was held on June 29th at Denise Leonard's farm in Greenfield, MA. The day began in the shade of Denise's patio, with a 90-minute discussion of trialing and judging. We then moved to the field where the remainder of the morning was spent conducting a non-sanctioned Learning Trial. Handlers had the opportunity to go to the post with an Open handler at their side to offer advice and support. After each run, the judge discussed the scoring with the handler and the rest of the group. After a lunch break, handlers returned to the field for a formal sanctioned NEBCA trial, judged by Maria Amodei.

This event was held as a benefit for the National Finals in Belle Grove, VA.

**The Dogs Of Yesterday**

They made us better,
they gave us their hearts,
and stayed with us 'til the end.
They brought us here today.

Thank you.

BorderCollics Anonymous

www.bcaddict.com
because our first is never our last

Spring Valley No Frills Novice SDT, Strafford, VT, June 30, 2013

The Spring Valley No Frills Novice Sheepdog Trial was held on June 30 at Denise Leonard's farm in Strafford, VT. The trial was run on the field in back of Steve's house, using a lively flock of Border Cheviot/Perendale crosses, and was judged by Michael Dathe and Mike Nunan, both of whom also set out. Susan Allen, Nancy Phillips, and Jim Allen exhausted the sheep and shared some thoughts with the novice handlers after their runs. Thanks also to the Learning Trial Committee for a donation to the trial.

This novice trial was held as a benefit for the National Finals in Belle Grove, VA.

Val Pietrarszewka, head of the Learning Trial Committee, thanked Stephen and the Allens for their work, as well as the two judges, Michael Dathe and Mike Nunan. An excerpt: "It was especially generous of you to give us all a second run and keeping the thunderstorms from stopping the action."

Results

Novice/Novice

- 1 Debbie Donahue/Hep
- 2 Mary Wasielewski/Bryce
- 3 Ellen Fowler/Celt
- 4 Glenn Kopp/Bell
- 5 Joanne Krause/Reese

Pro/Novice

- 1 Valerie Pretraizewska/Rob
- 2 Debbie Donahue/Britt
- 3 Janet Langdon/Arlo
- 4 Ginny Prince/Dar
- 5 Ginny Prince/Ida
- 6 Deb Duarte/Jillie
- 7 Glenn Kopp/Susie
- 8 Lynn Deschambeault/Flo

Stephen, warding off the clouds.



Photos by Charles Denton,
Thundering Paws Farm



Getting an Accurate Lameness Diagnosis by Christine Koval

Years ago my trial dog, Rook, began to exhibit the classic symptoms of a torn Anterior Cruciate Ligament. He had acute non-weight bearing lameness in his right hind leg and would hold that leg high and tucked up under his body. I took him to my regular vet, who, upon examination, confirmed my worst fear and diagnosed a possible partial tear of his Anterior Cruciate Ligament (ACL). Since he was not 100% certain of his diagnosis, he referred me to an orthopedic specialist for a second opinion.

We had an appointment to see an orthopedic specialist two days later and again, Rook was diagnosed with a partial tear of his ACL. I was instructed to give him three weeks crate rest and, after that, begin with light leash walks. I was to build up the leash walks from 1/4 mile to 1 mile and then begin with running on leash. After the three weeks rest period, he was sound until we began to stretch out the leash walks and then he would intermittently exhibit the three-legged lameness again.

I called the orthopedic specialist back to explain these recurrent symptoms and was told it was normal for this type of injury. Not pleased with his answer, I called my regular vet back and requested he refer me to someone else for a third opinion. I was referred to Dr. Robert Gillette, DVM, MSE, who at that time was Director of the Sports Medicine Program at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Auburn University.

Dr. Gillette performed a thorough sports medicine musculoskeletal examination on Rook and revealed the lameness to be caused by Sesamoiditis. He did not start with the injured area, but instead did a gait analysis, then tested, manipulated and palpated all over to find any other areas of pain. He recommends a flexion test of the sesamoids with every lameness exam, especially in working dogs.

The sesamoid bones are small bones behind the knuckles that serve as pivot points for tendons as they run down the length of the metacarpal (front paws), metatarsal (rear paws) and phalangeal joints. When there are problems with the sesamoids, such as strains, tendon inflammation or fractures, there is persistent lameness. This was why Rook would hold that leg up. It was painful for him to put any weight on that toe, and the reason why it got worse after long periods of exercise. So, the therapy from the orthopedic specialist's initial diagnosis was actually making the injury worse. Rook also had severe pain at trigger points on his rear stifle/knee pain was due to his overcompensating for his foot injury.

The prescription for recovery consisted of 3 more weeks of rehabilitation (1 week total crate rest, 1 week minimal activity, then monitored activity for 1 week walking and some running). During these 3 weeks, he was also put on a series of medication: Methocarbamol (muscle relaxer), Adequan (pain reliever) and Rubeola Virus Immunomodulator (RVI). RVI is a drug, more used in performance horses, specifically targets the musculo-skeletal system, reducing inflammation and pain. Dr. Gillette has had much success when treating with this drug, combined with the oral Methocarbamol. Rook's lameness was reevaluated after the three weeks and he was and has been 100% sound with no pain. Had I not gone for this third opinion, Rook probably would have gone through unneeded surgery.

Dr. Robert Gillette is dedicated to the health and performance of athletic and working dogs. He now works at the Veterinary Specialty Center near Chicago, IL.

Note: This article was originally published in the *American Border Collie Magazine*.

Cascade Farm Double Lift and Weekend Sheepdog Trials, July 2013 by Nancy Phillips

What a special treat for over 20 handlers and about 45 dogs that attended the Cascade Farm Double Lift in Bath, NH, on July 4th and 5th. How often do you get to participate in a double-lift trial twice in two days? For some, this was a tune-up for the National Finals in Virginia, for others it was a training opportunity to help your dog with the fetch or the look-back. The first outrun, come bye, was 500 yards and the second outrun, away, was 300 yards. Many dogs did not want to let go of their first group of sheep and turned the second outrun into a 500-yard outrun. The undulation of the field added to the challenge. At times the dog and sheep were out of view of the handler. Besides the two fetches, there was a short drive and a pen to complete in 13 minutes. Even with this time we were done by mid afternoon, which allowed time for wading, floating, or swimming in the Amonoosuc River that flowed alongside the field.

On July 6th and 7th a novice and open trial was run each day. The novice courses were shorter, but the open outrun was still 300 yards. The swale on the right side of the field at the drive panels was the ruin of many nice runs.

Open handlers mentored the novice and pronovice handlers the first day. The novice/novice handlers even got a chance to do their run twice to try to improve upon the run based on advice they were given. The mentoring was organized by Deb Donahue and was part of the NEBCA Novice Trials Program.

In Open each handler and dog had two Katahdin ewes and a lamb, which held up well all four days in very warm weather. The sheep were able to graze mid-day and in the evening. They even had shade and fans at the hold out pen. The pen crew was exceptional. Kudos to Nara, Chris, Buddy, daughter Sarah and her husband Aaron. Another big thanks to all the handlers who set out in the heat. It was a long walk to the set out pin.

'Betty Murray tabulated and recorded all the scores for the four days. Betty is an integral part of many trials' success. The weekend trial, which was held on a different part of the field took about an hour to set up. Handlers helped with moving tents, fencing, and equipment. Many thanks to them, and to people who helped with set up and tear down, and to those who scribed, carried water, and all the other jobs that needed volunteers to fill.

Maria and Warren Mick took turns judging, so each of them could participate in the double lift and the regular open trial. Each judge provided consistent judging each day, in one case a 12-hour day. Warren did a great job orchestrating and judging the double lift the first day. Sometimes the second set out person had to hustle the next group of sheep out, or the hold person at the center of the course needed to push the sheep back in position. Warren could see everything from his seat on the big old truck and could radio people as to what needed to be done.

Jim Benjamin provided another great BBQ on Thursday and Saturday followed by brownie sundaes with Hatchland's "Wicked-Good" hand-made ice cream and the Ames's fudge sauce. The handlers outdid themselves on Friday night with a wonderful potluck. There were many delicious salads. Each night there was a great deal of camaraderie under the tent during and after dinner. During the awards Buddy Murray did a "goood" imitation of Mike Nunan, which entertained the crowd.

Betsy Drummond of Bordercollics Anonymous provided prizes. Bud and Mary Ames provided honey for the Long Road winner. Heidi Osgood Metcalf is providing a portrait of the four-day champion Rose Anderson's Bitti. Sarah Ames and Heidi Osgood Metcalf have posted great pictures on Facebook – "NEBCA Handlers Tent".

The handlers expressed a great deal of appreciation each evening to Bud and Mary Ames. They put on this four-day trial after working all week - and then having to return to their 'day jobs' the day after the trial. It was a friendly trial in a lovely location. The field is huge and there are many ways to set up the course to make the trial challenging each year. It's a great place to spend the long Fourth of July weekend.

Cascade Farm Results

Double Lift July 4, 2013

Judge: Warren Mick 37 Dogs
 Roger Deschambeault, NH – Trim
 Maria Amodei, MA – Song
 Steve Wetmore, VT – Gile
 Joyce Geier, NY – Jim
 Sue Schoen, MA – Esther
 Rose Anderson, MI – Bitti
 Steve Wetmore, VT – Floss
 Maria Amodei, MA – Levi
 Rob Drummond, NH – Cub
 Denise Leonard, MA – Emmie

Double Lift July 5, 2013

Judge: Maria Mick 39 Dogs
 Rose Anderson, MI – Bitti
 Joyce Geier, NY – Jim
 Roger Deschambeault, NH – Trim
 Warren Mick, NY – Shep
 Steve Wetmore, VT – Gile
 Maria Amodei, MA – Song
 Sue Schoen, MA – Peat
 Maria Amodei, MA – Levi
 Kate Collins, MA – Ela
 Rose Anderson, MI – Jing

Double Lift Champion: Rose Anderson & Bitti

Double Lift Reserve: Roger Deschambeault & Trim

Cascade Farm SDT July 6, 2013

Judge: Warren Mick

NOVICE 4 dogs

Ellen Fowler, CT – Celt 61
 Jean-Louis Bigourdan, NY – Kelso 50
 Joanne Krause, NY – Reese

PRO-NOVICE 15 dogs

Jean Freeman, CT – Billy 67
 Ginny Prince, NH – Ida 63
 Rose Anderson, MI – Skeeter 53
 Michael Nunan, VT – Star 52
 George Northrup, MA – Tot 51
 Betty Levin, MA – Morag
 Jean-Louis Bigourdan, NY – Kita
 Deborah Donahue, VT – Britt
 Janet Langdon, VT – Arlo

RANCH 9 dogs

Joyce Geier, NY – Jack 69
 Rose Anderson, MI – Julie 64
 Dee Woessner, NY – Meg 63

NURSERY 8 dogs

Rose Anderson, MI – Julie
 Maria Amodei, MA – Cass

OPEN 43 dogs

Steve Wetmore, VT Floss
 Maria Amodei, MA - Song
 Sharon Perkins, ME – Cash
 Dave Young, QC – Bess
 Roger Deschambeault, NH – Trim
 Michael Nunan, VT – Cap
 Denise Leonard, MA – Maggie
 Rose Anderson, MI – Jing
 Peter Van de Car, NY – Leif
 Rob Drummond, NH – Cub

Cascade Farm SDT July 7, 2013

Judge: Maria Mick

NOVICE 4 dogs

Deborah Donahue, VT - Hep 66
 Champion
 Jean-Louis Bigourdan, NY – Kelso 53
 Joanne Krause, NY – Reese
 Ellen Fowler & Celt Reserve & Long Road

PRO-NOVICE 15 dogs

Virginia Prince, NH – Dar 72
 Jean Freeman, CT – Billy 66
 Champion
 Jean-Louis Bigourdan, NY – Kita 64
 Jean-Louis Bigourdan, NY – Lad 61
 Bud Ames, NH – Jeb 56
 6 Betty Levin, MA – Morag 54
 Ginny Prince, NH – Ida 52 Reserve & Long Road
 Rose Anderson, MI – Skeeter
 George Northrup, MA – Tot
 Deborah Donahue, VT – Britt

RANCH 10 dogs

Rose Anderson, MI – Rose 51
 Joyce Geier, NY – Jack Champion
 Dee Woessner, NY – Meg Reserve & Long Road

NURSERY 8 dogs

Rose Anderson, MI – Skeeter
 Roger Deschambeault, NH – Nell

OPEN 43 dogs

Dave Young, QC – Bess 2-day
 Champion & Long Road

Peter van de Carr, NY – Leif
 Warren Mick, NY – Shep
 Kate Collins, MA – Ben
 Joyce Geier, NY – Jim 2-day Reserve
 Rose Anderson, MI – Bitti 4-day Champion
 Steve Wetmore, VT – Gile
 Michael Dathe, VT – Q
 Maria Amodei, MA – Song
 Warren Mick, NY – Eddie

Prizes and awards provided by Betsy Drummond of Bordercollics Anonymous and Heidi Osgood Metcalf - artist, and Cascade Farm



Littermates Jing (Rose Anderson) and Nick (Jim Allen) were reunited at Cascade Farm.

Middleboro SDT, July 20-22

The Middleboro SDT was held at Soule Homestead, Middleboro, MA, hosted by Rich Seaman and Jean Farry. The Open Runs and Nursery were judged by Bernie Armata. Sunday's Novice-Novice and Ranch were judged by Rob Drummond (whose help was invaluable throughout the trial). Rich Seaman judged the Pro Novice.

Many thanks to all our volunteers, who helped make the trial successful.

Hot Hot Hot !!! was the word for the week leading up to the trial and it continued into Saturday. Despite the heat, handlers, dogs and sheep were up to the challenge. Thankfully Sunday and Monday were cooler. The sheep for the open trials (two ewes and a lamb) were difficult but consistent. Four ewes were used for Novice runs. There were many positive comments about the trial.

MIDDLEBORO SDT RESULTS

Open Saturday 7/20/13 20 dogs

1. Maria Mick	Kit	63
2. Rob Drummond	Casey	60
3. Kate Collins	Ela	60
4. Carolyn West	Abe	59
5. Chris Bowen	Bella	59
6. Rich Seaman	Star	57
7. Maria Amodei	Song	52
8. Maria Mick	Bodie	51

Open Sunday 7/21/13 22 dogs

1. Rich Seaman	Star	87
2. Chris Bowen	Bella	85
3. Maria Amodei	Song	76
4. Maria Mick	Kit	74
5. Rich Seaman	Rock	74
6. Carolyn West	Abe	67
7. Rob Drummond	Cub	64
8. Sue Schoen	Rue	63
9. Kate Collins	Ela	63
10. Rich Seaman	Roo	63

Nursery Saturday 7/20/13 5 dogs

1. Richard Seaman	Roo	
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Novice-Novice, 9 dogs ran

1 Carol Bradford	Dash	68
2 Karen Gorman	Bryce	54
3 Pam Hunt	Torrie	45
4 Karen Gorman	Ticket	44
5 Victoria Snowden	Teak	34

Pro-Novice, 14 dogs ran

1 Anne Devine	Becca	73
2 Brenda Buja	Lill	63
3 Robert Holmgren	Slick	54
4 Ardelle Legg	Puck	52
5 Eileen Wilentz	Celt	49
6 Ardelle Legg	Ki	45

Ranch, 7 dogs ran

1 Wilentz, Eileen	Ray	71
2 Anne Devine	Maybe	61
3 Molly King	Allie	52
4 Clara Stites	Kip	49
5 Ann Devine	Tess	41

Novice-Novice, 9 dogs ran

1 Carol Bradford	Dash	68
2 Karen Gorman	Bryce	54
3 Pam Hunt	Torrie	45
4 Karen Gorman	Ticket	44
5 Victoria Snowden	Teak	34

Pro-Novice, 14 dogs ran

1 Anne Devine	Becca	73
2 Brenda Buja	Lill	63
3 Robert Holmgren	Slick	54
4 Ardelle Legg	Puck	52



Sue Schoen and Rue
Rue and her sheep



Rich Seaman and Roo
Photos by Kate Collins

Stonebridge Farm Novice Trial, July 13 and 14, 2013

Rose Redick writes: Thank you all for coming and working at the trial. You all did a great job making everything work. Congratulations to all who placed and congratulations to all of you for putting on the first trial at Stonebridge Farm. Thanks also to Sue Vitro for making the trial happen. Sue's support of this sport was instrumental in allowing us to use the field.

Saturday July 13

NN

1. Victoria Snowden	Teak	58
2. Laurie Place	Magic	50
3. Deb Donahue	Hep	50
4. Ellen Fowler	Celt	47
5. Pat Bacskey	Winslow	46
6. Joanne Krause	Reese	46
7. JP Maillet	Hurricane	45
8. Sara Reiter	Spec	43
9. Pat Bacskey	Vic	41
10. Judy Gambill	Finn	40

PN

1. Sandy Lockwood	Joy	75
2. Maria Amodei	Marcus	73
3. Linda Clark	Lynn	72
4. Judianne Davis	Teeca	62
5. Deb Donahue	Britt	61
6. Maria Amodei	Cass	60
7. Wally Dury	Lisa	59
8. Betty Levin	Morag	59
9. Ginny Prince	Ida	58
10. Sara Reiter	Rye	56

Ranch

1. Diane Cox	Monk	69
2. Dee Woessner	Ben	57
3. Joyce Geier	Jack	56
4. Rose Redick	Kensa	56
5. Dave Gessert	Lad	48
6. Betty Levin	Tyne	44
7. Linda Clark	Meg	35
8. Ellen Rusconi Black	Peig	31
9. Molly King	Allie	Rt
10. Dee Woessner	Meg	Rt

Nursery

1. Rose Anderson	Julie	79
2. Rose Anderson	Rosie	75

Sunday July 14, 2013

NN

1. Deb Donahue	Hep	60
2. Pam Hunt	Torrie	57
3. Ellen Fowler	Celt	55
4. Pat Bacskey	Vic	48
5. Laurie Place	Magic	41
6. Pat Bacskey	Winslow	41
7. Joanne Krause	Reese	38
8. JP Maillet	Hurricane	36
9. Sara Reiter	Spec	24
10. Judy Gambill	Finn	RT

PN

1. Irene Trewitt	Boston	72
2. Maria Amodei	Marcus	68
3. Linda Clark	Lynn	65
4. Maria Amodei	Cass	60
5. Rose Anderson	Sketter	60
6. Sara Reiter	Rye	51
7. Ginny Prince	Dar	43
8. Betty Levin	Morag	42
9. Ginny Prince	Ida	24
10. Laurie Place	Mattie	RT

Ranch

1. Rose Redick	Kensa	74
2. Rose Anderson	Rosie	71

3. Linda Clark	Meg	63
4. Mollie King	Allie	63
5. Diane Cox	Monk	62
6. Joyce Geier	Jack	56
7. Liz Sharpe	Joss	52
8. Ellen Rusconi Black	Peig	50
9. Betty Levin	Tyne	22
10. Dee Woessner	Meg	RT

Nursery

1. Maria Amodei	Marcus	66
2. Maria Amodei	Cass	66

Photo by Clara Stites



NEBCA 2013 Merchandise

New NEBCA hats, sweatshirts, and tees are on sale at <http://www.nebca.net> under Merchandise.

This year's t-shirt is 100% cotton, unisex color is Oyster, women's tee is Mint. Sizes small to 2XL. NEBCA logo on front. Artwork by Barb Armata on the back.

New sweatshirts for 2013 are zipper hoody cotton in blue jean, crimson and willow. The design is on the back with NEBCA logo on the front.

Visors are stone, cilantro, tulip and bluegrass. New ball caps in khaki, willow, periwinkle, buck, and tamale.

All the merchandise can be bought online through PayPal.



What We learned by Janet Langdon and Arlo

Some Thoughts on the NEBCA Learning trials

When I signed up for my first trial, the Ames's at Cascade Farm in July 2012, I knew nothing about anything. A veteran sheep herding friend told me to be sure to sign up to work and, since I didn't know anything about any of the jobs, she recommended I sign up to scribe since 1) it's easy to learn and 2) you get a lot from sitting with the judge and listening. I did that and had a great experience scribing.

Sometime after that, talking with another veteran handler about how much I loved scribing, I was told Not to sign up for scribing because it was a coveted job and I should let other people do it. I was confused since I didn't feel competent to do any of the other jobs listed on the premiums and was anxious to work at trials, being a border collie type-A personality myself.

I continued to sign up to scribe, somewhat guiltily, as I thought I had no other way to help out at a trial.

Then the mentoring program got up and running. My first experience of it was the mentors we were assigned at Ames's 2013 trial – open handlers who met with us novice handlers and helped us with strategy, advice, and general caring support. It was a great start, though didn't help me with my desire-to-work issue.

It was the Stone Bridge Trial at which Rose and Warren specifically set out to teach novice people how to put on a trial which first addressed my work issue. They enlisted the help of open handlers to teach us how to do the various jobs required to put on and keep a trial running smoothly. Arlo and I blossomed in this setting! We learned how to push the sheep out from the set-out pen to the person setting them. We learned how to work at the exhaust pen. It was great training for Arlo and me to work quietly and calmly, not our strong suits!

Fetch Gate Novice Trial was another opportunity for practicing the training we had begun at Stone Bridge. Arlo and I worked pushing sheep out to the set-out person and doing work at the exhaust pen. I found that, for me, working at these various jobs in which I sometimes got to use my dog (only use a dog when necessary), took away some of the sting of less-than-stellar runs on the trial field. At least Arlo was getting to work sheep even if he didn't have a great run on a given day.

I don't have my own sheep. Reading sheep is something I need a lot of work on. Watching the sheep instead of watching Arlo is a constant challenge for me. Working in the set out and exhaust pens is really helpful in beginning to understand a bit more about these wooly creatures who are not necessarily willing participants for our sporting pleasure. I appreciate the mentors who insisted on treating the sheep well – not manhandling them in the pens, not unduly upsetting them as you are getting them positioned to go out onto the trial field. They didn't ask to be here so dogs could move them all over a huge field on a hot hot day.

I still have a lot to learn. Arlo has less to learn, though he does have to learn to put up with me. I am grateful to NEBCA for the patience and caring we've experienced from some of the open handlers as we struggle to find our footing in this amazing world of sheep herding. Training a sheep dog is a slow process. Arlo adds: Training a sheep dog handler is an even slower process, but we border collies have a lot of perseverance.

In a separate note, Jean Freeman writes about the learning experience:

At Cascade I was teamed up with Rob (Drummond) and he was great for me. He talked about the field and the pressure points before running. He also heard people talking about being nervous and he spoke about that and trying to be calm so our dog would not feel our anxiety. He stressed drinking lots of water before our run to keep our body centered.

After my run he gave me many ideas to concentrate on for the next day: To slow down my commands and take a breath between each one. He also pointed out things we did well.

I felt he was a very good influence on me the entire weekend. I also felt that the experienced handlers were much more open and friendly towards the inexperienced handlers in N and PN.

I also was thrilled to have Denise (Leonard) video my run as she did for others. She made some comments during the video which really helped me when watching it later.

Mentoring pictures from Cascade Farm SDT by Kate Collins and others



STOPPING TOP TEN - 8/22/13 by Warren Mick

"There's no good flock without a good shepherd and no good shepherd without a good dog" ISDS
 "and no good dog without a good stop" W.M.

More often than not, dogs that don't stop well have been trained to do so. They're not willful or disobedient. Rather, they're simply responding as they've been conditioned. My first dog Tara, was a case in point. The louder I yelled the harder and faster she pushed. Newbie trainers tend to use the command Lie-Down as a primary means of control or to restore control and say it at the most inappropriate times. Just scream "LIE DOWN!" when your young dog is chasing sheep a few times; it will soon put two and two together, namely, Lie-Down=Chase. Getting a dependable stop on your dog takes doing the right things but, as importantly, it also takes not doing the wrong ones. The list below gives both do's and don'ts to help you have a dog that stops well, now and always.

1. *Don't ever forget this is the most important command you will have on your dog*

A good stop begins early in training. It requires consistency and persistence. If you don't get it right, in the best case the dog will not be as good as it could have been, and in the worst, the dog may never be useful or controllable on stock. The word "never" should get your attention. Mess up a dog's stop and you can pretty much forget training. A dog that won't stop can be a danger to you, the sheep and itself. It's also frustrating and unpleasant to run or work a dog that won't stop reliably.

2. *Do teach the "Lie Down" command away from sheep*

The stop and the recall are two commands you can teach away from sheep. And both can be taught long before the dog is ready to put on stock. If the dog doesn't know what "Lie Down" means it will be susceptible to associating the command with something other than stopping. In early training on stock we want the dog to learn how to move properly about the stock. We're shaping a dog's raw instinct to control the stock using our presence. The stop, however, has nothing to do with instinct. It is pure obedience and effectively means put working on hold until further notice. It runs opposite to what instinct is telling the dog, so trying to teach it on stock won't be very easy and likely unsuccessful.

3. *Do use the same phrase, emphasis and intonation when giving the command*

This goes for all commands and it makes a difference. Say "Lie Down". Don't use just the word "Down" or "Drop" it's too short and hard to put any emphasis into. Don't say the command too quickly, say it clearly and slowly. I prefer to emphasize the "Lie" part and use "Down" as a tail. Say it with intent, but don't sound desperate. Never yell it. You can raise the volume as appropriate for distance or in an intense situation. But remember the stop command is not a correction and shouldn't be used as such. Dogs do not understand language. They react to sounds they hear. And while dogs are good at generalizing, why be sloppy and hope they can figure it out. Make the stop and every other command sound exactly the same every time.

4. *Do not ask for a stop when the dog is not in control of the stock*

This is very important. Early on, only ask for a stop when the dog is on balance and when the sheep are stopped or walking toward you. The most basic instinct these dogs have is to prevent the stock from escaping. If the dog is not in control, asking it to stop is against this most basic instinct. It'll be more prone to not comply if not in control, or it may finish what it was doing first (namely getting in control).

5. *Do not ask for a stop when the dog is running amok*

The real and serious problem in doing so is the dog will likely associate the lie-down command with the behavior, the chaos and the heightened stress level. At minimum, they're likely to ignore it which is also bad. Instead, get to the dog or the sheep and stop the mess with your presence and if needed a correction phrase (Ahhhhh! NO, NO, NO!).

6. *Do not ask for a stop if you are not prepared to enforce it*

This relates to consistency. Letting the dog ignore a stop, or any command, will lead the dog to considering the command as a suggestion rather than an order. When the dog is working close this is less an issue, as you're right there. But when you start working on longer outruns or driving, don't give a stop unless you're ready to get out to make it stop. One noncompliance in ten is not the end of the world, but if the dog is disobeying every stop at two-hundred yards, it's time to work do more work closer in and perhaps do some remedial training away from sheep.

An issue that happens frequently is when people start working on driving. They use a lot of stop commands to keep the dog from heading the sheep. The trainer really just wants the dog to stop flanking around toward the heads and keep moving forward so they tolerate the dog not actually stopping. Doing this is a great way to change the meaning of your stop command, since it's typically repeated thousands of times. Instead, develop a "Time", "Steady" or "There" command that means stop flanking and walk on in a controlled manner. Many handlers use the first part of the stop whistle for this.

7. *Do not let a young dog break a stop*

We certainly don't want our dogs to be so robotic or mechanical that they won't react to sheep breaking away without a command. But if the sheep are stopped or headed to you, the dog should stay put until asked up. If you see the situation changing, release the dog with a command, or flank so it isn't breaking the stop. Or you might repeat the stop command in a more emphatic tone so the dog knows it must not move to cover. On occasion, you can let the dog flank to cover the sheep so they don't get away. But keep it to a minimum and don't let a dog come forward off a stop.

8. *Do increase the difficulty gradually*

This is basic to all dog training and it applies to the stop command too. Don't expect perfection at 300 yards just because the dog is flawless at 20. Don't expect a good stop when the sheep are breaking away just because it stops well on balance. If the dog is in a situation way beyond its ability, try not to give it commands it won't take. Or be prepared to get out and make it comply.

9. *Do not let the dog stop on its feet*

Simply put, a dog on its belly is less likely to move or creep. Some will say a dog that stops on its feet upsets the sheep less than one

that drops and gets up. While this may be true, few dogs have a good standing stop and it's not worth seeing if your dog will be one of them. That said, I might make an exception for a dog that tends to be sticky or hard to get back on its feet. If you do let your dog stop on its feet, don't say "Lie Down". Use "Stand" or a unique whistle so that "Lie-Down" still means drop.

10. *Do use a whistle as soon as possible*

This is not just in regard to stopping but applies generally. Most people give both commands and corrections verbally and use whistles only for commands. As a result, there tends to be less stress associated with whistle commands. It's also harder to put any emotion into a whistle when we get stressed. If we communicate that we're anxious, the dog will often respond by wanting to stay on its feet, ready to react. Furthermore, as distances increase you will need to raise the volume of your commands to compensate. Voice commands unavoidably sound harsher and more stressed at higher volume. Whistles, being nearer to pure tones, do not change as much with volume. There are other reasons to use whistles that are unrelated to stopping and stress. Whistles allow more variation, carry better at distance and can be given quicker. If all this isn't convincing, perhaps the fact that every top handler commands their dogs primarily using whistles (except close at hand) should tell you something.

11. *Okay, Top 11, but this is very important*

The stop command should not be used to cover up other problems. If the dog is relentlessly pushing or chasing sheep, stopping it is not the answer. Dogs need to learn to pace themselves so that they're controlling the sheep rather than upsetting them. If the dog is always overflanking, using a hard stop all the time is masking a problem. They need to learn where to stop a flank. Perhaps you need to teach a half-flank command. In both cases, stopping it does nothing to fix the underlying problem. If a dog is pushing too much a correction is called for, not a stop. Run up towards it and back it off the sheep sternly. Use a convincing verbal correction at the same time so that it knows it's wrong and also learns what the correction means. If you use a stop every time the dog is pushing too much, it won't learn that pushing is wrong and at the same time you'll be hurting the stop.

Postscript

If you're new to training, getting a good stop can be an elusive goal. It may seem like your dog is the most disobedient and hardest to stop dog on the planet. How can something so simple so difficult to achieve. Simply put, herding instincts are very intense. Using the stop command as the primary means of controlling those instincts is akin to an applying the brakes with your foot still on the gas. It'll work for a while until the brakes burn out. You need to get your foot off the gas and get your dog in control first.

Minutes of NEBCA Meeting at Leatherstocking

Meeting called to order by Prez Warren Mick at 7:30 PM, with 36 members present.

- Treasurer's report passed out and accepted.
- Short discussion regarding the FF trial. Forty entries accepted so far.
- Novice Finals are on track, with 45 entries so far. Running order will be pulled next week.
- Betsy Drummond has offered to sell NEBCA fundraising items at her booth at the national finals. Talk of how to get the NEBCA fund-raising stuff to VA.
- It's hoped that members will share the responsibility of taking items down.
- Volunteers to help Betsy during the finals are also needed.
- Dave Sharp said the board of directors has placed two new policy documents on the web site under organizational documents in the Members Only section. One deals with information and the other with elections and audits. Both reflect what we do now and are consistent with the bylaws.
- Nancy Phillips said a new document with information about putting on trials that be available soon. The intent is solely to pass on experience and good practices to new trial managers. It does not contain any rules or requirements for trials.
- Kate Collins gave an update on calendar sales.
- Denise Leonard read Jim Allen's newsletter report: The newsletter will be a bit late in September. Trial managers, please send reports to Jim or Molly King as well as to the website. All photos should be the original .jpg or raw file from your camera, not just a low-res picture that looks fine on Facebook or Flickr. Original articles for publication are welcome. If they don't come in, then the membership will see only trial results, minutes of meetings, and boring pictures of Susan's and my dogs.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50.

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Barbara Leverett, St. Johnsville, NY.
 518-568-2833.

Merlynn Kennels Border Collies and Katahdin Hair Sheep. Merle and black & white puppies; occasionally started dogs. All breeding stock OFA certified/eye checked. Proven producers of trial and obedience and agility winners. Katahdin Sheep (originated in Maine), excellent for working dogs, no shearing/tail-docking necessary. Lynn Deschambeault, Merlynn Kennels, 342 Hio Ridge Rd., Denmark, ME 04009. 207-452-2898.

Bittersweet Farm. Training for dog and handler alike in Hampton, Connecticut. Fields and sheep to suit any training and handling need. Hourly lessons; custom dog training; clinics and judging. Dogs taken in for training. Beginners welcome. Pups and started dogs available for sale. At stud - imported Tam - top trial dog and breeder. Contact Carol Campion at 860-455-5660 carcampion@yahoo.com

Winter Training Opportunity in Florida

Would you like to winter in Florida at a place where you can train your dog? I have sheep and cows, land to train on, also have a couple of travel trailers and hook-ups 20 mi. south of Ocala, FL.

Lee Mears, 352-446-5388 cell
 66 N.W. 120th Ave Oxford, FL 34484

Looking for Trainer in Vermont

Looking for qualified person to train my border collie at my farm. I have 23 sheep. Located 6 miles north of Woodstock, Vt. on Rt. 12. Kindly respond to: vtpamela@yahoo.com

Pam Sheperd



The Working Border Collie

TODAY'S MAGAZINE
FOR THE WORKING
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 14933 Kirkwood Rd.
 Sidney, OH 45365
 (937) 492-2215
wbc@embarqmail.com
www.working-border-collie.com



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Fetch Gate Novice Trial contributed by Clara Stites

On July 26, 27 and 28, Roger and Heather Millen hosted the extremely well-attended Fetch Gate Novice Trial, setting out two ewes and two lambs for each contestant. The sheep were healthy and reasonably cooperative; the weather was perfect (well, mostly perfect except for Saturday evening); the field provided plenty of challenge for dogs and handlers; and the stream between the field and the campers was popular as always. Saturday night's dinner was given added drama by a brief deluge that had about a dozen people holding down the tent to keep it in place above the lasagna (and the cake). Many thanks to Mary Thompson for her able and cheerful judging, and to all the people who helped with sheep pen, set out, exhaust, scores and more. And special thanks to Roger and Heather for their generosity, good humor and great organization of all the vital details.

NOV/NOV FRI 15 dogs

Place, Laurie	Magic
Thompson, Diane	Belle
Reiter, Sara	Speck
Leisey, Katie	Brice
Davies, Pam	Dilys
Cameron, Pat	Mollee
Cameron, Pat	Rook
Bigourdan, J. Louis	Kelso
Fowler, Ellen	Celt
VanWicklen, Gail	Maggie

PRO/NOV SAT 46 dogs

Klimek, Merry	Wren
Quigley, Megan	Dot
Lockwood, Sandy	Joy
Dunning, Helen	Tailor
Brothers, Michelle	Sky
Millen, Heather	Scout
Lamont, Victoria	Diz
Quigley, Megan	Dare
Devine, Anne	Becca
Wilentz, Eileen	Celt

RANCH SUN 24 dogs

Devine, Anne	Maybe
Geier, Joyce	Jack
Wilentz, Eileen	Ray
Higgins, Michele	Rush
Millen, Roger	Finnegan
Armata, Barb	Kate
Jim Murphy	Hemp
Sharon, Fran	Liz
Devine, Anne	Tess
Knowlton, Chris	Pepper

PRO/NOV FRI 40 dogs

Quigley, Megan	Dot
Lippolis, Kim	Becky
Klimek, Merry	Wren
Dunning, Helen	Tailor
Sawford, Marie	Maddie
Hinton, Tracy	Dex
Labelle, Nat	Scout
Millen, Heather	Scout
Worthington, Joan	Ben
Davis, Judianne	TeeCA

RANCH SAT 32 dogs

Devine, Anne	Maybe
Geier, Joyce	Jack
Higgins, Michele	Flint
Davies, Pam	Jet
Joanne Murphy	Gil
Sharon, Fran	Liz
Sharp, Liz	Joss
Millen, Roger	Finnegan
Armata, Bernie	Sam
Fetterman, Dave	Duff

NURSERY SUN not enough dogs**RANCH FRI 26 dogs**

Millen, Roger	Finnegan
Higgins, Michele	Rush
Davies, Pam	Telio
Davies, Pam	Jet
Higgins, Michele	Flint
Devine, Anne	Tess
Knowlton, Chris	Pepper
Sheldon, Sherry	Tom
Williams, Malcolm	Jock
Phares, Elizabeth	Juniper

NURSERY SAT 9 dogs

Joanne Murphy	Gil
Millen, Roger	Finnegan

NOV/NOV SUN 13 dogs

Fowler, Ellen	Celt
Thompson, Diane	Belle
Cameron, Pat	Mollee
Johnston, Lynn	Finn
Rember, Stacey	Moss
Cameron, Pat	Rook
Bigourdan, J. Louis	Kelso

NURSERY FRI 9 dogs

Millen, Heather	Scout
Dunning, Helen	Tailor

NOV/NOV SAT 15 dogs

Cameron, Pat	Rook
Reiter, Sara	Speck
Rember, Stacey	Moss
Johnston, Lynn	Finn
Bigourdan, J. Louis	Kelso
Davies, Pam	Dilys
Thompson, Diane	Belle
Cameron, Pat	Mollee
Foland, Linda	Cowboy
Leisey, Katie	Brice

PRO/NOV SUN 40 dogs

Brothers, Michelle	Sky
Sharp, Liz	Hex
Brighoff, Mary	Cap
Lamont, Victoria	Diz
Higgins, Michele	Opal
Lockwood, Sandy	Joy
Worthington, Joan	Ben
Redick, Rose	Ross
Dury, Wally	Lisa
Ratliff, Katy	Slate



Humorous sketches by Kate Collins



First Trial by Rose Redick

So you ask, how do you go about putting on a trial for the very first time? Where do you start? I have no farm, no sheep, but lots of enthusiasm, ambition and lots of ideas.

I learned how to scribe long before I trained a dog or trialed a dog. Once I started to trial it all went downhill after that. I no longer was interested in just scribing. I wanted to work in the pen. As my dog and I progressed I wanted to hold out when training with others. After I ran in the novice class I stayed and watched the open runs and wanted to work. I worked in the pen and watched dogs push out. Okay, my dog can do that, so I offered to do push out at some trials. I learned how to exhaust and recycle sheep, when to use my dog, where to position her and when a dog was not needed. At other trials I got involved in setting up the work schedule for what I call the admin part of the trial. I was learning all the parts of the trial while the trial was happening. But there was more to it than that. I began by helping getting the sheep ready for trial. Sorting, worming, putting them through foot baths, loading and unloading the stock trailer were all things that needed to be done before the trial. When did I need my dog and when she wasn't needed was important to learn. Lots of times she just had to lie there and have a presence while the work was being done. I watched, observed, asked questions and got involved.

Then it all started again because I was interested in watching open handlers practice a double lift. As many of you know there are not a lot of large fields available to practice the double lift. How did I know that? I watched, and asked a lot of questions and wanted to be a part of this too. How big of a field is needed? How many sheep would you need? How far are you willing to travel? And the quest began. Each time I drove someplace I was always looking at large fields wondering if that would work, would the owner let us use the field? I spent a lot of time with local open handlers holding out for them, moving sheep and learning a lot just by watching and helping out. I asked what size field is needed, does it have to be fenced?

I looked at several fields and went back and talked to Warren about what I found. Take pictures he said, check out what kind of fencing there is if any and how much is fenced in. That's what I did. Every time I went someplace I looked at the fields, and asked the owner if they would be interested in letting us use their fields. It often depended on what time of the year we wanted to use it, because it was used for hay. So when the mowing was done it was a possibility. I kept a list of where I went and made notes and kept pictures. Then one day I went to a horse farm to work my dogs on ducks. When I got there I looked around and was amazed at the size of the fields and paddocks. It was fenced in! And very secure fencing. So I asked if the owner would be interested in letting us have a herding trial or let us practice. To my surprise the answer of the farm manager was yes, and the wheels started spinning: Novice trial, open trial, practice field, what would work at this location?

I went back to Warren with my find and shared what I found out. Someone who understood livestock, a fenced in property and willing to listen to our proposal. Go back and take more pictures, he said, pictures of the fencing, both perimeter and paddock fencing. Take pictures of the field, is it flat, hilly, wet spots, shaded, size, access to the field, location of gates. I made an appointment with the farm manager to look at the field again and took more pictures. We talked about where campers could be parked, how wet the field was that day, access to the field for campers, the truck used for transporting sheep and location of water for sheep and dogs. There was hay on the field and when it would be mowed.

I took all of the information and went to Warren and told him. It all sounded good, so we made another appointment for both of us to go look at the field. We were also fortunate to have someone involved with the sheep rental come along to check out the field for the sheep and access for the transport.

We talked about a date for a trial and what kind, novice vs open. Warren had the dimensions needed for each type of trial. The number of acres needed for the trial field, camping area and sheep was important information to have that an experienced trial manager knows. It all fit in one field that we looked at and would not disturb the rest of the farm's daily operation. The access to the field would be on a separate road away from the main portion of the property.

Then it all began to evolve into the Stonebridge Farm Novice Stockdog Trial. It was the first time for me as a trial manager, first time on this field for all of us, and a learning opportunity for all who joined us.

This year as you all know the weather played a critical part at all of the trials. So wet fields and hay not getting mowed became an issue. I kept in touch with the farm manager about the status of the fields. She was just as excited as us to have the trial at Stonebridge as we were. As luck with have it, the weather broke, the field got mowed, hayed and the wet spots started to dry. On July 13 and 14 the trial was held and was a success.

If you have an interest in putting on a trial and don't know where to start, work with local open handlers who put on trials. They have lots of information to share. Ask a lot of questions, think out of the box and keep going forward until you find what you need and go for it.

Note: See also the "Trial Managers Handbook" located in the "Trials" section of the website main page menu.



Pictures from Nearfield Farm June Trial



2013 BREEDERS DIRECTORY

Maria Amodei

North Face Farm
PO Box 43
Dunstable, MA 01827
978-649-6736
maria@northfacefarm.com
www.northfacefarm.com

Barbara and Bernie Armata

Taravale Farm
1165 Esperance Road
Esperance, NY 12066
taffaway@aol.com

Kimberly Baumgart

7056 Rte. 16 South
Franklinville, NY 14737
716-474-6273
jimandkim@gentleshepherd-farms.com

Carol Campion

Bittersweet Farm
109 Hammond Hill Farm
Hampton, CT 06247
860-455-9416
carcampion@yahoo.com
www.bittersweetbordercollies.com

Kate Collins & George Northrop

Aurora Ranch
PO Box 119, Taft Hill Road
Royalston, MA 01368
976-249-4407
george01368@yahoo.com

Lynn Deschambeault

Merlynn Kennels
342 Hio Ridge Road
Denmark ME 04022
207-452-2898
merlynn@fairpoint.net

Anne Devine

EyeSpy Border Collies
205 Flanders Road
Niantic, CT 06357
860-608-4447
eyespybordercollies@gmail.com
www.eyespybordercollies.com

Rob & Betsy Drummond

Liberty Tree Farm
200 Stowe Mountain Rd.
Hillsboro, NH 03244
603-478-0846
rob@brailsfordco.com

Tonya Fouch

7532 Cedon Rd.
Woodford, VA 22580
804-448-1073
Purple.Rose13@yahoo.com

Joyce Geier

Sand Creek Farm
P.O. Box 208
Mendon, NY 14506
585-737-5596
sandcreekfarm@mac.com

Beverly Lambert & Doug McDonough

280 Hebron Rd.
Andover, CT 06232
860-922-9531
blambert2@mac.com

Gabrielle Merrill

Misty Lane Border Collies
68 Misty Lane
Brownfield, ME 04010
207-935-2520
gabe@fairpoint.net

Fiona Robertson

Creekside Border Collies
4565 Rte. 108
Canton de Hatley, QC J0B 2C0
819-842-4227
creeksidefarm@sympatico.ca
www.creeksidebordercollies.com

Gene Sheninger

470 Schooleys Mountain Rd. #144
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
973-615-9053
els8586@gmail.com

Steve Wetmore

Spring Valley Farm
70 Wetmore Road
Strafford, VT 05072
802-765-4466
swwet@valley.net

Ivan Weir

176 Lyndhurst Rd. RR #1
Seeley's Bay
Ontario, Canada K0H 2N0
613-387-2696
ivanweir52@yahoo.ca

Richard & Cheryl Williams

Culleymont Farm
RR 1, Box 1374
Hop Bottom, PA 18824
570-289-4733

This listing of Border Collie breeders is for informational purposes only and in no way represents an endorsement of these breeders by the Northeast Border Collie Association. When making enquiries into 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.

Note: Not all breeders listed here are necessarily handlers.

Sep 6-8
Shepherd's Crook Farm SDT
 Woodville, Ontario
 Two Novice, Nursery & Open
 USBCHA/NEBCA/OBCC
 Viki Kidd
 416-277-4313

Sep 7-8
Merck Forest Open SDT
 Rupert, VT
 Two Open and One Nursery
 USBCHA/NEBCA
 Tom Ward
 802-394-7836

Sep 14-16
NEBCA Fall Foliage Championship
 Cascade Farm
 370 Pettyboro Road, Bath, NH
 Two Open Trials, One Double Lift
 NEBCA
 Carolyn West
 860-729-0550

Sep 20
NHHG Loon Mt
 Lincoln, NH
 Open NEBCA Points
 Lynn Deschambeault
 merlynn@fairpoint.net
 207-452-2898t

Sept 20-22
Pipedream Farm SDT
 9416 Mt Tabor Rd
 Middletown, MD 21769
 2 Open, 1 Novice & 3 Nursery
 USBCHA/NEBCA
 Mark & Renee Billadeau
 301-293-2797

Sept 27-29
Long Shot Trial
 Church Hill, MD
 Pronovice, Ranch, USBCHA
 Nursery & Two Open
 USBCHA/NEBCA
 Sherry Smith
 410-708-2428

Sep 28
NH State Championship SDT
 East Conway, NH
 One Open & Nursery Trial
 USBCHA/NEBCA
 Roger Deschambeault
 603-939-2255

Sept 29
Fryeburg Fair SDT
 Fryeburg Fairgrounds, Maine
 One Open Points & Nursery Trial
 USBCHA/NEBCA
 Gabrielle Merrill
 207-935-2520
 Assistant
 Lynn Deschambeault
 207-452-2898

Oct 7-13
USBCHA National Sheepdog Finals 2013
 Belle Grove Plantation, Middletown, VA

Oct 25-27
Butternut Creek Fall SDT
 Kingston, ON
 Two Open USBCHA/NEBCA/OBCC
 Amanda Milliken (questions)

Nov 1-3
Long Shot Trial
 Church Hill, MD
 Pronovice, Ranch, USBCHA
 Nursery & Two Open
 USBCHA/NEBCA
 Sherry Smith
 410-708-2428

