NEBCA News

The Official Publication of the Northeast Border Collie Association, Inc.

Warren Mick and Eddie at Merck Forest   © Kate Collins

9/1/2015

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

Volume 33, Issue 3   www.nebca.net   **Autumn 2015**

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NEBCA News Mailing Dates

4 regular issues:

Spring (March 1)

Summer (June 1)

Autumn (September 1)

Winter (December 1)

Copy deadlines are 1 month prior to publication date.

Send articles to Maria Amodei, mariaamodei@verizon.net

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.

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, PO Box 66, S. Strafford, VT 05070.

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

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The horse is the best judge of a good rider, not the spectator. If the horse has a high opinion of the rider, he will let himself be guided, if not, he will resist.

Nuno Oliveira

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COMING ATTRACTIONS

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Summer is flying by. (My "little" puppy that was born last winter is now nearly as big as his mother and, hopefully, nearly ready to learn about sheep!) The days are becoming noticeably shorter. That makes us start to think about the prospects of the best days for trialing and training our dogs, once again, coming to an end.   At the same time, we know that some of the most beautiful weather for working dogs and some of the highlights of the NEBCA trialing season are still to come.
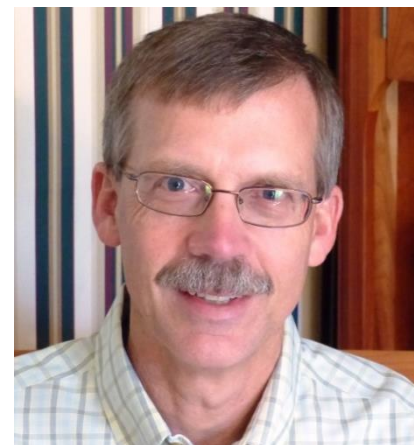
In particular, we can look forward to NEBCA's two year-end events. Our trial committees are busy putting the final touches on their plans. Both sound as if they are going to be very exciting. The Novice Finals will be held at Mary Ann Duffy's Thistle Dew Farm in Fabius, New York and will be judged by our own Joyce Geier from Mendon, New York. The Fall Foliage will held in Old Chatham, New York and will be judged by Dee Penatzer from North Carolina. Congratulations to all who have qualified for and will be able to participate in these events.

The nominating committee for the elections at the 2016 annual meeting will have been announced by the time this newsletter goes to publication. None of the executive positions are set to expire, but 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 you can contact myself or our Secretary, Martha Walke, who will forward the information to the committee.

Chris

THE FAULTY DOG

There are no perfect dogs. You can pretend your dog is perfect or opine about his faults, or… you can work to train your dog to improve those faulty areas and handle your dog to capitalize on the strengths and avoid the weaknesses. This column will describe a faulty dog, and offer suggestions from different people on training exercises to improve the dog and handling methods to get the best work from the dog on the field. The dogs described will all be successful Open dogs (past or present) that have significant faults. The absence of faults does not make a great dog. The presence of remarkable abilities makes a great dog.

Dog 3, the inflexible dog. Like all our subjects, this is a solid Open trial dog. This dog is quiet and steady in his movements, keeps an even pressure on the sheep. Sheep like this dog with his steady way. The dog almost never flanks square and sometimes it is difficult to get him to flank at all. His flanks are neither rushed nor harsh. Indeed often they are very slow, using the slower pace to keep the stock settled in lieu of distance. This dog has a great deal of presence and can move stock comfortably. He is a line dog who will hold whatever line has been set both driving and fetching.

Mary Thompson's Comments

I'm going to assume that this dog is still young enough to be encouraged to head stock, and given the working description will also assume that he has medium to less eye given the reluctance to flank. Often a handler will be over zealous with a line dog as it's so much fun to watch their dog drive the sheep relentlessly forward. When I see a young dog that drives effortlessly I quickly think "concentrate on flanks and outruns" and don't drive too much. I'm also assuming that the experienced owner has tried a lot of traditional methods to improve on this fault.

So,… I would try a non-traditional method to jazz him up somewhat and get him interested and excited about flanking and heading the sheep rather than just driving them along. As an established open dog, I would feel safe in using a smallish enclosure (50 x 50) feet with gates on both ends. Using about fifteen adult sheep, I would open the gate on one side just wide enough to allow one sheep to pass through at a time. Have the dog begin to drive them towards the small opening and after one or two have managed to slip through I would encourage the dog to quickly flank around front and stop the rest from "escaping". He will have to square off to get out around the rest to get to the front. You can use other sheep on the outside to entice your working group to slip through the opening. Once the collie has stopped the leak of sheep through the opening, I would walk over and close the gate. Then go over to the other side and open the other gate the same width, and have it drive the other thirteen towards this opening allowing several to slip through before again asking the dog to quickly flank and stop the rest from getting out of the enclosure. If the collie is hesitant and most of the sheep or all of them get through,……..don 't worry, just bring them back and try again. Repeat until you are down to about 5 sheep, then re-gather all the sheep into the enclosure and begin again if necessary. It shouldn't take long for the dog to realize that if it doesn't square around and head quickly it will lose all of the sheep. I would use an exciting verbal encouragement attached to the flank like; watch em, or head em, and clap my hands to make the collie understand the urgency of the situation. I would do this until the dog is able to stop the flow with excitement and determination. I would then move the exercise into a bigger field with some lighter sheep who want to flee. Open up the direction of a draw and when they begin to run, use the flank followed by the same excited verbal command and hopefully the dog will flank fast and want to head them hard. I wouldn't worry about it being a tight flank at this point in time.

Once the dog is excited about heading and flanks quickly and consistently, then you can take heavier sheep and point them in the direction of pressure and with you following the sheep closely, with the dog behind you and the sheep,…..you can flank it and ask it then to be more square using a bit of body language and the same verbal encouragement that you've used since the beginning of the exercise. A dog that likes to head generally flanks well,

The Faulty Dog continued

so I believe that teaching it to enjoy heading might be the key to faster, better flanks.

Barbara Armata's Comments

Actually, this sounds like a very nice dog; however, I am sure it took a bit to cover up the problems that arise with this style. Dogs with these characteristics generally have a lot of eye. Some eye is good but with too much, the dog can become "sticky". They tend to be inflexible.

Most likely, this dog would have a tight, narrow outrun. On the outrun, the dog might eye the sheep prior to getting to the top of the outrun, holding the sheep with his stare. The top might be flat and tight but the sheep may not have moved because this dog had held them prior to the lift. The lift will be slow and extremely careful.

The fetch will most likely be straight IF the lift was straight towards the handler. If it isn't, flanking this dog on the fetch will be difficult. Not having square flanks will hinder correcting the line.

Depending on the pressure in the field, the dog may not want to release the sheep to make a tight turn. He may, instead, want to flank the wrong way and cut the course. If the pressure is such, that the dog flanks into it, the turn will be done quite nicely.

Time is not on the side of this type of dog. The handler will have to be urging the dog to move on. It's not, necessarily, that the dog can't move the sheep, [as stated in the description] , but the dog doesn't want the sheep moving freely. His nature is one of holding and control. The clock could run out before the run is completed.

The pen may be difficult to do without square flanks. The slicing may cause the sheep to be pushed by the pen opening.

Shedding may have to be done with a hole already made. Coming into a group of sheep and splitting them is totally against this dog's nature.

First thing to work on would be widening the outrun. This dog needs space between the sheep and himself. The wider he runs, the less eye can and will be used. Add to that, a deeper outrun will allow him to come into the proper place to lift the sheep.

When lifting is a slow process, it is essential to teach a "get up" or "move up" command. This can be done walking alongside the dog as he's driving. Tell him to "get up" as you move quickly into the sheep, encouraging the dog to do so, as well. Create excitement in your voice to help motivate the dog.

Another method to get this dog to move and break eye contact is the flank. If the dog won't move forward, a small flank can sometimes get him "unstuck". So flank, walk up may be the way to handle this type.

Teaching and insisting on square flanks is important to get this dog to release the sheep. Flanking correctly will relax the dog as it gets more distance from the sheep. This, in turn, will allow the sheep to relax and move on.

A dog with eye shouldn't be used to hold out. This allows the dog to feed on its obsession of staring and sticking. Also, holding sheep off of feed troughs or other jobs that require a dog to hold the sheep in one place will only encourage the staring and sticking.

While shedding may not be easy for this dog, it may help free the dog up. Teaching the dog to come in and release one group, then drive forward on the second group would be a helpful exercise.

Every open dog has problems that have to be dealt with. Recognizing and working on those problems can bring the dog and handler success.

THE FINAL GIFT

Sue Schoen   (Editor's Note: This was originally written for the June Newsletter.)

I euthanized my old Brook last Thursday night, while she slept in front of the fire. A personal house call. As a vet I do this all the time. I help people make the decision and ease them through the process. Of course, it is never easy. Clients' responses to pet loss are as varied as people themselves. I act as unqualified social worker as an owner's life circumstances unfold before me as they face this loss. No one is unaffected. It's a huge moment. I'm really good at it.

So I know everything, right? And I've done this before. I euthanized Nap and Clair and Zoe and my good cat, Willy.
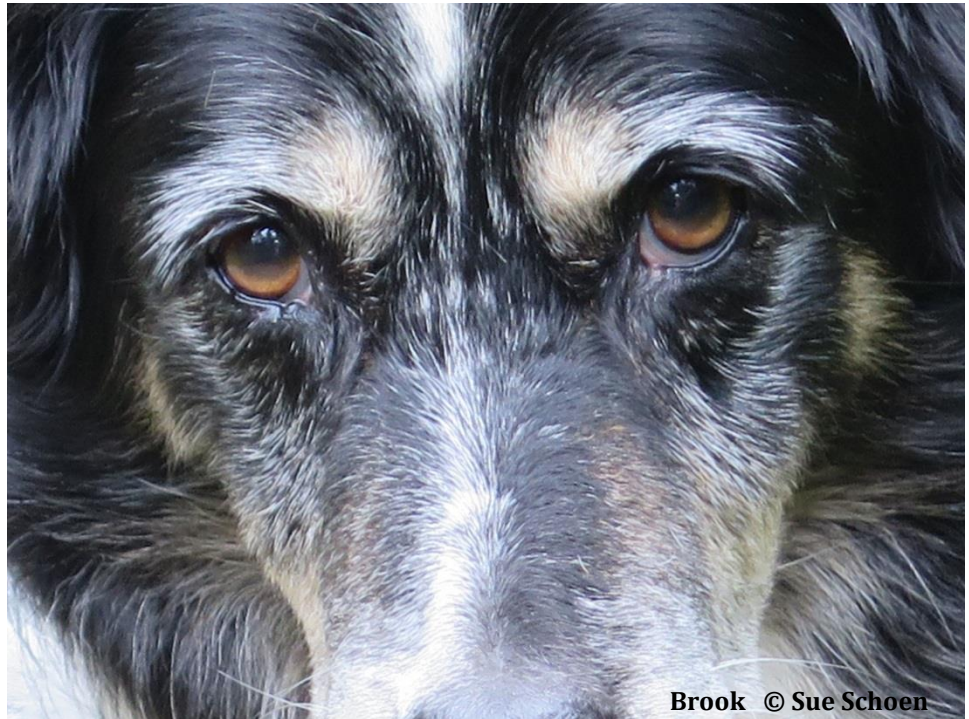
Brook   © Sue Schoen

Sometimes it is totally clear when it's over. Or your dog dies without warning. Sometimes it's a sliding scale. Some people go gently into that good night. Some people go kicking and screaming. I have to spell it out: Look this is suffering, let her go. When people "don't know" I have them make a list of important quality of life indicators. When that list starts to dwindle dangerously, it's time to talk. And I'll tell you, no one does it too soon.

I dithered all winter. People asked, "You still have Brook?" I was always startled. I want them to have every last breath. So long as they are happy, so long as they don't know they are sick. I deemed Brook pretty happy. She looked like a wreck with her long arthritic toes, roached arthritic back, and selective deafness. More frequently, she was staying home from our walks voluntarily. But she was game. She swam for about half an hour just as the ice broke up in our pond. She was a doting, tolerant auntie to Flo's litter of seven. Three weeks ago, I had a scare when I thought she had wandered off in a senile stupor on our way home from the farm. When I went back she was in the lambing barn eating after births. How'd she get in? Hopped over the gates.

Then a couple of weeks ago she started sleeping in weird places; she left her dinner a few times. Her gums occasionally had a muddy pale cast to them. The other morning she did not come to the front door to go out with the other dogs. She was lying in the back yard like she was waiting for me to come get her up. I realized I was blind as could be. The dogs had been telling me. They had started picking on her with greater frequency. They had done that to Clair at the end. They are not a mean bunch.

So you tell yourself everything you tell the clients. They don't outlive us. It's never the right time for the owner though it's time for the dog. You have to listen to what they are telling you. When I was a grad student, I had to have my boyfriend's ancient dog put to sleep while he was at sea for a month. (That ended that relationship PDQ). That vet told me how grateful he was that he had the ability to put Cholla down. I never forgot that.

So I miss her terribly. I see her everywhere. That is loss. I am sad and grateful and relieved. Like any owner.

THE DUAL SPORT DOG - CAN YOU HAVE IT?

Fiona Robertson

It is exciting to see so many new people and dogs venturing into the world of sheepdog trialing. Some come from farming backgrounds, others from the horse world. These types of new competitors have been entering the sheepdogging realm since the sport began in North America. It is a logical jump – famers and horse people often have years of stock sense and large animal handling or training. But there is also a large contingency now crossing over from the sport of Dog Agility; no doubt

Fiona and Fen at the Bluegrass   © Kristi Oikawa

drawn by love of the Border Collie and a desire to see if their dog can do what the breed is meant to.

Many of these newcomers give up their old agility lives; trading in their running shoes and compression capris for a pair of Wellies and a crook. Perhaps they have found their one true calling. Perhaps they were looking for a complete change in activities. Or perhaps they were told that it is impossible to be good at both sports: "Agility will ruin your dog for sheep!" This is what I believed, for quite a number of years.

I did both sports, but with different dogs. It wasn't until my then current agility competition dog (a rescue) was forced into retirement due to injury that I began using the same dog for both. At the time, I had quite a large pack of dogs, but still I trolled the Border Collie Rescue pages looking for another agility potential. My husband caught me doing this and knew exactly what I was up to. "Oh no," he said, indicating the line-up of current dogs. "Pick one of those to do agility with." So Fen, who had just began running in Pro-novice was selected because she has the "Everything is a Good Idea" type of outlook on life and I thought she'd enjoy it.

There are a lot of misconceptions that many stock people have about the sport of agility that might lead them to believe that agility is detrimental to sheepdog training. How often I've heard this said: "Agility dogs must turn and look at their handler for cues, and you don't want your stock dog doing that." Myth. That would be counterproductive to the goal of being the fastest. If my dog has to turn to me to get her cues while running an agility course, I've not done my job very well as a trainer or handler.

Here's another of my favorites: "Agility makes dogs crazy. They just want to run fast." Myth. If my dog is just a thoughtless blur of spit and barking while running agility, it is never, EVER pretty, or successful. Again, if my dog is running like that, I've not done my job as a trainer and handler. True, there are lines of sport-bred dogs who tend to be less thoughtful than others, but most often, a good trainer and handler can still bring out its best in the ring.

Some misconceptions come from the other side of the coin: "My dog runs really wide in agility, therefore I think he'll be a good sheepdog", or "My dog is sticky on the contacts – he has a lot of eye, so will be good at herding." Or, my personal favorite: "My dog herds the agility equipment, he wants to work!"

If you laugh at the above myths as I do, and you are interested in pursuing both sports with your dog, here are some important considerations:

The Dual Sport Dog continued

1. Start with the right dog.

   It will be far, far easier to do agility with a well-bred sheepdog than it will be to work sheep with a sport-bred Border Collie. The well-bred sheepdog will (hopefully) have a brain that can function under pressure. But do understand that many of these types of dogs are written off in agility because they are "too slow" as they are learning. Be patient. Many of the "by the book" training methods (for agility) will not work well with these dogs. Get good help: an instructor that understands the thinking dog's brain. This type of dog can really excel at agility at the highest levels, provided they've had good training. I've always noticed that speed increases exponentially with confidence.

   On the flipside, taking a Border Collie specifically bred for the sport of agility will be a handicap on the sheepdog trial field forever (if they even progress out of the round pen), no matter how good the training. It would be very rare to see such a dog successful in Open sheepdog trials.

2. Make sure the dog is sound enough for the physical challenges.

   When selecting your dual-sport puppy or dog, you must select for good structure. Agility is hard on dogs, especially nowadays with the courses becoming more twisty and difficult, you will need an athlete who can withstand the rigors of training and competing- often indoors, on less than ideal footing (ie, not natural surfaces). If you don't know much about conformation and how it might affect performance, get someone to help you when searching for your well-bred-sheepdog-puppy-with-good structure.

3. To be good at both sports is going to take a lot of work.

   To be a good sheepdog handler, you will need sheep of your own, you will need to learn to take care of sheep, handle sheep and doctor sheep…Read sheep. You will need to get your hands dirty. Very dirty. To be a good agility handler, you need access to good equipment several times a week. To get your dog trained up in both sports, you will need to work them almost daily. You will also have to condition your dog for both sports: endurance for sheepdog trials and sprinting, jumping and turning muscles for agility. Injuries in agility dogs seem to be on the rise. Do your part to help your teammate remain sound.

4. To be good at both sports costs money

   Training is expensive. Agility seminars with the best in the world cost about $200-$300 per day. Lessons run about $100 per hour. Sheepdog clinics tend to be less expensive, but still run about $100-$150 per day. $100 for lessons. Don't think you won't need lessons/clinics. You will. Luckily there are lots of online classes going on in both sports these days, so it is becoming a little more accessible.

   Competing is expensive. Entry fees for open sheepdog trials average about $45 a run in 2015. Agility Trial classes run about $15-$18 per class (x 4-8 classes per day, per dog). Plus travel expenses, of course!

5. To be good at both sports you will need a rock solid relationship with your dog.

   When I hear people say of their dog, "He doesn't like agility; he leaves the ring/quits/ignores me/runs rampant doing his own thing". These problems will not miraculously solve themselves once the dog begins sheepdog training. In fact, now that the dog also is reacting to hard wired instinct, it may actually get worse! This problem is almost always not about agility itself, but about the relationship the dog has with its handler, the foundation training and the rules or lack thereof, that govern the dog's daily life. It goes the other way around too! A dropout sheepdog will not necessarily make a good agility dog.

The Dual Sport Dog continued

6. The agility world is not at all like the sheepdog world.

To all new "crossover people" entering this wonderful sport of sheepdog trialing, please learn about etiquette. Sheepdog folks are friendly and quite tolerant, but you'll be respected if you try and fit in. Do your part. Help out at trials. Learn. If you are lucky, you already have a good mentor, but if not, the NEBCA Learning Clinics/Trials are a great way to get your feet wet!

And just another personal pet peeve: Open handlers almost never refer to our sport as "Herding". Nothing screams, "Alert! Agility Person!" than dropping this word all over your conversation.

Fiona and Fen at the USDAA Cynosport World Games
© Donna Wasielewski

"Herding" is a term adopted for a sport that does not resemble ours in the least! Yes, I am sort of kidding here, but only partially.

I consider myself far from elite in either sport; rather I like to think of myself as an "advanced intermediate" trainer and handler. I am not aiming for world domination, just to continue to enjoy both sports in a reasonably competitive way. As In write this, I have sadly come to realize that my current Dual Sport dog, Fen (now aged 7) who has competed at the National level in both sheepdog trials and agility, making semi-finals and finals in USDAA and UKI Nationals (and almost, almost, making semi-finals at USBCHA Finals in VA) must give up competitive agility due to structural challenges. But do not fear! I am not about to give up. Right now I am busy laying the foundation for both sports on her niece meG, who is just 1 year old and I am having so much fun!

And this is why I do it, because it's FUN!

Clarify in your mind what you WANT when you give the command - it's not fair to the dog to suddenly *mean* it ... when you've said it a dozen times before and didn't "really" mean it. Words have meanings and so do commands. Your job is to put correct actions to the words so everyone is on the same page. *Candy Kennedy*

Rob Drummond and Casey at Cascade Novice Trial
© Sarah Deuell

TRIAL RESULTS

Denise Leonard's Maggie at Merck · © Kate Collins

STONEBRIDGE FARM SDT JUNE 13/14

Pam Mueller

Sweeping green fields. Breakfast food. Wood paneled fences. Lunch food. Campers galore. Energetic blackface sheep with curly horns. More food.   Relaxing under the tents.   Cheering on friends. Dinner food. Then another day doing the same. Did I mention the endless food?   What could it be but Stonebridge Novice Sheepdog Trial.

Special kudos to Rose Redick and Warren Mick, who labored tirelessly to put on this fun and festive trial just for the Novice Handlers crowd.

Approximately 50 handlers, running 65 dogs in N-N, PN and Ranch made the trip to the back 40 of a stunning horse farm in the Saratoga Springs area of northern NY. The trial is donating $400 to Glen Highland Farm (Border Collie Rescue) in memory of Sue Vitro, who first made it possible for NEBCA to use the Stonebridge Farm site, and Ellen Rosconi Black, longtime NEBCA member and Novice supporter.

The weather cooperated nicely, with torrential rains and tornado-like winds arriving only Friday night prior, and Sunday night following, the trial. Trials days themselves were of mixed sun and clouds with temperatures nearly just right for a sheepdog trial. OK so at times it was a bit hot for those dogs and sheep that insisted on doing an excessive amount of running, but certainly very comfortable under the tents whilst drinking beer.

Trial hosts provided lunch subs and pizza dinner in exchange for donations, and encouraged all handlers to bring additional food to share. Well, the food kept pouring out all day long, from bagels and breakfast cakes to salads and cookies, brownies and watermelon, chips and dips, and then of course salsa.

Two bonus events wrapped up Saturday : a Silent Gather friendly competition featuring the winners of each class, our esteemed judge, and a selection of Open handlers, then the Salsa Party, which featured homemade salsa of every variety, from classical to fruit to bean to pseudo-salsa (guacamole).   The winner of the Silent Gather, by acclaim, was Barb Leverett with her dog….oh so sorry I forget the dog's name but it did a great job!

Judges Dave and Mary Ellen Young from Canada kept us honest and were gracious and fair in sharing their opinions of our dogs efforts.   Rose believes in equality, thus many hands were volunteered into duty as scribes, exhaust, set out, scorekeeping, food wrangling and even porta potty duty, as well as clean-up, which involved tearing down and packing up all evidence of a sheepdog trial, since this venue is Thoroughbred breeding farm and does not have tents, chairs, sheep pens or dog dipping troughs lying about: everything must come in, then go home. But, many hands make light work.   I'm not listing specific volunteers, since it really was a group effort. If you weren't helping, well you know who you are.

Stonebridge Farm SDT continued

Some went home quite pleased with their wins, others satisfied with a good training experience, and a few handlers went home disappointed in their dogs or themselves. But no one went home hungry.

Official winners are listed below. However, I hope everyone who got the chance to attend considers themselves a winner for being able to be out there on a lovely farm with dogs, comrades and wiley sheep.

See you all next year.

PN - Saturday

1	Brenda Buja	River	74
2	Deb Duarte	Jillie	70
3	Carol Bradford	Dash	65
4	Sara Reiter	Chet	60
5	Martha Walke	Jude	59
6	Ellen Fowler	Celt	55
7	Jean Louis Bigourdan	Kelso	55
8	Brenda Buja	Josie	52
9	Victoria Lamont		50

NN - Saturday

1	Glenn Kopp	Bryn	74
2	Mary Wasielewski	Bryce	74
3	Wendy Warner	Tess	60
4	Diana Wickman	Abel	56

5	Wally Dury	Fate	54
6	Betty Belliveau	Ava	53
7	Barb Eriksson	Doz	51

Ranch - Saturday

1	Julie Williams	Joe	76
2	Tara Dier	Kelly	71
3	Kim Lippollis	Becky	69
4	Maryann Duffy	Jet	65
5	Denise Leonard	Chloe	62
6	Chris Bowen	Henry	61

PN - Sunday

1	Brenda Buja	Josie	70
2	Tara Dier	Nicky	66
3	Jean Louis Bigourdan	Kelso	65

4	Kim Lippollis	Deke	62
5	Deb Duarte	Jillie	61
6	Lynn Johnston	Finn	61
7	Sara Reiter	Speck	56
8	Liz Shaw	Jura	54

NN - Sunday

1	Diana Wickman		68

Ranch - Sunday

1	Denise Leonard	Chloe	73
2	Emma Court	Chevy	72
3	Chris Bowen	Henry	69
4	Mary Ann Duffy	Jet	65
5	Julie Williams	Joe	62
6	Victoria Lamont		62

CAORA FARM SDT JUNE 25-28

Judge: Frank Cashen

NURSERY 1

1	Beverly Lambert	River	75
2	Amanda Milliken	Puppa	70

NURSERY 2

1	Beverly Lambert	River	74
2	Barbara Ray	Maverick	50

OPEN 1 — **104 dogs**

1	Walt Zieser	Rose	84
2	Beverly Lambert	Joe	83
3	Amanda Milliken	Howell	80
4	Steve Wetmore	Gile	79
5	Maria Amodei	Song	78
6	Lori Cunningham	Matt	78
7	Amanda Milliken	Dorey	78
8	Michael Polites	Taff	77

9	Beverly Lambert	Nan	77
10	Barbara Ray	Tab	76
11	Julie Williams	Joe	71
12	Amanda Milliken	Monty	69
13	Barbara Ray	Stella	69
14	Maria Amodei	Levi	67
15	Mich Ferraro	Mawde	67
16	Lori Cunningham	Gideon	64
17	Fiona Robertson	Mirk	62
18	Beverly Lambert	River	61
19	Barbara Leverett	Bess	61
20	Fiona Robertson	Fen	61
21	Barbara Levinson	Bill	60
22	Denise Leonard	Maggie	59
23	Linda Tesdahl	Gus	57

OPEN 2 — **96 dogs**

1	Steve Wetmore	Floss	93
2	Amanda Milliken	Monty	91

3	Amanda Milliken	Howell	90
4	Barbara Ray	Maverick	84
5	Beverly Lambert	Nan	84
6	Dave Young	Bess	81
7	Beverly Lambert	River	81
8	Barbara Ray	Stella	81
9	John Palmer	Spec	81
10	Gene Sheninger	Sweet	81
11	Werner Reitbock	Sigi	79
12	Maria Amodei	Song	78
13	Mich Ferraro	Mawde	77
14	John Palmer	Preacher	77
15	Warren Mick	Eddie	76
16	Steve Wetmore	Gile	75
17	Michael Polites	Taff	73
18	Gene Sheninger	Nick	73
19	Fiona Robertson	Mirk	71
20	Beverly Lambert	Joe	70

Don't miss your 2016 NEBCA Calendar! The calendar is now available at trials or you can purchase it on the NEBCA website. http://www.nebca.net/calendars.html

FETCHGATE FARM SDT JULY 2-5

NOVICE/ I — 15 dogs

1	Dury, Wally	Chip	73
2	Belliveau, Betty	Ava	71
3	Van Wicklen, Gail	Maggie	71
4	Shattuck, Pamela	Cooper	67
5	Madison, Michelle	Chelsea	67

PRO-NOVICE/ I — 27 dogs

1	Millen, Roger	Jessie	76
2	Palmer, John	Dutch	75
3	Lippolis, Kim	Deke	74
4	Furman, Sam	Bonnie	71
5	Reiter, Sara	Chet	70
6	King, Sylvia	Brook	70
7	Chute, Peggy	Olive	66
8	Dunning, Helen	Kate	65
9	Winecoff, Amanda	Floyd	62
10	Hartz, Rebecca	Kenna	62

NOVICE/ II — 14 dogs

1	Madison, Michelle	Chelsea	74
2	Gilligan, Sharon	Sully	71
3	Ponstingle, Jean	Daisy	67
4	Van Wicklen, Gail	Maggie	67
5	Shattuck, Pamela	Cooper	67

PRO-NOVICE/ II — 26 dogs

1	Obernier, Nancy	Liz	76
2	Winecoff, Amanda	Floyd	76
3	Millen, Roger	Jessie	75
4	Reiter, Sara	Speck	74
5	Lippolis, Kim	Deke	74
6	de Kenedy, Andrea	Rex	71

7	Madison, Ron	Pepper	71
8	Hunt, Pam	Torrie	70
9	Chute, Peggy	Olive	70
10	King, Sylvia	Brook	70

RANCH/ I — 34 dogs

1	Millen, Roger	Finnegan	87
2	Clark, Linda	Lyn	83
3	Palmer, Cynthia	Duke	82
4	de Kenedy, Andrea	Moss	82
5	Glei, Sally	Wes	82
6	Billadeau, Mark	Eve	79
7	Thompson, Mary	Mia	77
8	Dier, Tara	Kelly	76
9	Molloy, Sally	Gyp	75
10	Court, Emma	Chevy	72

RANCH/ II — 29 dogs

1	Clark, Linda	Lyn	88
2	Millen, Roger	Finnegan	86
3	Chambers, Maggie	Mose	83
4	Lockwood, Sandy	Joy	78
5	Zieser, Walt	Dot	78
6	Thompson, Mary	Mia	78
7	de Kenedy, Andrea	Moss	75
8	Billadeau, Mark	Eve	73
9	Palmer, Annie	Tess	71
10	Worthington, Joan	Saint	70

OPEN I (Fri-Sat) — 84 dogs

1	Billadeau, Renee	B.J.	97
2	Savage, Lorna	Tyler	96
3	Sheninger, Gene	Nick	95

4	Millen, Heather	Scout	94
5	Polites, Michael	Taff	94
6	Mick, Warren	Shep	91
7	Court, Emma	Maia	91
8	Thompson, Mary	Frost	90
9	Cunningham, Lori	Matt	89
10	Madison, Ron	Greta	89
11	Madison, Ron	Duke	89
12	Van De Car, Peter	Leif	88
13	Sharp, Dave	Cymro	87
14	Cunningham, Lori	Gideon	86
15	Billadeau, Renee	Bette	86
16	Mick, Maria	Bodie	85
17	Thompson, Mary	Beauty	85

OPEN II (Sat-Sun) — 81 dogs

1	Billadeau, Renee	Bette	95
2	Billadeau, Renee	Tally	91
3	Cunningham, Lori	Matt	89
4	Eddy, Joyce	Wren	89
5	Billadeau, Mark	Peg	89
6	Polites, Michael	Taff	88
7	Sheninger, Gene	Sweet	86
8	West, Carolyn	Abe	86
9	Thompson, Mary	Frost	85
10	Eddy, Joyce	Katty	83
11	Billadeau, Renee	B.J.	82
12	Savage, Lorna	Tyler	82
13	Millen, Heather	Scout	82
14	Madison, Ron	Greta	82
15	Murphy, Joann	Gil	81
16	Millen, Roger	Finnegan	80

Sometimes new handlers watch their dog comply with an instructor's commands in awe, sure that the instructor has some greater authority. While most experienced handlers give the commands with more relaxed authority than a novice the difference is more in when the command is given than how.

Imagine we are in a car in the driveway and I tell you to get out of the car to pick up the morning newspaper. You are likely to comply. Now imagine I tell you to get out of the car as we drive down the highway.

Listen to how experienced hands say the commands. More importantly, study when commands are given. Commands are not to exert dominance over the dog. Commands are information to facilitate the work.
Maria Amodei

OSSIPEE VALLEY FAIR JULY 9

This was a timed/points trial and everyone pitched in to get the course and holding pens up and helped announce! Sheep were provided by Stephen Wetmore and they rode from VT to ME in Jim Allen's sheep trailer! Thanks to everyone for their help and support of this little fairs trial.We ran 28 dogs. (*Lynn Deschambeault*)

Run 1

1. Sallie Butler & Lucky
2. Roger Deschambeault & Bob
3. Lynn Deschambeault & Flo
4. Roger Deschambeault & Trim
5. Peter VandeCar & Bear
6. Steve Wetmore & Gile
7. Sallie Butler & Roo
8. Gabe Merrill & Roy
9. Martha Walke & Cy
10. Steve Wetmore & Floss

Run 2

1. Steve Wetmore & Gile
2. Steve Wetmore & Floss
3. Roger Deschambeault & Trim
4. Sallie Butler & Roo
5. Peter VandeCar & Leif
6. Roger Deschambeault & Bob
7. Lynn Deschambeault & Flo
8. Peter VandeCar & Bear
9. Martha Walke & Cy
10. Rob Drummond & Casey

SUGARBUSH GAP SDT JULY 19

Sara Reiter

The Sugarbush Gap learning clinic and trials were held July 18 and 19 in Windsor NY. The clinic with Roger Millen was oriented toward understanding and succeeding in novice trials. Barb Armata explained judging and scoring at dinner on Saturday evening. At the two NN and PN trials on Sunday, judge Roger Millen talked to handlers after their runs and there were opportunities at the clinic and the trial for novice handlers to learn and practice trial jobs such as setout, pushout, pens and exhaust. Participants also judged the silent gather competition held for dogs not entered in the trial (won by Sandy Lockwood and Joy).

There were two handler/dog teams new to trialing - Jamie More and Kestrel and Bridget Griffin and Chelsea and also two new NN dogs competing for the first time in the trials (Sheila Crepeau's Zain who won high combined and Karen Gorman's Nash).

Special thanks to clinician and judge Roger Millen, trial setout and lecturer Barb Armata, clinic setout person Heather Millen, scoreperson Sandy Lockwood, setup and clinic helper Kim Lippolis, trial helper Cindy Vandawalker and the clinic/trial participants who pitched in all weekend.

NOV/NOV I

1	Sheila Crepeau	Zain	67
2	Jamie More	Kestrel	58
3	Karen Gorman	Nash	57
4	Betty Belliveau	Ava	57
5	Barb Eriksson	Dozen	54
6	Bridget Griffin	Chelsea	44
7	Wayne Simon	Russ	42

PRO/NOVICE I

1	Sara Reiter	Chet	70
2	Caleb Johnson	Rhos	65
3	Kim Lippolis	Deke	65
4	Barb Kuckenbecker	Aero	63
5	Pam Hunt	Torrie	48
6	Eric Johnson	Skye	47
7	David Schwartz	Jack	38

NOV/NOV II

1	Karen Gorman	Nash	65
2	Sheila Crepeau	Zain	61
3	Jamie More	Kestrel	56
4	Holly Fincher	Maat	56

PRO/NOVICE II

1	Kim Lippolis	Deke	66
2	Heather Millen	Lass	65
3	Sara Reiter	Chet	61
4	Barb Kuckenbecker	Aero	58
5	Caleb Johnson	Rhos	54
6	Pam Hunt	Torrie	54
7	Don Desrosiers	Panda	44

"Dogs understand your moods and your thoughts, and if you are thinking unpleasant things about your dog, he will pick it up and be downhearted." - *Barbara Woodhouse*

CASCADE FARM SDT JULY 3-5

Maria Amodei

Take me to the river. Oh how I enjoy my annual pilgrimage to Bud and Mary Ames' Cascade Farm. Waking up and seeing the river flow by from my bed, waterfalls, pools, trails, and great swaths of open space with not a road to be seen. Always well organized, great food, great hosts.

The trial used the entire huge field this year for a 450 yard outrun. The dogs could not see the sheep until they were about 2/3 of the way. Many dogs were stumped, turning back into the field before they crested the rise where the stock would be visible or fixing on objects along the edge of the field. Once the dog got there the undulating field and distance continued to create problems for the handler. After the lift there was a low area on the fetch, not visible to the handler even from the steps provided. If your fetch was on line the heads of the sheep came into view fairly promptly. If it seemed like an eternity, then odds are your sheep were going to show up well to the left or right of the fetch panels. The trick was to have your fetch well organized and on line as the stock entered the twilight zone, easier said than done with a fair bit of pressure in both directions at the top. The sheep were reasonable to manage through the drive and pen. A chute created difficulty as the final obstacle. Ignoring the spectacular run by Dave Young and Bess (show off), high scores were very hard to come by on Friday.

The top 20 dogs based on combined scores competed in a double lift on Sunday. The long, blind outruns continued to be a challenge but the best teams made it look good. We ran two packets of 3 sheep each. The course finished with pen/single. Very few were able to get the single.

The very capable judge was Frank Cashen. We gave him plenty to think about. Dogs that had not found their sheep on the qualifying days were given a chance to complete the gather with handler help if needed.

Nursery Friday - 5 dogs

1	Beverly Lambert & River	75
2	Sue Schoen & Spy	72

Open Friday - 45 dogs

1	Dave Young & Bess	92
2	Amanda Milliken & Dorey	81
3	Beverly Lambert & Joe	77
4	Fiona Robertson & Fen	72
5	Denise Leonard & Emmie	72
6	Maria Amodei & Levi	69
7	Steve Wetmore & Floss	68
8	Maria Amodei & Song	64
9	Amanda Milliken & Monty	64
10	Fiona Robertson & Mirk	61

Nursery Saturday - 5 dogs

1	Beverly Lambert & River	79
2	Sue Schoen & Spy	67

3	Amanda Milliken & Puppa	61

Open Saturday - 45 dogs

1	Maria Amodei & Song	91
2	Beverly Lambert & Joe	89
3	Dave Young & Bess	85
4	Beverly Lambert & River	77
5	Fiona Robertson & Mirk	77
6	Steve Wetmore & Gile	16
7	Amanda Milliken & Monty	76
	Beverly Lambert & Nan	74
8	Dave Young & Pic	74
9	Barbara Levinson & Bill	71
10	Mike Nunan & Cap	70

Double Lift Sunday - Top 20 dogs

1	Amanda Milliken & Monty	137*
2	Amanda Milliken & Dorey	127
3	Beverly Lambert & Joe	125
4	Fiona Robertson & Mirk	125
5	Dave Young & Pic	124*
6	Beverly Lambert & River	123
7	Maria Amodei & Song	118
8	Steve Wetmore & Gile	118
9	Barbara Levinson & Bill	105*
10	Denise Leonard & Emmie	103
11	Fiona Robertson & Fen	98*
12	Maria Amodei & Levi	79
13	Steve Wetmore & Floss	77
	Dave Young & Bess	
	Nancy Phillips & Dot	
	Mike Nunan & Cap	
	Pam Davies & Jet	
	Chris Bowen & Bella	
	Melody Hanchett & Canon	
	Sue Schoen & Spy	

*160 point course / * got the single*

A dog in a kennel barks at his fleas; a dog hunting does not notice them.

CASCADE FARM NOVICE SDT JULY 11 & 12

Judge: Mary Ellen Young

Novice Champion and Long Road: Sharon Gilligan & Sully

Novice Reserve: Sharon Gilligan & Robbie

Pro-Novice Champion and Long Road: Brenda Buja & Josie

Pro-Novice Reserve: Ellen Fowler & Celt

Ranch Champion and Long Road: Denise Leonard & Chloe

Ranch Reserve: Steve Wetmore & Stu

Novice Saturday - 10 dogs

1	Sharon Gilligan & Sully	75
2	Sharon Gilligan & Robbie	73
3	Betty Belliveau & Ava	73
4	Sheila Crepeau & Luna	65
5	Glenn Kopp & Bryn	64

Pro-Novice Saturday - 23 dogs

1	Ellen Fowler & Celt	74
2	Brenda Buja & Josie	74
3	Ginny Prince & Ida	70
4	Molly King & Emma	69
5	Carol Bradford & Dash	63
6	Liz Shaw & Jura	62
7	Judy Gambill & Finn	59
8	Pat Bacskay & Tarra	53
9	Clara Stites & Kip	53
10	Josh Newcomb & Cash	57

Ranch Saturday - 18 dogs

1	Denise Leonard & Chloe	80
2	Molly King & Allie	73
3	Steve Wetmore & Stu	71
4	Pam Davies & Patch	60
5	Pam Hunt & Styx	53

Junior Handler

1	Jesse Nunan

Novice Sunday - 11 dogs

1	Sharon Gilligan & Sully	77
2	Sharon Gilligan & Robbie	74
3	Betty Belliveau & Ava	63
4	Barbara Eriksson & Dozen	42

Pro-Novice Saturday - 21 dogs

1	Brenda Buja & Josie	76
2	Martha Walke & Jude	68
3	Lynn Deschambeault & Vic	67

4	Pat Bacskay & Tarra	64
5	Josh Newcomb & Cash	62
6	Ellen Fowler & Celt	55
7	Brenda Buja & River	54
8	Judy Gambill & Finn	52
9	Victoria Snowden & Prim	48
10	Liz Shaw & Jura	47
11	Pam Hunt & Torrie	47

Ranch Saturday - 19 dogs

1	Rose Redick & Kensa	60
2	Rose Redick & Ross	56
3	Denise Leonard & Chloe	49
4	Pam Hunt & Styx	44
5	Steve Wetmore & Stu	35
6	Pam Davies & Patch	33
7	Judianne Davis van Nostrand & TeeCA	31
8	Pam Meuller & Fly	25
9	Ginny Prince & Ida	22

Jesse Nunan reviews strategy with Mike and Kip © Sarah Deuell

SAD Photography

If I ever have a chance to speak my mind to God I would tell him that dogs don't live long enough. Hell snapping turtles live 100 years. Who the hell needs a 100 year old snapping turtle!"

—*Bud Ames (via Dave Young)*

MERCK FOREST SDT JULY 18-19

View from the top at Merck (Maria Amodei's Marcus)   © Kate Collins

Judge: Maria Mick

Saturday 7/18/15 (45 dogs)		
#1 Amanda Milliken	Howell	86
#2 Amanda Milliken	Monty	85
#3 Stephen Wetmore	Floss	85
#4 Beverly Lambert	Nan	84
#5 Maria Amodei	Marcus	77
#6 Maria Amodei	Levi	76
#7 Julie Williams	Joe	76
#8 Michele Ferraro	Maude	75
#9 Beverly Lambert	Joe	75
#10 Rob Drummond	Joe	73

Sunday 7/19/15 (46 dogs)		
#1 Amanda Milliken	Monty	92
#2 Stephen Wetmore	Gile	86
#3 Barbara Leverett	Bess	82
#4 Beverly Lambert	River	81
#5 Amanda Milliken	Howell	81
#6 Kate Collins	Ela	81
#7 Warren Mick	Eddie	81
#8 Denise Leonard	Maggie	80
#9 Maria Amodei	Song	78
#10 Beverly Lambert	Joe	77

You need to maintain a humble and realistic attitude regarding the ability of your team and yourself. Not only will this keep you from being humiliated (so badly anyway), it will cause you to be fair to your team and run them according to their actual abilities, rather than your inflated self image.

From the Epilogue of "Lead, Follow or Get out of the Way!" by Iditarod Champion Mitch Seavey

FETCHGATE FARM NOVICE SDT JULY 24-26

Friday Novice (22 dogs)

1	Gorman, Karen	Nash
2	Bellaman, Rebecca	Czech
3	Gilligan, Sharon	Sully
4	West, Debbie	Ffizz
5	Madison, Michelle	Chelsea
6	Cameron, Pat	Rook
7	Wasielewski, Mary	Bryce
8	Garland, Sharon	Lori
9	Leisey, Katie	Brice
10	Dury, Wally	Chip

Saturday Novice (21 dogs)

1	Bellaman, Rebecca	Czech
2	West, Debbie	Ffizz
3	Gorman, Karen	Nash
4	Thompson, Diane	Zeke
5	Cameron, Pat	Mollee
6	Gilligan, Sharon	Robbie
7	Simon, Wayne	Russ
8	Bigourdan, J-Louis	Skye
9	Cameron, Pat	Rook
10	Madison, Michelle	Chelsea

Sunday Novice (21 dogs)

1	Gilligan, Sharon	Sully
2	Cameron, Pat	Mollee
3	Madison, Michelle	Chelsea
4	Cameron, Pat	Rook
5	Bellaman, Rebecca	Czech
6	Gorman, Karen	Nash
7	Thompson, Diane	Zeke
8	Garland, Sharon	Lori
9	Fincher, Holly	Maat
10	Simon, Wayne	Russ

Friday Pro/Novice (34 dogs)

1	Millen, Roger	Jessie
2	Lippolis, Kim	Deke
3	Molloy, Sally	Mist
4	Simpson, Peggy	Boone
5	Newcomb, Josh	Cash
6	Lamont, Victoria	Ellie
7	Reiter, Sara	Speck
8	Desrosiers, Don	Panda
9	Holbrook, Elayne	Glenn
10	Palmer, Annie	Lark

Saturday Pro/Novice (33 dogs)

1	Palmer, Annie	Nell
2	Madison, Ron	Pepper
3	Holbrook, Elayne	Glenn
4	Sawford, Marie	Jill
5	Reiter, Sara	Chet
6	Simpson, Peggy	Boone
7	Lamont, Victoria	Ellie
8	Gambill, Judy	Finn
9	Newcomb, Josh	Cash
10	Desrosiers, Don	Panda

Sunday Pro/Novice (34 dogs)

1	Madison, Ron	Pepper
2	Millen, Roger	Jessie
3	Fowler, Ellen	Celt
4	Lamont, Victoria	Ellie
5	Duarte, Deb	Jillie
6	Simpson, Peggy	Boone
7	Tsuruda, Lori	Ben
8	Lippolis, Kim	Deke
9	Gambill, Judy	Finn
10	Millen, Heather	Lass

Friday Ranch (17 dogs)

1	Palmer, Annie	Tess
2	Hunt, Pam	Styx
3	Lippolis, Kim	Becky
4	Duffy, Mary Ann	Jet
5	Court, Emma	Chevy
6	Worthington, Joan	Saint
7	Murphy, Jim	Hemp
8	Palmer, Cynthia	Duke
9	Lamont, Victoria	Diz
10	Lockwood, Sandy	Joy

Saturday Ranch (20 dogs)

1	Court, Emma	Chevy
2	Armata, Bernie	Sam
3	Molloy, Sally	Mist
4	Molloy, Sally	Gyp
5	Lippolis, Kim	Becky
6	Hunt, Pam	Styx
7	Dier, Tara	Kelly
8	Duffy, Mary Ann	Jet
9	Worthington, Joan	Saint
10	Murphy, Jim	Hemp

Sunday Ranch (16 dogs)

1	Palmer, Cynthia	Duke
2	Duffy, Mary Ann	Jet
3	Lockwood, Sandy	Joy
4	Armata, Bernie	Sam
5	Palmer, Annie	Tess
6	Hunt, Pam	Styx
7	Worthington, Joan	Saint
8	Lippolis, Kim	Becky
9	Mueller, Pam	Fly
10	Lamont, Victoria	Diz

Novice/Novice Champion:
Rebecca Bellaman/Czech
Novice/Novice Reserve:
Sharon Gilligan/Sully

Pro/Novice Champion:
Roger Millen/Jessie
Pro/Novice Reserve:
Ron Madison/Pepper

Ranch Champion:
Bernie Armata/Sam
Ranch Reserve:
Mary Ann Duffy/Jet

"Children and dogs are as necessary to the welfare of the country as Wall Street and the railroads." - *Harry S Truman*

SPRING VALLEY SDT JULY 25 & 26

Judge: Barbara Levinson

Saturday 7/25/15 (46 dogs)

1	Bev Lambert	Nan	98
2	Fiona Robertson	Mirk	92
3	Mike Nunan	Cap	91
4	Bev Lambert	River	90
5	Maria Amodei	Marcus	89
6	Kate Collins	Ela	89
7	Chris Bowen	Bella	87
8	Steve Wetmore	Stu	86
9	Barb Leverett	Bess	85
10	Maria Amodei	Song	85

Sunday 7/26/15 (45 dogs)

1	Maria Amodei	Levi	97
2	Barb Leverett	Bess	93
3	Barb Leverett	Bob	93
4	Fiona Robertson	Mirk	91
5	Denise Leonard	Maggie	91
6	Mike Nunan	Cap	90
7	Martha Walke	Cy	89
8	Ginny Prince	Dar	87
9	Peter VandeCar	Leif	87
10	Rob Drummond	Casey	85

Chris Bowen and young Henry preparing to outrun past the sugar house at Spring Valley   © Nancy Phillips

80 ACRES AUGUST 1-3

Saturday 8/1/15 (94 dogs)
Judge: Alf Kyme

1	Mary Thompson	Beauty	81
2	Christine Koval	Jimmy	81
3	Barbara Ray	Stella	75
4	Denise Leonard	Maggie	73
5	Beverly Lambert	River	72
6	Amanda Milliken	Monty	70
7	Maria Amodei	Song	69
8	Sally Molloy	Gyp	68
9	Beverly Lambert	Nan	68
10	Dick Williams	Dave	67
11	Amanda Milliken	Dorey	64
12	Amanda Milliken	Howell	63
13	Jeanine Henigin	Bo	63
14	Joe Haynes	Kelly	62
15	Barbara Ray	Tab	62
16	Brian Cash	Neal	60
17	Kate Ash	Roy	59
18	Nisi Staley	Sid	58
19	Leslie Gamble	Bob	57

Sunday 8/2/15 (98 dogs)
Judge: Haley Hunewill

1	Amanda Milliken	Howell	93
2	Amanda Milliken	Monty	89
3	Beverly Lambert	Nan	88
4	John Palmer	Preacher	85
5	Mary Thompson	Beauty	78.5
6	Linda Tesdahl	Glyn	78
7	Barbara Ray	Stella	77.5
8	Mary Thompson	Frost	77
9	Lori Cunningham	Matt	76
10	Tracy Hinton	Soot	72
11	Marilyn Terpstra	Lola	71
12	Beverly Lambert	River	67
13	Helen Dunning	Cap	66.6
14	Beverly Lambert	Joe	66.4
15	Barbara Ray	Maverick	66
16	Chuck Dimit	Chad	66
17	Christine Koval	Jimmy	65
18	Marilyn Terpstra	Eve	64.5
19	Roger Millen	Finnegan	64
20	Mary Minor	Feist	62.8

KINGSTON SDT AT GRASS CREEK

Round 1 (145 dogs)
Judge: Alf Kyme

1	Joe Haynes	Kealy	95
2	Amanda Milliken	Dorey	94
3	Amanda Milliken	Monty	92
4	Barbara Ray	Maverick	91
5	John Palmer	Preacher	88
6	Maria Amodei	Song	87
7	Linda Tesdahl	Juno	86
8	Dawn Boyce	Slim	84
9	Barbara Ray	Tab	84
10	James Valley	Tailor	84
11	Tracy Hinton	Dax	82
12	Gene Sheninger	Nick	80
13	Viki Kidd	Macy	80
14	Amanda Milliken	Howell	80
15	Mary Minor	Feist	80
16	Christine Koval	Jimmy	79
17	Christine Koval	Moss	78
18	James Valley	Dot	78
19	Gene Sheninger	Ket	77
20	Tom Hoeber	Tazz	76
21	Lorna Savage	Kaylee	75
22	Beverly Lambert	Joe	75
23	Brian Cash	Neal	75
24	Jeanine Henigan	Sam	75
25	Lori Cunningham	Matt	73
26	Barbara Ray	Stella	73
27	Maria Amodei	Levi	72
28	Ann Palmer	Dor	72
29	Mich Ferraro	Mawde	72
30	Michael Polites	Taff	71
31	Kate Ash	Roy	71
32	Fiona Robertson	Fen	71
33	Werner Reitboeck	Sigi	71

Round 2 (143 dogs)
Judge: Haley Hunewill

1	Tracy Hinton	Soot	91
2	Barbara Ray	Maverick	89
3	Amanda Milliken	Howell	89
4	Barbara Ray	Stella	88
5	Beverly Lambert	Joe	88
6	Kevan Gretton	Clint	88
7	Mary Thompson	Paris	85
8	Joyce Geier	Jim	84
9	Kate Ash	Roxanne	83
10	Amanda Milliken	Dorey	83
11	Christine Koval	Jimmy	83
12	Joe Haynes	Keally	81
13	Dawn Boyce	Slim	81
14	John Palmer	Spec	80
15	Dave Sharp	Cymbo	80
16	Mich Ferraro	Mawde	79
17	Debbie Bailey	Huck	79
18	Mich Ferraro	Clive	79
19	Amanda Milliken	Monty	78
20	Denise Leonard	Maggie	77
21	Fiona Roberson	Fen	77
22	Viki Kidd	Merle	77
23	Charles Williams	Lola	76
24	Warren Mick	Eddie	75
25	Dave Young	Pic	75
26	Linda Tesdahl	Gus	75
27	Linda Tesdahl	Juno	75
28	Beverly Lambert	Nan	74
29	Brian Cash	Neal	73
30	Emma Court	Chevy	73
31	Beverly Lambert	River	73
32	Roger Millen	Rock	72
33	Jim Valley	Dot	72

Double Lift
Judges: Alf Kyme, Haley Hunewill

1	Amanda Milliken	Dorey	285
2	Barbara Ray	Tab	237
3	Amanda Milliken	Monty	215
4	Dawn Boyce	Slim	214
5	Barbara Ray	Maverick	213
6	Tracy Hinton	Soot	210
7	Christine Koval	Jimmy	199
8	Maria Amodei	Song	183
9	Kevin Gretton	Clint	181
10	John Palmer	Preacher	162
11	Mich Ferraro	Mawde	148
12	Linda Tesdahl	Juno	0
13	Bev Lambert	Joe	0
14	Joe Haynes	Keally	0
15	Gene Sheninger	Nick	0

Tracy Hinton at Grass Creek   © Werner Reitboeck

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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
http://www.beverlylambert.com

Barbara Leverett
1512 Burrell Rd
St. Johnsville, NY13452
518-568-2833
rleverett@frontiernet.net

Dave & Annie Palmer
443 Mateer Rd.
Hop Bottom, PA 18824
570-582-9200
bootleggerfarm@epix.net

Gene Sheninger
301 Rocky Run Rd
Glen Gardner, NJ 08826
973-615-9053
els8586@gmail.com

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

Richard & Cheryl Williams
Culleymont Farm
RR 1, Box 1374
Hop Bottom, PA 18824
570-289-4733

Note: Not all breeders listed here are necessarily handlers.

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.

NEBCA CLASSIFIED ADS

PENNING – LESSONS FROM A LLAMA

Maria Amodei

Recently I read Liz Shaw's blog discussing concepts she had learned in a seminar on handling llamas. Her guard llama was difficult (synonymous with being a llama I believe). Some of the points Liz made regarding handling a llama in a way to encourage cooperation brought to mind watching handlers work the pen at the Merck Forest trial. I've picked a few statements from Liz's discussion that apply directly to penning sheep. Full blog: (http://farfetchfarm.com/joe-and-me-letting-go-to-gain-control-part-1/)

- *Balance. The seminar instructor emphasized the importance of an animal feeling balanced in order to feel safe. When an animal feels safe we can often approach it and do things to it that it might otherwise struggle against. We humans tend to take away balance in order to control an animal. …We strongly believe that taking away physical choices exerts our control. I have been thinking about how making an animal feel safe and balanced may actually increase our control*

- *Pressure. When working with a fearful animal I have found the most effective way of moving them closer is the opposite of what we think. If we back off the pressure, we bring them in, if we go after them, they move out. We often apply way too much social pressure to animals when we mean to bring them closer. Our impatience takes away their choice.*

Now let's apply this to penning, looking at only one aspect, pressure on the sheep from the handler. The sheep at Merck could be penned, but were not inclined to make the job easy. Most were wary of people, thus quite responsive to pressure from the handler. Some handlers were putting a lot pressure on the stock either by proximity, movement or hollering at their dog. More importantly, handlers didn't release that pressure until their sheep squirted out of the mouth of the pen in a desperate bid to escape.

Looking at Liz's points on llamas, we were trying to exert control by taking away physical choices and applying too much pressure. Yet the sheep still could escape and our pressure only encouraged them to do so. Handlers continued to step into the sheep and never stepped back to open a safe place in the mouth, squeezing the sheep against the dog at the edge of the pen. Handlers that took this moment to draw themselves quietly back, opening space in front of the pen, were rewarded with sheep who relaxed and came into that new space.

THE INTERVIEW

Sue Schoen, written in 2002

Transcript of an interview of Beverly Lambert by Jane Paulie from Good Morning America
To be Broadcast December 19th at 6:30 AM EST, Taped October 20th

We are always eager to welcome new voices bringing fresh ideas to the field of child rearing. Can any parent say he or she couldn't have done a better job? Our guest today promises to have some innovative thoughts on the subject. Her success in her own field is undisputed. Without further ado, let me introduce Beverly Lambert of Andover, Ct. Beverly is head librarian for the Bloomfield Public Library. She is perhaps more significantly a nationally known sheepdog handler and trainer. Beverly has recently returned from Lebanon, Tennessee where she and her Border Collie, Pippa, were Reserve Champions in the 2002 National Sheepdog Finals. This means Beverly was second in a grueling competition among the nation's top 150 Border Collies.

Jane: Beverly, we've all seen the movie "Babe." I imagine your competition was like the enthralling finale of that movie.

Bev: Not much.

Jane: Oh. I see. Well. Let's hear all about your book. What is the title?

Bev: Crate Training your Toddler: 14 days to Parental Freedom

Jane: How interesting. Have you actually implemented this ..uh.. program?

Bev: Well. It has been difficult to find subjects. But I think people will be very excited by the results. I am sure it will work.

Jane: What motivated you to contribute to the field of child development? Please, share with our viewers some of your inspiration for the subject.

Bev: Sure, it's really quite simple. At dog trials over the years I have observed lots of young children first hand, and parents often bring them into the library. Any idiot can see there is a great need for a new approach to early childhood training. Children whine and complain, they are noisy and leave a sticky residue everywhere they go. They are often deliberately disobedient. We wouldn't put up with this behavior in our dogs. Why tolerate it in children?

Jane: Well, I'm sure you could find people who would agree with you. Would you like to share your methods with us?

Bev: Very briefly- I mean – people can buy my book if they want detail. Basically, children love to crawl into and hide in small enclosed spaces. Sometimes at trials they get into my dogs' crates. To crate train your child you introduce it to the crate for short periods- feed them candy and give them toys, maybe TV. Our crates are very plush - kids will love them. You never punish a child with crate time. This is very important. Gradually you lengthen the time in the crate and when the child is comfortable, you close them in. That is the time when parents see the benefits. Once your child is used to being in the crate for say two to three hours then you could actually go to dinner or out to a movie….

Jane: Beverly, this has all been very interesting. But we are just about out of time. Let's hear from our sponsor.

TRAINING DOGS AS PARTNERS

Nancy Lyon
Nancy was a gifted dog trainer and Search and Rescue (SAR) handler. The section below discusses training dogs as active partners. Each time I read this I see more ways to apply her philosophy to training and handling a sheepdog.

In airscent search & rescue (SAR) work training the dog to be able work through the frustration of complex scent problems is a real challenge for both the handler and the dog. The handler has to learn how long the dog can/will work trying to solve the question of where is the source of the scent. The handler has to learn when & how to "assist" the dog by moving in a way that will lure the dog into a useful area to be able to finish the search. The handler has to judge how much frustration the dog can tolerate before he gives up (because he has no more solutions). The handler's goal is to train a dog convinced that if he has scent he can find the source, period.

For a young dog the shaping process begins with problems where the wind always brings scent in a "followable" cone and must build to problems where the dog has pieces of scent but no direct scent cone to the source. The well trained, mature airscent dog will work till his heart bursts trying to find a source IF the handler has allowed his frustration to build and then be satisfied at just the right moment (which is the place where the choice to check out another area will solve the problem).

For the handler the stress is knowing when that moment is! And of course on real searches the stress is all on the handler because if the dog can't finish the scent problem, the handler has to figure out how to help. Creating dogs and handlers who can perform under very high levels of stress depends on the human welcoming a partner relationship. Partners bring separate talents to the task and find ways to communicate that allow each member's skills to excel. When the handler sees their job as controlling everything the dog does, you will see a non-operant, stress prone relationship.

Dee and I have often talked about the critical quality apparent in all great trainers – they give 100% attention to their dog. I always tell folks who ask about what it's like to work with a dog to find lost people that it is like dancing – sometimes I'm leading and sometimes he is leading. And when it is good no one steps on the other toes and once in a while it is perfect and it's because each of us is unaware of who is leading – there is no dog/handler – there is us.

About Nancy Lyon: http://nek9sar.org/sites/default/files/public/nancy-lyon.pdf
New England K-9 Search and Rescue: http://nek9sar.org/

SUMMER SYMPHONY

A storm came in while I checked the lambs.
The western sky filled with great gray clouds,
tall and dense.
A lone bee buzzed his industrious tune against the distant thunder,
one last load.
The ridge was still bright and hot as I walked down towards the lambs,
towards the storm.
Sun shone through the gaps, outlined the sculpture of the clouds.
No carved and painted ceiling comes close.

I sent my dog to gather, silent she vanished over the wall into the brush,
Nothing but the flies and thunder and heat.
I wait then hear the cadence of the flock coming, bleats from stragglers,
past the wall.
They are fine, vibrant, annoyed at the interruption.
We let them go.
My dog and I walk back up the ridge, storm behind and heat before us.
I hear the rain.
The drops advance behind me like a tiny running army,
thousands of footsteps swarming up the hill.
I reach the top as the first drops find me,
cooling the air and my skin.   *© Maria Amodei 2015*

2015 TRIAL SCHEDULE

DATE	TRIAL	LOCATION	CLASSES	CONTACT	INFO/ENTRIES
Aug 29	Long Shot Benefit Trial	Church Hill, MD HOTELS	Open USBCHA/NEBCA	Sherry Smith 410-708-2428	Information
Aug 29-30 Educational	Tanstaafl Farm	Greenfield, MA	Novice & Pronovice NEBCA	Denise Leonard 413-773-5232	ENTRY Word PDF
Sep 5	Blue Hill Fair SDT	Blue Hill, ME	One Open Points Trial NEBCA	Lynn Deschambeault 207-452-2898	Enter by 10am Sep 5
Sep 6	Northeast US Sheepdog SDT	Blue Hill, ME	One Open Points Trial NEBCA	Lynn Deschambeault 207-452-2898	Enter by 10am Sep 5
Sep 5-6	**NEBCA NOVICE FINALS**	Fabius, NY	Two or Three Novice	Pam Davies 908-361-1335	ENTRY: Word PDF T Shirts: Word PDF
Sep 5-7	Long Shot Farm Labor Day	Church Hill, MD HOTELS	Open USBCHA/NEBCA	Sherry Smith 410-708-2428	ENTRY Word PDF
Sep 12-13	Williams SDT	Red Hook, NY	Two Open, Ranch & Pronovice USBCHA/NEBCA	Julie Williams 845-849-3275	ENTRY Word PDF
Sep 18	Loon Mountain SDT	NHHG Loon Mt, Lincoln,NH	One Open Points Trial NEBCA	Lynn Deschambeault 207-452-2898	Enter on site 1 hr before trial starts
Sep 18-20	Pipedream Farm SDT	9416 Mt Tabor Rd Middletown, MD 21769	Two Open,One Novice & Two Nursery USBCHA/NEBCA	Renee Billadeau 301-293-2797	Information ENTRY: Word PDF
Sep 21-26	**NATIONAL FINALS**	Alturas, CA	Open, Nursery	Geri Byrne	ENTRY Word PDF
Sep 25-27	Long Shot Trial	Church Hill, MD HOTELS	Open, Ranch, Pronovice Nursery USBCHA/NEBCA	Sherry Smith 410-708-2428	Pending
~~Sep 25-27~~ Cancelled	Middleboro SDT	Middleboro, MA	Open, Nursery USBCHA/NEBCA	Jean Farry	Information
Sep 28	Big E SDT	West Springfield, MA	Two Open USBCHA/NEBCA	Pat Canaday 518-861-6049	Information ENTRY Word PDF
Sep 26-29	Indian River Fall SDT	Indian River, ON	Two Novice, Nursery & Open USBCHA/NEBCA/OBCC	Cynthia Palmer 705-295-3351	Update ENTRY: Word PDF
Oct 1-4	Shepherd's Crook Farm SDT	Woodville, Ontario	Two Novice, Nursery & Open USBCHA/NEBCA/OBCC	Viki Kidd 416-277-4313	Update ENTRY: Word PDF
Oct 3-4	Woolly Winds SDT	Taravale Farm Esperance, NY	Two N-N,P-N,Ran Trials NEBCA	Melody Hanchett 518-221-8222 Mary Wasielewski 413-668-5407	ENTRY Word PDF
Oct 4	Fryeburg Fair SDT	Fryeburg Fairgrounds,Maine	One Open Points NEBCA	Gabrielle Merrill 207-935-2520	ENTRY Word PDF
Oct 9-12	**NEBCA Fall Foliage**		Two Open ,One Double Lift	TBD	Pending
Oct 30-Nov 1 Dec 12-13	Long Shot SDT	Church Hill, MD HOTELS	Open, Ranch, Pronovice Nursery USBCHA/NEBCA	Sherry Smith 410-708-2428	Pending