



NEBCA News

The Official Publication of the North East Border Collie Association, Inc.



Christine Koval

Christine Koval's Jim works in snow at Valhalla Farm in Great Barrington, MA.

The mission of the North East Border Collie Association is to promote and to 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.

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NEBCA Bylaws & Rules at

<http://www.nebca.net/welcome.html>

If members require hard copies,
please contact The Secretary,
Martha Walke, PO Box 66,
S. Strafford, VT 05070

NEBCA Membership

Annual Renewals due January 1st
\$25 per individual, or
\$30 per farm/family

To join or renew, send your name,
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NEBCA, Martha Walke, PO Box 66,
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OR submit online at
[http://nebca.net/
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New members may join at any
time. After October 1, you will
automatically be paid through the
following calendar year.

NEBCA News

Editors

Sallie Butler, Chief
kryptomongo@verizon.net

Lori Tsuruda, Layout

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rescue@glenhighlandfarm.com

Border Collie Rescue Ontario
<http://www.bordercollierescueont.com>
cindy@bordercollierescueont.com
Sharon@bordercollierescueont.com

NEBCA Officers

President Warren Mick

518-925-1191,
warrenmick3@gmail.com

Vice President Barbara Eriksson

978-895-9773,
beriksson525@gmail.com

Secretary Martha Walke

802-765-4935 walkem@sover.net

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

Board of Directors

Chair Barbara Leverett 518-

568-2833 rleverett@frontiernet.net
Ellen Fowler 860-651-4216
peacepups@att.net

Annie Palmer 570-582-9200

bootleggerfarm@gmail.com

Werner Reitboeck 613-448-3266,
bcwerner@outlook.com

Open Trials Committee

Chair Position Open - to be filled

Sallie Butler 978-887-8164
kryptomongo@verizon.net

Michael Nunan 802-785-2193
nunan@myfairpoint.net

Novice Trials Committee

Chair Pam Wataha 570-807-8154,
nthbound@ptd.net

Sheila Crepeau 603-978-1077
shcrepeau@metrocast.net

Peggy Flanagan 207-549-3867
mamakin36@hotmail.com

Amy Hershberger 954-270-9487
nebcr.amy@gmail.com

Learning Trials Committee

Chair Rose Redick
518-465-68908 roser@aol.com

Barbara Armata
518-875-6471 taffaway@aol.com

Liz Shaw 860-887-7197
ejshaw@magicalmutt.com

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

Library Martha Walke

802-7645-4935 walkem@sover.net

Newsletter Sallie Butler 978-
887-8164 kryptomongo@verizon.net

Points Keeper Pam Davies 908-
361-1335 pamdavies30@gmail.com

Website Joanne & Jim Murphy
613-456-6196 jomur9@hotmail.com

From the President - Warren Mick



Hi Members,

First off, thank you all for your support. Serving you again as president is an honor and privilege. I extend a collective thank you to outgoing officers Chris, Dave and Maria for their time and efforts. At the same time please welcome the other new and returning officers.

I'm thrilled to have

Barbara Eriksson joining the executive committee as VP, Annie Palmer and Werner Reitboeck joining the board, and Martha and Denise staying on as Secretary and Treasurer. We are fortunate to have such experienced and generous people involved.

As we start another year in NEBCA, the finances are sound and there are really no major issues on the table. The Board is still considering the procurement of an AED (defibrillator) and first aid kits for circulation amongst trials. If you have an opinion on this, would like these items at your trial or would be willing to help ferry them from one trial to the next, please let the board know.

The Calendar and Fundraising committees are starting their work and when the trial committees are finalized, preparations for the Novice Finals and Fall Foliage trial will begin. If you know of a potential site for either trial please, please let us know. As always, Sallie Butler, our newsletter editor, welcomes articles or interesting items to print as well as your photos. Personally, I've seen enough photos of handlers penning sheep at trials to last me a lifetime. How about sending some photos of your dogs helping on the farm?

Finally, I'm not a believer in change for change's sake, but also believe there's almost always room for improvement. If you have an idea on how to make NEBCA better, I encourage you to bring that idea to me, the board, or one of the committees. As NEBCA improves, so also does the future of Border Collie.

I wish you all a great and healthy year.

From Your Editors

We're pleased that Martha Walke has returned as volunteer to mail the newsletter to Members who choose to receive the printed copies. Thank you, Martha!

We're seeking Layout Editor(s), because Lori Tsuruda is retiring as volunteer-editor after the next issue, Summer 2019. If interested, please contact us: Sallie Butler kryptomongo@verizon.net or Lori Tsuruda Lori@pmd.org. See ad below.

We're grateful to you for sending items for the newsletter. Continue to send photos of your working border collies, JPG or TIFF format, in-focus, and at high-resolution. Articles can be mailed to Sallie (*she'll type!*), or emailed either in the body of the email or attached as a Word document.

Want to see an older newsletter article reprinted? Poems, drawings, jokes, cartoons, recipes, and/or training tips? Please send!

And, if you see an article on social media of interest to members, here are the three, simple steps for its consideration for publication in the newsletter:

1. Get the original poster's permission.
2. Send the article.
3. Get the original poster's permission.

See the deadlines on page two.

Volunteer Layout Editor Needed



We're searching for a dragon or a dragon-team to be NEBCA's new Layout Editor(s), because Lori Tsuruda is retiring as Layout Editor as of the Summer 2019 Newsletter issue. Please email Sallie Butler kryptomongo@verizon.net or Lori Tsuruda Lori@pmd.org.

Working Your Dog in Hot Weather and Border Collie Collapse (BCC)

By Sue Schoen, VMD

We've all seen it happen. On a hot day, on a big course, a handler is keen to finish his run. The sheep are winning - tough to shed, or running around the pen. The dog is struggling. It can't focus, goes to water, and quits. The handler might coax the dog back to the job, but the dog is clearly out of gas. Tongue down to the ground, panting rapidly, dragging its back legs, and staggering. It is hard to watch, and soon everyone yells for the handler to put the dog in water. After a few minutes in the water the dog hops out, dripping water, and the disappointed team heads back to their trailer. Typically, the dog recovers quickly and completely, to run again the next day.

The next several dogs have equally tough runs under the same environmental conditions. They do fine. Happy to get in the water and cool down, but no distress. As a population, our dogs are fit and healthy athletes. We breed and feed them the best we know how, and argue passionately about these topics. We condition them, hydrate them, clip their undersides, cool them down, and give them energy powder before their run. So, what happened? What's the difference among dogs?

Border Collie Collapse (BCC) Also called staggers, or exercise-induced collapse, it is a neurologic disorder that is triggered by elevated body temperature generated through strenuous exercise or excitement. It is more likely to occur in hot weather. I used to call it heat stress. Perhaps 5-10% of border collies, kelpies, and other herding breeds suffer from BCC. That's one or two dogs at every 50-dog trial. Typically, BCC occurs after a dog has been exercising hard for 5-15 minutes. The dog displays altered mentation, stiff-legged gait, knuckling of the back feet, and staggers or collapses. Usually, it resolves with cooling after 20-30 minutes.

Researching BCC I spoke with Katie Minor, R.N., a researcher at the Canine Genetics Laboratory at the University of Minnesota. Her lab and her colleagues at the University of Saskatchewan and UC San Diego are collecting data on normal and suspect dogs to study this condition. The team believes it might be an atypical seizure disorder

triggered by a body temperature of 107°F (41.6°C). They are working to better understand this disorder and its genetic characteristics. Ultimately, a DNA test is a goal.

Working in Hot Weather What happens when a normal, fit border collie runs on a hot day? The dog's normal body temp is 100.5°-102.5°F (38°-39.2°C). Working muscles produce heat, and a normal dog can achieve a body temperature of 107°F during work on a hot day, and the dog's body works to eliminate excess heat. In cool weather, the body sheds most of its heat through the skin and coat, by way of conductive and convective heat loss, which helps to lower the likelihood of a high body temperature. In hot weather, when the dog needs to dump more heat, panting becomes important. The rapid, shallow, tongue-hanging-down pant moves a lot of air in and out of the nose and mouth. That beautiful collie nose is filled with a cartilaginous labyrinth of capillary-rich mucous membranes, creating lots of surface area for heat transfer. The blood carries heat from the muscles to these membranes. Gobs of air pass over the membranes, pick up the heat from the blood, is moistened in the mouth, and exhaled. Heat is lost as the water in the breath evaporates. On a hot and humid day, evaporation is reduced, making it harder for dogs to shed heat. This evaporative cooling method uses a lot of body water, so good hydration is essential.

A dog affected with Border Collie Collapse goes through the same physiologic response in terms of heat production and loss, and can cool down just as quickly as a normal dog. In cold weather, BCC is less likely to occur. In hot weather, though, when a BCC-dog reaches 107°F, the neurologic episode is triggered— the dog stops listening, staggers, and collapses. Searching for any differences between the normal and BCC-affected dogs after collapse-inducing periods of strenuous exercise, the BCC-research team compared cardiac function, serum biochemistries, cortisol levels, and musculoskeletal findings (you name it). Nada. And, after they are cooled, affected dogs' return to normal is every

Sue Schoen



Jen and Tyne keep cool during work on a hot day.

measurable way, leading researchers to further ideas.

Border Collie Collapse is not heat stroke or heat exhaustion as could occur by leaving a dog in a hot car or by callously overworking a dog in hot weather. With heat stroke or exhaustion, the dog's temperature rises with no relief. Even when cooled and treated emergently, damage to kidneys, blood, and other tissues can be severe or even fatal.

Take Home Message At home you can choose to work in the cool of the day. Everything will go more smoothly. You will not lose your temper. Your sheep and dogs will thank you. That said, a normal, fit dog can do a job on a hot day. At some trials, you will run your dog in the heat of the day. At big trials, any dog can be taxed.

Cardiovascular fitness, lean body mass, and plenty of access to water before and after a run are a good starting point for stamina during strenuous work. You can cook a normal dog if you aren't paying attention. Body temperature does need a chance to come down. Dogs need a chance to cool off and take a break. You need to read your dog. If your dog is in trouble at the end of the run, put him in the water or walk off. More and more trials require water on the field, and it is often changed to keep it cool. That is what progress looks like.

Border Collie Collapse-affected dogs can likewise do work, trial, exercise, and play. I doubt there will ever be a cure for an affected dog. We

don't know whether you can improve an affected dog's ability to avoid collapse. Trying to keep your dog's body temperature from reaching 107°F could become an artform. Acceptance of your dog's limits is only fair. It is said that once dogs overheat they are more susceptible, or that dogs can become acclimated to heat over time. I don't know if those statements are true or not. Katie Minor mentioned that some young dogs seemed to "grow out of it." By 5 years old, dogs were clearly affected or not.

Border Collie Collapse is not an asset in a working dog. If your dog shows signs of BCC, have him seen by your veterinarian once you are home - especially if the recovery period is prolonged, or he is at all abnormal afterwards. There are many reasons for collapse - infectious, metabolic, cardiac, orthopedic, and/or neurologic. Why take a chance?

At trials, there are always veterinarian-handlers who are willing to look at your dog in a crisis. One of us can let you know if you should seek care emergently.

There is plenty we don't know yet about this disorder. Research that more thoroughly defines the diagnosis, risk factors, and triggers, and that yields a genetic marker and mode of inheritance, will be invaluable in preserving the positive qualities of affected lines. Once we know the mode of inheritance and have a genetic test, we can breed out affected dogs whilst preserving good traits from affected lines.

Progress is coming. It is known, for example, that BCC is not the same as Exercise Induced Collapse in Labradors, for which the genetic marker is known.

For more information, please visit the website of the Canine Genetics Laboratory, School of Veterinary Medicine, University of Minnesota. They are looking for more dogs for their study. Information is confidential. Please contact me or the Canine Genetics Lab if you are willing to participate.

Thanks to Katie Minor, R.N. for her comments and for sending me copies of the research articles.



Denise Leonard

Amy Hershberger and Feisty Sal turn the post and start their drive.

Far Fetch Farm Learning Trial, Spofford, NH, October 27-28, 2018

By Holly Fincher

The weekend forecast called for a high of 37°F with heavy rain and 14 mph afternoon winds, and when handlers across the North East looked out their windows on Saturday morning, different variations of snow, hail, and sleet could be seen gracing their rooftops and pastures. It seemed a nice day to stay in and build a fire, and yet it soon turned into a perfect beginning for the first ever Far Fetch Farm Learning Trial. Graciously organized and hosted by Liz Shaw, the event took place October 27 and 28, 2018, at her farm in Spofford, NH, where a newly cleared and well-readied trial field and a flock of Cheviot and Cheviot-cross sheep provided challenges for both sheepdogs and handlers alike.

Joyce Geier came in from New Mexico and, as judge, modeled an enthusiasm for learning and watching the dogs work sheep regardless of the cold and wet. Participants benefited from her guidance when, on Saturday, lengthy practice runs were given ample time, attention, and individual instruction. Then, on Sunday, an official NEBCA-sanctioned trial was held. In the Pro-Novice class,

Maria Amodei and Fife placed first with Amy Hershberger and Fiesty Sal second, and in the Ranch class, Ellen Fowler and Sweep took first with Eric Johnson and Blade in second. Several non-competitive runs also took place on Sunday, allowing Novice-Novice dogs and handlers and others the challenge of a more difficult course experience. This learning trial arrangement proved a rewarding and enjoyable experience for all in attendance.

NEBCA community handlers travelled to Far Fetch Farm for the event from as close as only a few minutes to as far as many hours away. Everyone pulled together and contributed to various tasks, thereby transforming the weekend into something more than just a learning trial. Prior to the event, volunteers had helped clear the field for safety. Then, on Friday, an urgently needed new pen was built from scratch by three out-of-town handlers. On Saturday, the setout handler could be seen holding sheep while sleet pelted in sideways. It was really cold and wet for two, long days, yet conversation and good humor abounded. At all times, hot cider was available in a well-heated barn

JP Maillet



Danielle Eriksen handling Dove during her practice run as Judge Joyce Geier observes and Chris Bowen works set-out.

loft where lunch and dinner, and then lunch again, provided much needed reprieves. By trial's end, the miserable weather of Saturday morning was long gone from memory. Now only warmth for the dogs

and handlers of the NEBCA community remained in the hearts. Many thanks to all, looking forward to next year.

Amy Hershberger



Far Fetch Farm's flock of Cheviot and Cheviot-cross sheep await sorting in the setout pen.



Ginny Prince

Karen Gorman and Nashville turning the post in Pro-Novice class.

First HerdEwe Learning Trial, Kensington, NH, November, 3, 2018

By Ginny Prince

There are usually a lot of glitches at the first year of a sheepdog trial. This was not the case for the HerdEwe Novice trial hosted by Sharon Barrette with assistance from Karen Gorman, and ably judged by Barb Armata.

This learning trial offered Novice-Novice and Pro-Novice classes, and despite difficult weather, went off without a hitch. Sharon's sheep, a mix of Finn, CVM, and Teeswater breeds were incredibly consistent from one group to the next. They were very well dogged but not at all sour, and required correctness but not perfection from the dogs in order to negotiate the course. In short, they were just right for novice dogs. Barbara Armata provided a perfect learning environment, with constructive comments after each run as well as giving lessons the days before and after the trial.

Brenda Buja and Margaret Flanagan worked tirelessly in the pen and provided consistent set-out. It was great to see numerous new faces including a contingent from Quebec attending their first NEBCA event. An amazing banquet and awards ceremony in Sharon's cozy home topped off the Saturday trial day.

A number of novice handlers made a lot of progress this year, which obviously is mainly due to their own efforts, but in my opinion the learning trials also played an important role. I applaud NEBCA for supporting these trials as a way to help new handlers get going in a really tough sport. I have enjoyed participating in these user-friendly events with my young dog, and want to thank everyone who has contributed to putting them on!

Memories of Donald McCaig (1940-2018)

Donald's highly-successful books, both novels and non-fictions, devoted eloquence to many topics, among them, the working border collie, sheepdog trials, 19th century American history, and rural life. -Editor



Don and one of his working border collies, ca. 2003.

I once read a book about Border Collies by Donald McCaig. In the book, he mentioned if you only go to one sheep dog trial, make it the Blue Grass in KY.

I did go. I eventually met Donald at various trials from KY, CT, VA. He a kind and generous person. The world needs more people like him, and he will be sorely missed by this community. -Arne Reil

A huge presence - had such a great impact on educating the public. Donald, you will live on in our memories and your books! -Sue Aston

Donald's Highland Occasional Trial was the most fun trial I've ever attended. There was food and music, and a great sheepdog community. Thank you, Donald, for all that you gave the border collie community. You will be remembered forever. -Carolyn West

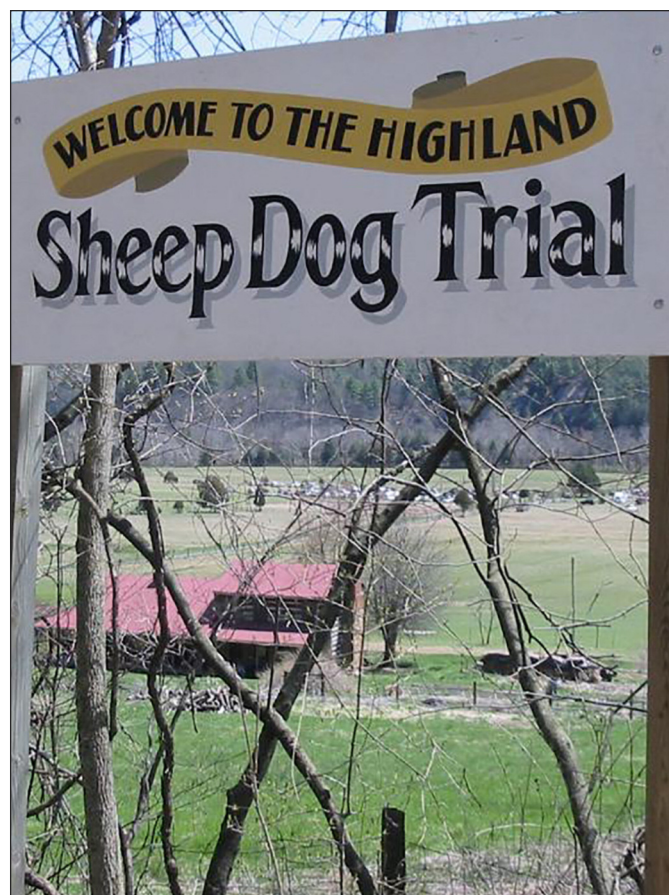
I only met Donald a few times but he was always gracious and always interesting to talk with. I regret never making it to his Highland Occasional Trial. I hear it was quite the thing. I didn't have an Open dog, but I was hoping to go when I did. Donald was a huge presence in the sheepdog community, and I hope we never forget him.

-Pam Mueller

My fondest trial memories, a place where my heart is. Yucatec Farm will always be a kind of home. Thank you, Donald and Anne, for sharing and letting us be part of your life. -Maggie Chambers

A kind man, a generous man. A man of words and deeds. A missed man. Many thoughts of you, Donald, and your family. -Deb Mickey

So many wonderful memories of Donald and his dogs. He will be greatly missed. -Christine Koval



The trial field framed by the sign at the McCaig farm.

Remembering Donald McCaig

By Patti Kallen

Sometimes, life places us in situations that lead to an interesting path. We met Donald at a trial at Richard Rogers' farm. How did we get there?

My husband, Lowell, and I had been visiting our kids in Connecticut. Friends of mine wanted to buy a puppy from Roger Deschambeault, who lives in New Hampshire. My sister-in-law and niece were vacationing on Lake Winnisquam and drove with me to Conway, New Hampshire, to pick up two puppies to bring back to Virginia. Roger and his wife, Christine, were wonderful. It was a fun day meeting people. Roger showed us the pups and suggested the two we should take. He then took out a couple of his Open dogs and showed us the magic between a dog and his handler. I then asked if he had any Open dogs for sale. After a pause, he said, "Yes." I told him my limit of what I could pay, and he went to get a gorgeous tri female, Trim. A more beautiful dog I don't think I had ever seen before. He worked her and then suggested I come into the field to see if she would work for me. She did. Next thing I knew, I had bought Trim and a puppy. I didn't ask hubby - I just did it. The old adage came to my mind, "It is better to ask forgiveness than to ask permission." Roger and his wife have become good friends of mine, all because I agreed to do the women in Virginia a favor and drive up to Conway and bring back two pups. I'll be forever grateful for having them in my life.

We left Connecticut and headed to a trial at Richard Rogers' where the pups would meet their new people. Our plan to get the pups and drive them to Virginia worked out well.

Trim and Lowell became attached almost immediately. He was up early at the trial, and took her for a walk. A man walked by and said, "That sure looks like a fine, old border collie." They chatted a few minutes, and went their separate ways.

That was our introduction to Donald McCaig. I later was introduced to him, and had a lot of fun at that trial listening to his stories. His stories were so interesting. I loved being next to him at trials and listening to his tales of dog trials. His descriptions

were so vivid I could picture the area of the country he described. Donald's books were wonderful to read. I read *Jacob's Ladder* and talked with Donald. I stated that I didn't think he knew words like the ones in that book. That gave him a chuckle. His books are a good read from an intelligent man.

Donald's trials were definitely based on what he thought was fair to the sheep, the dogs, and the humans. He had a strict cut-off for the number of handlers that could participate. I was lucky enough to attend several of his trials, but there are two that stick out in my mind. I had asked Donald if our 34-foot RV would fit into his field area. He said yep, it would. What an adventure that day was. After traveling a narrow, dirt road through the mountains, we arrived at his address. Umm. The turn to get into his driveway was a challenge, to say the least. But, we managed it, and headed down the long dirt road to where other people were parked. Branches were hitting the side of our RV for quite a bit while driving to the field. We had all our dogs with us. Lowell would take good care of the dogs not entered in the trial. Of note, we parked in the field the sheep were exhausted to after their runs. It was a hot day and I offered to exhaust the sheep after the runs. Trim loved to do that task. So, I would send Trim to get the sheep, ask her to stand near the exhaust gate, and the sheep came into the exhaust field, no problem. Well, not exactly. As the saying goes, "timing is everything." At the moment I asked Trim for a "stand," Lowell let our dogs out of the RV. Of course, the dogs heard me. OMG. Porsche, my first border collie, thought she died and went to heaven. She gathered all the sheep into an area where the grass was nearly as tall as my knees. Lowell collected the other dogs and brought them inside. Now Porsche was a dream dog for anything you'd ask her to do - *except* herding. Donald was standing across from me, and the owner of the sheep was at the top of our "triangle." They were telling Porsche to lie down. The exact reason Porsche didn't do sheep dog trials was "lie down" wasn't part of her vocabulary. I had all I could do to not laugh; in fact, I think I did laugh. If

there was one thing that Porsche was *not* going to do, it was to lie down. I told Donald that the good news was she didn't grip, and the bad news was she wasn't going to stop. After attempting a couple of unsuccessful tackles, I finally got ahold of a back leg. No leash, of course. It was all so exciting. I'm on the ground with at least 30 sheep going around me. Donald was impressed with my ability to tackle a border collie. I was actually proud of that tackle myself.

My husband did not let the dogs out again, grin. He felt terrible, but it was all okay with Donald and the sheep owner. That's the Donald McCaig I knew. Not too much got him in a bad mood or bad temper. He had a sly grin for me whenever we talked about my beautiful Porsche and my tackle.

At the end of that trial, we couldn't get the RV back down the dirt road because of low, overhanging branches. I'm not sure how we got in there. One of the handlers had a hand saw, and standing on the back of his truck, he took down a couple of large branches. I figured that was the last time I'd be invited to one of Donald's trials. But, it wasn't. He was always kind to me and suggested if herding didn't work out I could be a bus driver.

I had many interactions with Donald but this next one was also memorable. I should say straight away that Donald always hired set-out people and judges that he knew would be fair. At this particular trial, Sherry Farster was the judge. All of Donald's trials gave each handler 15 minutes to complete the course. No reason to hurry, run the sheep, etc. The handlers could take their time and learn so much about what we didn't yet know. His trials were surely one of the best trials I've ever attended.

Mornings began with coffee and southern biscuits. The handler meeting was calm, and if you had a question you could ask it without feeling like he would think you were a fool. My first handler meeting went like this: There will be a split-pen-shed. What I heard was there would be a "split-pen" and then a shed. OMG, I was thinking, "What

is a split-pen? Who can I ask?" I finally screwed up the courage to ask Donald, who thought it was funny I hadn't heard it before. At this trial I was working with Jet. Donald knew I had not had her for a long time and I should not be surprised if she couldn't go as far to pick up the sheep. I said I thought she'd find them, no problem. The running joke between Jet and me was times when Jet lost points was when I got involved and blew my whistle. We were having a really nice run. Good outrun, lift, fetch, and the sheep were walking nicely in a line to the drive panels. I was really concentrating, as I knew it was a good run. All of a sudden someone was pulling my shirt (the judge) and telling me to recall Jet. HUH? As it turned out, there was Donald's old dog walking quite nicely to get Jet's sheep. I did not see his dog until Sherry pointed him out. One of the guys went and collected the dog off the field.

After that trial was over, the 10 people with the highest scores could do a double lift. Sherry asked me if I would take care of the sheep that were split off during the shed with the double lift. Another woman asked if she could come up with me and Jet, and I said sure. So, the shedding was going along with no problems. Jet was collecting the sheep and holding them. Until...Amanda's dog got a little close and when she told him to lie down it was like a bomb went off. I didn't see if the dog jumped up and then landed on his belly to make so much noise because I was focused on Jet and the sheep. Well, the sheep took off running for their lives back to the shed ring! My friend and I were laughing so hard absolutely nothing got into our collective brains except that Dan King (it was his shed) was not going to be happy. We were crying with laughter because all her dog did was a rather loud "down." Dan King was a wonderful handler and person. Sadly, this trial was the last time I was in a trial with him. He died unexpectedly not too long after this trial. But, we gave him some laughs and he took it well, laughing right along with us. Sherry told the handlers under the tent she'd never seen sheep run *back* to the shed ring. Of course,

continues on page 19

NEBCA Annual Meeting Minutes

January 19, 2019 Swanzey, NH

Meeting was called to order at 10:15AM. Remote sites identified and welcomed.

46 members attended (17 on site; 11 at remote sites; 18 proxies).

I. Minutes from the Cooperstown meeting

It was suggested that including the interim treasurer's report in the Newsletter was not necessary and it could be posted on the website. M/S (George Northrop/Denise Leonard) to approve the minutes as written. Motion Passed.

II. Executive Committee Reports

A. Secretary's Report - Martha Walke

At the end of 2018 there were 249 members compared to 264 at the end of 2017 and 281 at the end of 2016.

As of 1/19/19, there are 180 members: 7 lifetime, 137 individual and 36 Farm/Family memberships.

There are 12 new members so far. While we have been getting new members each year, the number has been declining. I have sent out a reminder note to long time members who have not renewed, and I will post another reminder on the Handlers' Tent and on Sheepdog-L.

B. Treasurer's Report - Denise Leonard

The treasurer's year-end financial report was reviewed (posted on the website). Chris commented that NEBCA's balance sheet has increased by nearly \$20,000 in the past four years and that this was largely due to the Novice Finals and Fall Foliage trials consistently come in well below budget. Denise noted that \$5,000 was transferred from the checking account to the savings account and most of the PayPal balance was transferred to the checking account this month. M/S (Elizabeth Smith-Fries/Kate Collins) to accept the Treasurer's report. Motion Passed.

III. BOD Report - Barbara Leverett

There were three issues that the BOD took up this year:

A. The Information Policy was finalized, and is now located in the Members Only section of the website.

B. Research was done on the purchase of an AED (automated external defibrillator). The prices for an outdoor device range from \$1,300-\$1,600, plus \$200 for a first aid kit. These two items would be taken to trials by volunteer handlers. They would be mailed to the volunteer (about \$7-\$12 for shipping) or handed off at a trial. If we cannot find enough volunteers, there will be no reason to do this. Please contact Barbara Leverett rlleverett@frontiernet.net if you are willing to help with this. Discussion followed on insurance; liability; harm to the device in shipping; length of battery life; renting versus buying. Voice approval to continue research and purchase if feasible (enough volunteers).

C. There was one complaint brought before the BOD concerning water on trial fields for dogs. The BOD feels that trial managers have in general been very compliant in providing water for dogs at trials, especially at trials on large courses or in warmer weather. The BOD will deal with individual situations on a case-by-case basis. NEBCA's humane rules will stay as they are.

IV. Standing Committee Reports

A. Open Trials Committee - Sue Schoen

The 2018 Fall Foliage was held at Mich Ferraro and Kak Weather's Caora Farm. We had a great judge in Michael Gallagher, and the site was central to the NEBCA region. It was a great field, and there were plenty of excellent sheep. The two preliminary trials were USBCHA sanctioned. We were disappointed with the turnout, being aware of conflicting trials in Canada and Virginia. There was some distress about the date change, but it was based on our host's return from the Finals.

B. Novice Trials Committee - Barbara Eriksson

The committee received five notifications of new trial dogs, and they approved eight novice trials in 2018. They have approved one new trial for 2019. The 2018 Novice Finals was blessed with good weather, and everyone pitched in to make it a success. There were 51 entries (19 NN, 25 PN, 7 Ranch). Thanks to the generous donations from fund raising; to the Ames for their sheep, field, and equipment; to Warren Mick for his judging; and to all the volunteers. The trial ended up with a profit of \$411. A date has not been set for the 2019 Novice Finals.

V. Newsletter Report - Sallie Butler

It has been another enjoyable year of reporting and editing. Thanks to the many contributors. Members' suggestions and submissions are essential and always welcome. We need volunteers in the key area of Layout in the production of the Newsletter. Layout editor Lori Tsuruda will retire after the 2019 Summer issue.

We thank Lori for her professional work. Lori also researched and implemented cost-savings in printing and mailing. Replacement(s) for Lori are welcome to apprentice with us on preparing the next two issues. Note that

while Lori uses Quark Xpress software, a new layout editor(s) may work with any program. If you are interested, please contact Sallie for details on duties. Discussion followed on how few trial results were being reported in the Newsletter. Scores, photos, and write-ups need to go in the Newsletter as well as sending scores to Joanne Murphy for posting on the website.

VI. Select Committee Reports

A. Merchandise Committee - Joanne Krause

We had a profit in 2018, and we hope to have another good year in 2019. Big thanks to Kim Lippolis who was instrumental in all areas concerned with the merchandise. Thanks also to Barb Eriksson, Sheila Crepeau, and Ed Walker for all their help this past year, and to Chris Bowen for transporting the merchandise to several trials. In 2019, we will need several new volunteers to help transport and sell the merchandise since I will not be doing this anymore. Ed Walker has offered help in setting up and taking down the merchandise at trials. Liz Shaw and Ed Walker have agreed to be on the committee along with Kim Lippolis and Joanne Krause. Please address any comments or suggestions to any committee member.

B. Calendar Committee - George Northrop

Kate, Valerie, and Martha created another beautiful calendar this year. The calendar sold well as we have only 14 remaining. If there is enough demand, we may do another small printing of 25. Thanks go to Lynn Deschambeault and Steve Wetmore for selling large quantities at the fair trials. There were 22 sold through the website and 37 sold along with membership renewals. We encourage anyone with good, clear (minimum 300 dpi) photos of dogs working to submit them by March 1 to kate64@gmail.com for consideration for inclusion in the 2020 calendar.

C. Learning Trials Committee - Rose Redick

Since the last meeting in August, there have been a few more learning trials. Two of the trials were provided with some funding, and a few others that were held did not request any funding from the committee. Overall, 2018 was a very successful year in offering learning opportunities. We recommend that this committee remain intact.

D. Audit Committee - Warren Mick

An audit of NEBCA's 2018 financial records was performed using the established process. Based on the review, the Audit Committee believes the organization's current accounting practices are both sound and adequate. Audit Committee: Chris Bowen, Warren Mick, Dave Sharp.

E. Library Report - Martha Walke

In 2018 there were 29 transactions by 17 members, up slightly from 2017. Last year we obtained Sue Main's book, *S is for Sheepdog*, and another copy of Julie Hill's DVD, *The Natural Way*, from the ISDS. This winter we received our free copy of the 2018 National Finals but the containers arrived badly damaged and the DVDs themselves have tracking and play problems. I have notified the company (5:00 Films & Media) and we will be receiving another copy when they get the problems with the DVDs worked out. In 2018, Carlene Eitapence donated 34 books and 8 videos to the library. Dave Fetterman and Wendy Warner each donated one book and Lynn Deschambeault donated 2 books. The library holdings will be updated on the website this winter - All new items will be listed in red.

VII. Unfinished Business and Special Orders

A. Points Database Update - Chris Bowen for Maria Amodei

There has not been much progress made lately. Maria is still working on the new database program. When it is completed we will have a great database for keeping points. Elizabeth Smith-Fries and Liz Shaw volunteered to help Maria with data entry if needed. Pam Davies notified Chris that in entering points in the current database, she noticed incorrect data in the high points for the 80 Acres trial. Because she is unable to change data, it was suggested she contact Maria.

B. Election Results - Martha Walke

55 members voted and one person wrote in two candidates. The results are:

President - Warren Mick

Vice President - Barbara Eriksson

Secretary - Martha Walke

Treasurer - Denise Leonard

BOD - Annie Palmer and Werner Reitboeck

NEBCA Annual Meeting Minutes — *continued*

VIII. New Business

- A. 2019 Proposed Budget - Denise Leonard (attached)
Based on previous years, feel can be flexible for a year or two - giving a little more to trials and maybe lowering entry fees. There are two changes to the proposed budget: lower Awards/Gifts to \$300; increase Other to \$2,000. M/S: (Rose Redick/Amy Hershberger) for approval of proposed budget. Motion Passed.
- B. Committee Appointments - Warren Mick
There are none at this time.
- C. Other New Business
 1. Janet Fahey asked where official NEBCA information can be found. After some discussion, the website and newsletter were cited as the primary sources for official club information.
 2. Joanne Murphy requested that all comments concerning the NEBCA web page go directly to her via email jomur9@hotmail.com and not discussed on other social media sites.
- D. 2019 Meeting Dates
It was suggested that all of the NEBCA meetings be virtual or similar to the Annual Meeting. Elizabeth Smith-Fries has knowledge for facilitating virtual meetings. The importance of seeing people was mentioned. The meeting at Cummington will happen as usual. A meeting at Leatherstocking will be decided later.
- E. Announcements
 1. Frank Cashen will be judging the Ames' Cascade Trial in June as well as Mich Ferraro's Caora Trial. Lessons will be available, but dates not decided as yet.
 2. Thank you to outgoing officers Chris Bowen, Dave Young, and Maria Mick for their service to NEBCA.

M/S: (Denise Leonard/Ginny Prince) to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 12:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Walke, NEBCA Secretary

NEBCA Financial Reviews

Fall Foliage Financial Review	<u>2018</u>
INCOME	
Donations	\$330
Entry Fees	\$4,600
Misc - Insurance co-pay and entry refund	\$0
TOTAL Income	\$4,930
EXPENSE	
Caterer & Food	\$0
Equipment Rental	\$0
Field Rental	\$0
Insurance	\$50
Judge & Travel	\$2,074
Miscellaneous	\$458
Portalettes	\$320
Premiums	\$1,710
Reimbursement	\$0
Ribbons & Awards	\$594
Sheep	\$1,400
Sheep Pen	\$89
Worker Fees	\$400
Trucking	\$0
TOTAL Expense	\$7,095
Net	(\$2,165)

NOVICE Finals Financial Review	<u>2018</u>
INCOME	
Donation	\$775
Entries	\$3,207
Handlers Dinner	\$1,282
Total Income	\$5,264
EXPENSES	
Novice Finals	
Equipment Rental	\$747
Food & Snacks	\$91
Handlers Dinner	\$1,325
Insurance	\$50
Judge	\$0
Misc.	\$660
Portalettes	\$390
Postage & packaging	\$0
Refund	\$0
Ribbons & Awards	\$890
Set Out	\$0
Sheep & Trucking	\$0
Sheep Pen	\$700
Supplies	\$0
TOTAL Expenses	\$4,853
Net	\$411

NEBCA Financials 1/1/18-12/31/18

<u>INCOME</u>	2018 Actual	2018 Budget
Advertisements	\$120	\$100
Breeders Directory	\$295	\$300
Calendar Sales	\$3,115	\$2,800
Donation	\$47	
Fence Rental	\$40	\$50
Interest Inc	\$55	\$55
Library Income	\$73	\$200
Membership Dues	\$5,788	\$6,400
Merchandise Sales	\$4,898	\$6,000
Miscellaneous	\$27	\$0
TOTAL INCOME	\$14,458	\$15,905

<u>EXPENSE</u>		
Administrative	\$668	\$600
Ads	\$0	\$50
Awards	\$23	\$350
Bank Charge	\$171	
Brochure printing	\$0	\$350
Calendar	\$1,067	\$1,200
Insurance	\$625	\$650
Library	\$230	\$350
Merchandise	\$2,636	\$4,000
Fall Foliage Contribution	\$2,164	\$2,500
Novice Finals Contribution	-\$410	\$2,000
Newsletter	\$1,659	\$2,000
PayPal Transaction Fee	\$117	\$150
Learning Trials	\$230	\$400
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$9,180	\$14,600

Net Income (Loss)	\$5,278	\$1,305
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ACCOUNT BALANCES	<u>12/31/2018</u>	<u>12/31/2017</u>
Bank Of America Checking	\$30,525	\$27,988
ING Business Savings	\$13,812	\$13,757
Paypal	\$2,783	\$55
TOTAL	\$47,120	\$41,800

Proposed NEBCA Budget 2019

Income

Membership Dues	\$6,000
Calendars	\$2,800
Breeders Directory	\$300
Advertisements	\$100
Merchandise	\$5,000
Library	\$100
Interest	\$60
Rental of Equipment	\$50
Other	
Total Income	\$14,410

Expenses

Calendars	\$1,200
Pamphlets	\$350
Newsletter	\$2,000
Merchandise	\$2,500
Fall Foliage	
Contribution	\$3,000
Novice Finals	
Contribution	\$2,700
Insurance	\$650
Library	\$350
Administrative	\$650
PayPal Transaction Fees	\$150
Advertisement	\$50
Awards/Gifts	\$350
Learning Trials	\$500
National Finals	
Donation	\$0
Other*	\$2,000
*AED and First Aid kit	
Total Expenses	\$16,450
Net Income (Loss)	-\$2,040



Paul Batz

North Country Cheviot ewe with her mule lamb.



Sallie Butler

Kelpie Lucky faces yearling lambs.



Barbara Armata

A line-up of Scottish Black Face lambs.

On the Road in Pennsylvania, Florida, New York, and Virginia to Train with Faansie

By Deb Donahue

In the last year I have attended four clinics with Faansie Basson. The leap in knowledge and confidence he inspired in me has driven me to attend more clinics and have private lessons with both my dogs, Cap and Rob. I learned at the first clinic that Faansie is more than the clinician who trains you and your dog with a rolled-up, plastic grain bag. The noise of the bag makes the dog feel uncomfortable, which is a way to apply pressure to the dog. Pressure applied when the handler is in the proper position will produce a desired change in the dog.

Faansie is a native of South Africa, where he spent 25 years farming and shepherding thousands of sheep with the aid of his dogs. He began running dogs in sheepdog competitions in 1996, winning the South African Nationals seven times. In 2012, Faansie won the Meeker Classic with his great dog, Don. Presently, Faansie resides in Texas with his family and competes his border collies Sam and Jep across North America. In the 2018 USBCHA National Finals, Sam finished 3rd in Nursery and 5th in the Open Finals.

As a world contender at sheep dog trials, he offers a vast amount of knowledge that he shares with his students. His many fine aspects of being an instructor include the following:

1. A clear theory of training;
2. His ability to explain his theory to all handler abilities;
3. A concise lecturer; and
4. Always refers back to his theory at all stages of training.

The key aspects of his theory are based on taking care of the sheep and taking care of the dog's mind. Faansie follows a check list when training a dog, and adherence to this list no matter what the dog's stage of training leads to his success and the success of his students. Two factors when you set out to train a dog are the proper environment (size

of the field), which encourages success, and the sheep for the dog's level of training. A dog must have a good recall or come-here command, and a lie down.

Balance is the initial element that is taught the dog. In simple terms, balance is an outrun, lift and fetch. Good balance is essential for all levels of training, and a handler has to be careful not to take the balance out of a dog and make the dog too mechanical. Checking often to ensure that a dog has retained his good balance is essential. Even dogs successfully competing at the open level need to have their balance checked. Silent gathering is a good way to check for balance.

The lie down is a command, not a reprimand. Lie down means lie down. This command should not be questioned by the dog. The dog should feel relaxed in this position and should only get up on command. Shouting the command lie down is not a method to stop chaos when a dog is chasing sheep. A stop or lie down is used to get precision, and never a correction.

The culmination of this year's training was competing this October at the Furman's Front Runner Sheepdog Trial in Virginia. The sheep were Katahdin/Dorper crosses, and the lovely, large field on a hill was a challenge, as it was larger than many fields we compete on in the Northeast. There was camaraderie amongst the contingent from the Northeast as we competed against the welcoming handlers from the southeast. I was happy with my dog's performance and was pleased that I had the confidence to make corrections during both dog's second runs to improve our score. Since Faansie was the judge, he was able to observe my handling of Cap and Rob on the trial field. For two days after the trial, I attended a clinic with Faansie. His comments on my runs gave me a training plan for the next few months, in addition to specific exercises for each dog to improve its work on sheep. Amazing as it may sound, I could see that Cap

continues on page 18

On the Road in Pennsylvania, Florida, New York, and Virginia to Train with Faansie — *continued*

showed immediate improvement in his driving the next time that I worked him after the clinic. Even with this success, I still have some goals to reach before I work with Faansie again.

I encourage anyone who wants to improve his/her handling skills and has the opportunity to attend a clinic with Faansie to do so. You will not be disappointed. One of my key concepts that I focus on is: there may be some luck when a handler is competing at a trial, but Faansie has taught me to rely on my skills knowing that HOPE is not a strategy on the trial field.

Editor's note: Trial Manager Joanne Krause donated after-cost funds from the Dancing Ewe trial in July 2018 to the ABCA Health and Education Foundation, and shared the following:

Dear Joanne,

On behalf of the ABCA Health and Education Foundation, I would like to thank you for your donation. Your generosity will help support research into Border Collie genetics, diseases, disease prevention and treatment, and to disseminate educational information regarding border collies, including their use and value as working stock dogs and their genetics, diseases and proper breeding.

Sincerely,

*Cyra B. Peterson, Treasurer
ABCA Health and Education Foundation*

TRIAL SCHEDULE *as of 3/4/19*

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sheepdog Trial Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Contact Person</i>	<i>Telephone</i>
May 4	Cloudberry Open	Roseneath, ON	Andrea de Kennedy	416-948-9331
May 11-12	Cascade Farm	Bath, NH	Mary Ames	603-838-2018
May 18-19	Nevermoor Farm	Andover, NY	Diane Cox	585-610-2502
May 24-26	MA Sheep & Woolcraft Fair	Cummington, MA	Kate Collins & George Northrop	978-249-4407
May 26	Swaledale Novice	Blackstock, ON	Sheri Purcell Helen Dunning	289-314-0999 416-371-4239
June 2-3	Fetch Gate Spring Nursery	Cortland, NY	Roger & Heather Millen	607-745-1883
June 8-9	True Colors Farm	Washington, ME	Brenda Buja	603-534-6718
June 14-16	Ox Creek Novice	Canandaigua, NY	Paul Batz	585-534-6718
June 20-23	Caora Farm, <i>NY Triple Crown Leg 1</i>	Millerton, NY	Mich Ferraro & Kak Weathers	518-592-1320
June 23	Swaledale Novice	Blackstock, ON	Sheri Purcell Helen Dunning	289-314-0999 416-371-4239
June 29-July 1	Cascade Farm	Bath, NH	Mary Ames	603-838-2018
July 4-7	Fetch Gate Farm	Cortland, NY	Roger & Heather Millen	607-745-1883
July 7	Handy Dog Novice	Agatha, ON	Victoria Lamont	519-497-0765
July 13-14	Dancing Ewe Farm, <i>NY Triple Crown Leg 2</i>	Granville, NY	Joanne Krause	518-642-1580
July 20-21	Maxville Fair Ground	Maxville, ON	Cynthia Palmer	705-295-3351
July 26-28	Fetch Gate Novice	Cortland, NY	Roger & Heather Millen	607-745-1883
Aug. 17-18	Ox Creek Open	Canandaigua, NY	Paul Batz	585-298-0789
Aug. 24-25	Leatherstocking, <i>NY Triple Crown Leg 3</i>	Cooperstown, NY	Rose Redick	518-465-6808
Nov. 2-3	HerdEwe Farm	Kensington, NH	Sharon Barrette	603-772-0221

Remembering Donald McCaig — *continued from page 11*

when we heard she'd said that, it became even funnier. That error was a good example of how relaxed and happy the handlers were. Donald set up his trials so all of us supported each other.

A woman named Thea made and served lunch and dinner at all of Donald's trials. Thea was a good friend of Donald's. She was a beautiful woman, patient with the handlers, and happy to be making a few extra burgers for the dogs. She also made us dinner. It was homemade food and absolutely delicious. Thea was a real treat and I enjoyed talking with her and her daughter. Thea would jump on her motorcycle and go for a ride on the dirt road, hair blowing in the wind. What a wonderful sight to see her so free.

On Sunday morning Donald had a female minister come and bless our dogs. We asked her if she would bless our old dogs, or ones that had passed,

and she asked for their names and blessed them as well. She was a beautiful woman who was kind to the handlers and the dogs.

There is not enough space to write what Donald was about. I admired and respected him and will miss him deeply. He was kind to a new, open handler and gave me a lot of respect and encouragement as well as lots of great stories that I will cherish forever. He was a kind man with a wonderful sense of humor. He was a generous man, donating money made from his trials to a rescue organization. He left a legacy that included a challenge for all of us to be as kind to each other, to our dogs, and to the sheep as he was.

I will miss him, his suspenders and those glorious eyebrows. I hope we meet again, Donald.

2019 Breeders' Directory

Pam Davies

Hafod Farm
204 Rte. 513
Glen Gardner, NJ 08826
908-361-1335
pamdavies30@gmail.com

Gene Sheninger & Teri Rhodes

470 Schooley's Mountain Road #144
Hackettstown, NJ 07840
973-615-9053
els8586@gmail.com

Dick & Cheryl Jagger Williams

Culleymont & Sheepy Hollow Farms
4825 State Route 2002
Hop Bottom, PA 18824
570-289-4733; 570-499-0318 (cell)
culleymont@epix.net

Mich Ferraro & Kak Weathers

235 Sharon Rd.
Millerton, NY 12546
518-592-1320
michveteq@gmail.com

Dan Weeks

P.O. Box 511
Riegelsville, PA 18077
908-763-1858
selecttimbertrees@gmail.com

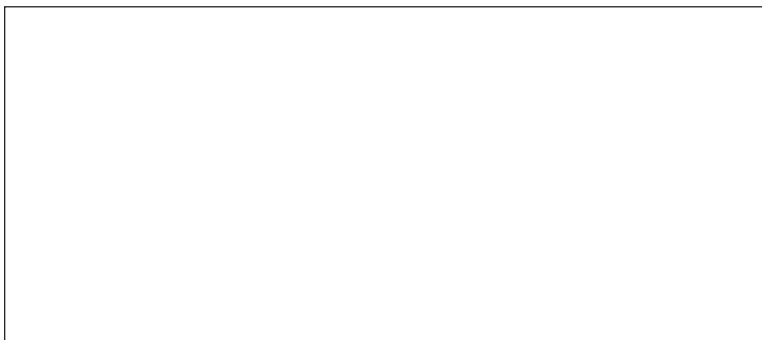
Note: Not all breeders listed here are necessarily handlers.

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

When making inquiries into purchasing a pup, NEBCA strongly recommends selecting from sound, proven, working stock. We suggest that you see both parents work. If you are unable to see the parents working at a farm, do attend trials and see them working there. Also watch for trials results and seek the advice of experienced handlers.

NEBCA
P.O. Box 66
South Strafford, VT 05070

Don't Forget to Renew Your NEBCA Membership!



NEBCA CLASSIFIED ADS

\$5 per issue for up to 10 lines, \$1 per line over 10 lines.
\$15 for one year.

Border Collie Training Services

In-house training specializing in giving young dogs a great start. Handling Border Collies for over 20 years. References available. Lessons also. Barbara Leverett, St. Johnsville, NY.
518-568-2833
rleverett@frontiernet.net

**RENEW Your NEBCA
Membership for 2019**

See <http://nebca.net/Membership.pdf>

The NEBCA Board of Directors reminds all trial managers and volunteers that water must be available for both dogs and livestock at all NEBCA events.

NORTH EAST BORDER COLLIE ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

c/o Martha Walke
PO Box 66
So. Strafford, VT 05070
Tel: 802-765-4935
Email: martha.walke@gmail.com

Dues are paid for the calendar year.

Anyone joining NEBCA after October 1 will receive membership for the rest of that year and the following year.

PAYMENT

☐ Check or money order (USD) payable to NEBCA ☐ PayPal (includes processing fees)

MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM

	<u>Check</u>	<u>PayPal</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$25	\$26.50
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual plus Calendar	\$35	\$36.50
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$30	\$31.50
<input type="checkbox"/> Family plus Calendar	\$40	\$41.50

(A Family is 2 or more people with 2 votes.)

How would you like to receive the Newsletter? ☐ Electronic ☐ Paper

OPTIONS

Breeder's Directory Listings	<u>Check</u>	<u>PayPal</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Calendar	\$10	\$10.50
<input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter	\$10	\$10.50
<input type="checkbox"/> Website	\$10	\$10.50

TOTAL (Enclosed / Paid via PayPal): \$ _____

Member Name(s): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State/Prov: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

The contact information provided on this form will be used solely within the organization for the purpose of managing your participation in the club and providing you with the benefits of membership.

Instructions: Complete form, save it, then mail or email it to Martha Walke with enclosed check or money order or proceed to PayPal payment page http://www.nebca.net/Membership_Paypal.html