



NEBCA News

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



Kate Collins

Peter Campot practicing the fetch with his dog Ben at the Bittersweet Farm Gordon Watt clinic in September. Peter's comment: "Why does he work so well when Gordon is around?"

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, P.O. 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, address and dues to The Secretary, NEBCA, Martha Walke, P. O. Box 66, S. Strafford, VT 05070
OR submit online at
<http://nebca.net/membershipChoice.html>

New members may join at any time. After October 1, you will automatically be paid through the following calendar year.

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\$75 per issue/\$225 per year

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From the President—Warren Mick



Hello Fellow Members,

Good grief, 2020 already, where have the decades gone. NEBCA is now in its late thirties, me, I wish. While the total number of members hasn't changed much over the years, the faces surely have. Sadly, we lost two wonderful members last year, Stephen Paxton-Hill and Steve Wetmore. We can offer no better appreciation of them than to continue helping and promoting the Border Collie as they did.

You'll find the annual meeting minutes in this issue. In the election, Carolyn West and Mary Ellen Young were elected to the Board of Directors. We welcome them and also thank outgoing directors, Ellen Fowler and Barbara Leverett. The Education Committee, formerly Learning Trials Committee, now has a broader charter, no longer just trial related. If you have any educational ideas or events in mind, please contact the committee for assistance or support. Basic training, handling, farm work, judging, and health topics will all be considered.

There was discussion at the annual meeting on how to promote new sources of sheep for trials and clinics. Here in the northeast there aren't many large flocks and the idea of renting out animals for an event is not one most flock owners have ever even considered. One approach brought up at the meeting was for NEBCA to offer a financial incentive to one or more sheep owners in exchange for a commitment to supply sheep to one or more events. Another idea was to provide general information on what's involved in supplying sheep to an event to educate possible suppliers. Most flocks never leave the farm so owners are understandably hesitant to do so. If you have any thoughts in this regard or know of a possible supplier, do let the board or trial committees know. ~Warren



Val Pietraszewska

From the Editors

Winter for many NEBCA members does not allow for much sheepdog training other than farm chores, unless one has access to an indoor training facility, or runs a sled dog team, or travels to a climatically-sublime region. For many of us, though, winter is time to rest from and reflect on training, with an eye toward Spring and learning to become better teammates with our dogs. In this issue, we wrap up two late-fall training clinics and two winter trial results. The Minutes and financials from the Annual Members' Meeting, held in Albany in January are inside. We say a sad goodbye to two long time NEBCA members, Stephen Paxton-Hill (p. 8) and Steve Wetmore (p. 4). Because there were many photos of Steve Wetmore submitted – too many to publish – we created a Supplement to this issue, which will appear only in digital format in the NEBCA News area of the website. If you are unable to view the digital copy of the Supplement, and would like a printed copy, please contact Sallie Butler by phone or email (see p. 2 for contact info) and you'll be sent a copy.

Especially in Winter, it's exciting to see all the places NEBCA members go and we continue to report this in our new feature, NEBCA Travellers. There is some guesswork and sleuthing involved to put this together, so if YOU are traveling, please send us a note or even a picture so we can include your exploits. Some original artwork is showcased in this issue. The creativity of members with photos, drawings, articles, thoughts, jokes, advice, exploits and other tidbits is welcome and appreciated. Please continue to send any items for *your* newsletter. Don't despair, though, if you don't see your piece immediately in print; it might be held for a future issue.

The Newsletter editorial staff will be re-arranging again, as Sallie Butler resigns from her Copy Editor position after the Summer 2020 issue to devote more time to family affairs. If you think you might enjoy volunteering with our team, please contact Sallie for more information.

If you have not renewed your NEBCA 2020 membership, it's not too late! Remember, no NEBCA Open or Novice points accrue unless you go to the post a NEBCA member.

Steve Wetmore: 1951-2019

Steve Wetmore died on Nov. 23, 2019 after a seven year battle with lymphoma. Steve was integral to the functioning of NEBCA and an important friend to many. What follows are reflections from some of his numerous colleagues, in their own words.

My friend Steve was passionate about Border Collies and trialing. He was a tall, lanky man who could bound gracefully across a field when a dog needed help. Yet his presence at the post was quiet and relaxed. The same went for training young dogs. Those long legs were very helpful in putting him in the right spot to “correct the wrong” and “leave the right” with a young pup. It was always a joy to watch the ballet of man, dog and sheep.

Steve trialed in the Northeast and placed regularly in the top ten with his dogs. As a member of USBCHA, he attended the National Finals in Tennessee, Pennsylvania, and Virginia. When he started to compete in the mid-80s, his first dog was Jill. In the late 80s into the early 90s, his Open dogs were Nan, Ben, and Floss followed by Ralph, Keegan and Moss. In 2000 he added Gyp and Dart to the team of Keegan and Moss. Pace joined the group in 2008. In 2009, Gile joined the ladies of the pack and was with Steve when he left us. Stu and Floss were Steve’s last trial dogs. They have a home with family and a friend.

Steve was an active member of NEBCA since 1983 when the club was formed. He served several times as president, vice president, on the BOD, on the calendar committee, as newsletter editor, and as a member of the Novice and Open Trial Committees. You could count on Steve to get the job done.

Steve was a mentor to many new handlers and folks who needed a dog for farm work. He held numerous novice clinics and trials at his farm from the late 80s into the 90’s. He would even loan sheep to new handlers to get started. He was very generous with his time and comments. You might not want to hear his thoughts sometimes, but more often than not, he was spot on.

He sponsored trials every year at his farm, Spring Valley. The trial field was a unique and challenging course. There was a very short outrun across a brook and up a steep hill dotted with trees. Fetch the sheep down the hill across a bridge, then drive away back across the brook, up to the hillside drive panels, back down the steep hill to another bridge, sharp left for the cross drive then a race to the pen and attempt a shed in front of the judge.

He also organized the Quechee Scottish Festival Trial for decades, put on the Invitational Points Trial at the Tunbridge World’s Fair, managed Merck Forest SDT, and brought sheep to various venues for demos. He helped the Mad River Valley SDT get off the ground with countless hours of assistance, and was a volunteer at all the trials he attended. He was very generous with his time and was always available to work the pen, scribe, set-out or announce. For many years he was an announcer at the Kingston Sheepdog Trials. A sought – after judge, he judged numerous trials in the Northeast.



Steve lived in Strafford, Vermont, which has a classic white meetinghouse on a hill. He lived on a dirt road that led to his hillside farm built in the late 1700s. The farm was off the grid: solar panels, a generator, well water, and wood heat met his needs. The steep hillsides were a challenge to mow, so he saw sheep as a way to keep the grass down, which then led to Border Collies. In addition to dogs and livestock, Steve was passionate about skiing. He was also a talented self-taught carpenter.

Steve enjoyed good conversations about dogs and sheep, jokes, and hearing about your adventures. He enjoyed eating out, but looked forward to a good home cooked meal. He kept in contact with friends and checked in with them on a regular basis.

I will sorely miss talking to Steve on the phone, going to his farm, and local fields to work dogs, and his presence at dog trials. He started me off with sheep and lessons. He continued over the years to provide pointers that were worth listening to. I have Steve to thank for introducing me to other handlers who have become good friends. We have lost a talented, kind and generous man. May we all have fond memories to carry us forward. ~ N. Phillips

Steve lived on happiness, humor and generosity. Trials at his farm were where good food, comforts and fun were found. I believe Steve loved everyone — no exceptions. My heart aches and is also cheerful and grateful. He did make us all better. ~ P. Nowakowski



The first time I saw Stephen was at the Scottish Festival in Quechee, Vermont in 1997. I was so impressed by his gentle demeanor with his dogs and the sheep. Thus, I was thrilled to know that he lived nearby and gave lessons. In the spring, Stephen gave a series of lessons for novice handlers. This was my introduction to dog trialing, NEBCA, and several close friendships that have endured until this day. Stephen loved his dogs, the sport of dog trialing and giving a helping hand to others. He was devoted to providing help to novice handlers and encouragement to everyone. My lasting memories of Stephen will be his beaming smile whether I had success with my dogs or not. Most of all the smile this past November when I was going to pick up my new dog Jess. His best smile ever. ~ D. Donahue

He was a special guy who exemplified everything that NEBCA stands for. He had a passion for the breed, a genuine love for his dogs and care and compassion for his friends and fellow handlers. He was an important part of the foundation that made NEBCA as special as it is. Looking back it seems like there was always a smile on his face. We'll miss him ~ R. & B. Drummond

Living in a small village, I "knew" Steve before I actually met him, which I did through Betty Levin, dogs and trials. He introduced me to working at trials by putting me in the pen for one of his trials. Spending the day up the hill pushing sheep out of his makeshift pen taught me a lot about sheep and how *not* to manage them. I volunteered to scribe at his next trial....But when I got my first border collie he became a go-to for help with



training for me and my dog. Always patient, always ready with positive comments, always up for a new approach, helping me to understand the partnership of man and dog. Our friendship grew as he encouraged me to trial, introducing me to "my friends", as he called just about everyone. Actually, I don't think there were many not in that category. ~ M. Walke



I'm sure Steve would have preferred I relate a good story such as he, Betty Levin and other handlers skinny dipping in the pond by the house. Or when he went to the post in a long coat and flashed the

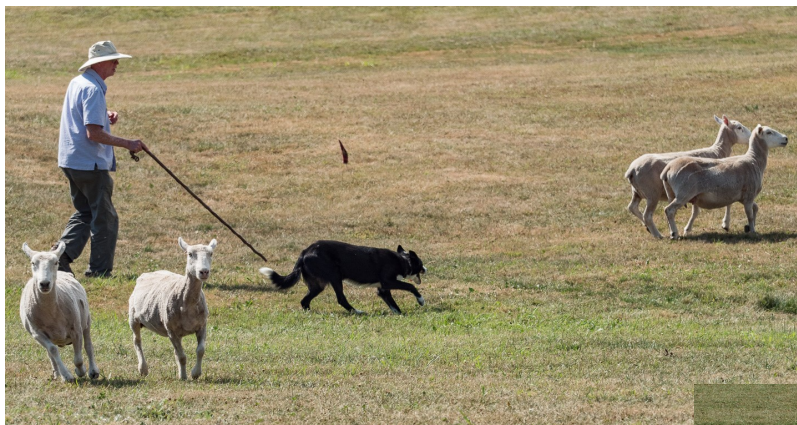
handler tent with nothing but a tuft of sheep wool to pre-server some modesty. That certainly was Steve. Yet, I can't think of Steve without also seeing Spring Valley Farm reflecting who he was. Who can forget the little red house on the hill, the sight of handlers, friends, folks from town sitting in chairs or on the rocks along the road watching the trial, or the informal meal at the end of the day. There was always a welcome at Spring Valley Farm, usually good fun and a chance to try the most interesting trial course anywhere. The farm was simple but also magical, a true sheepdog hamlet. He always contributed and never hesitated helping anyone genuinely interested in the dogs. Above all his enthusiasm in life and outgoing nature was what made him such a great person and a dear friend to so many. I'm grateful to have been one of them. ~ W. Mick



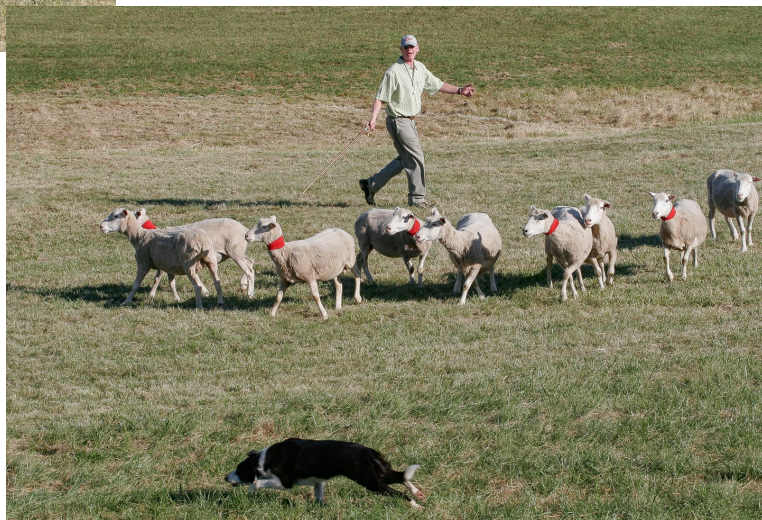
Steve was always very generous with his farm, his sheep and his time. I have many fond memories of challenging trial courses, fun pizza parties and training afternoons, where we would sit in Adirondack chairs at the fence and watch young dogs as they went through their paces. Steve's farm was always a favorite place for my dogs and I. We enjoyed many exciting hikes through the sugarbush, swims in the pond and peaceful evenings in the camper, parked by the babbling brook in the lower paddock. I will miss the Spring Valley Sheepdog Trial, and I will miss its host even more. ~ F. Robertson

Even though I didn't know Steve well, he always seemed approachable, had a smile and was easy to talk to. The trial world needs more "Steves". ~ H. Flower

Steve was probably the first Open handler that most novices ever met. He was always one of the first to welcome newcomers to our sport and to give advice . Steve opened his house to anyone, hosting many Novice and Open trials over the years. Several times Becky Peterson and I stayed at his house to "rough out" an agenda for the Annual Meeting. As trial manager I could always count on Steve to not only support my trials by attending with his dogs, but also ALWAYS helping out in any way he could. Even at the end he was out on the field at Fryeburg, helping move panels. Steve will be sorely missed by his many friends. He was truly a gift to the BC community. ~ L. Descheambeault



I only made it to Steve's Spring Valley Sheepdog trial once but it was one of my most memorable trials. I loved the challenging course with the hills and trees and bridges and I wish there were more trials like it. There was a handlers dinner with a magician and so many laughs. I tried hard to make it back there again to recapture that magical feeling but things always got in the way. I was so happy to have seen Steve in October at the Topsfield Fair and to sit and talk with him about dogs and life in general. I told him how much fun his trial had been and that it was one of my best trialing experiences. I'm going to miss seeing his smiling face at trials and will always remember his smile at Topsfield that day. ~ C. West



Steve hosted sheepdog trials with warm cordiality, and worked his wonderful border collies with polished skill. Steve will be missed. ~ S. Butler

I did not know Steve well until I got Twig. Then I quickly found out what kind of guy he was! Usually reserved with people, Twig was over the top for Steve. Twig had known Steve since she was born at Pam Davies' farm and, even grown up, still loved him with her whole puppy heart. Walking around at a trial, Twig would suddenly take off pulling me and I knew she had heard Steve's voice. She would jump all over him in delight! I think Steve thought it was funny that I had to drag her away from him. Steve never said anything about my early efforts at trialing Twig, but after Twig and I had a good weekend at Cummington last year, Steve came up to me and said, "Well, I guess now I'll let you keep trialing her." His sense of humor and love of herding and herding dogs will be greatly missed. ~ K. Lippolis

Bernie and I had known Steve from the 90s. He always reminded me of all legs and arms —like a marionette puppet! Smiling mostly!! He and Bernie shared many a laugh and conversation: "Don't you know...", "Don't ya think..." "Maybe you could..."! When Steve learned I was in need of an Open dog because Kate was losing her hearing and Meg was aging, he offered me Stu's sister Dart. I was touched he would feel I was a good home for his girl. ~ B Armata



We were friends for so long and didn't we like kidding each other. Steve liked telling jokes. One day, many years ago, at Mike Canaday's trial, I finally told him a joke that left him speechless for about a minute. Then he got it, and boy did he laugh. We talked at least a couple of times a week about dogs, trials, training and football. I can't believe he's not here. I go to pick up the phone then stop. I miss him every day. ~J. Krause

A Celebration of Life service will be held for Steve at Spring Valley Farm, Strafford VT on May 16th, 2020

Photo Credits: Kate Collins, Nancy Phillips, Werner Reitboeck, Christine Koval, Kathi Mercier

Handling Clinic with Warren Mick, July 20, 2019 Cornish, NH

By Ginny Prince

A hardy group of handlers and a handful of auditors braved the humidity, heat and headstrong North Country Cheviot-cross sheep to attend a handling clinic with Warren on July 20. Topics that Warren stressed were the importance of using a 'steady' command instead of always stopping the dogs, and having short as well as long flanks. He also discussed tactics for turning the post and provided specific strategies for working with individual dogs' quirks, saying "they all have some!" Doesn't everyone!!

Warren's discussion was always concrete and positive; he even provided fans and a generator to run them, insuring the best possible handlers' tent atmosphere.

Thanks to Mike Nunan for holding out at the end of the AM session so Dar and I could attend to puppies and then participate in the clinic with my young dog. Many, many thanks to everyone who came, for toughing out the day with great attitudes and for all the help picking up at the end!



Ginny Prince

All ears listen intently to Warren Mick explaining sheep and sheepdogs at Ginny Prince's farm clinic

Angie Driscoll Clinic at Wayside Farm, September 2019



Angie captivates the eager audience with her unique training methods

The Set Up

Angie demonstrates The Shed

Angie will be bringing her engaging training style back to Wayside Farm (Hacketstown NJ) in April 2020 for a clinic and lessons. Contact Teri Rhodes (teri@belvedereabstract.com) or Gene Sheninger (els8586@gmail.com) for more info

Photos by Linda Boehm



The Call Through

More Sad News: Stephen Paxton-Hill

Stephen Lawrence Paxton-Hill passed away at the age of 77. He and his wife Kathryn were active NEBCA members for many years and hosted several Sheep Dog Trials at Steppingstone Farm Museum in Havre de Grace, Maryland from 2002 through 2004. The trials received coverage in the *Baltimore Sun*, helping to promote the Border Collie as a working stock dog in the region. He and Kathryn also hosted several clinics for young dogs with clinicians Angie Coker-Sells and Jack Chamberlain.

Stephen had a cheerful and positive approach to life, always with an English touch. He enjoyed working with young dogs and helping others new to dogs. He is fondly remembered by his many friends in NEBCA.



Victoria Paxton-Hill

Working with Gordon Watt at Bittersweet Farm, Conneticut

By Carolyn West

Gordon Watt returned to Carol Champion's Bittersweet Farm in Hampton, CT in October 2019 for lessons and a three-day clinic. This was Gordon's third trip to Carol's and he's gotten a loyal following, with many people returning for the third time, as well as newcomers. It was especially nice to see the progress that the returning handlers and dogs have made with Gordon's help.

Originally from Ireland, Gordon has shepherded in the UK, and is now settled on a farm in northern Illinois. He offers clinics and lessons both on his home farm and around the US. Gordon has been the Irish National Champion, English National Champion and World Champion. Someday, he may add US National Champion to his resume.

Gordon is an excellent teacher who easily connects to and communicates with both handlers and dogs. He knows when you need help and when you need a bit of time to figure things out on your own. As we all know, when you're getting instruction there's a fine line between too much and too little, and Gordon knows where that line is!

During the last clinic, I asked the attendees to tell me what they like about Gordon and what they've learned. Here are some of the things they had to say:

Molly King - I had three lessons with Gordon in October. He had been told that I was interested in working on shedding with my 5-year-old Sophie, so out to the open field we went. After two times of calling Sophie through, we would cast her around the sheep again to come between the packets. After several more pass throughs, she caught on to the task and stopped worrying about the separated packet of sheep and just held the ones she had shed off. It was a very useful exercise, with heavy emphasis on keeping the sheep settled. Sophie learned to stay far enough off the sheep, kept her flanks very square, and stopped when told...most of the time. But a great first experience shedding for her, and getting some rust off of me - I haven't shed since Storm retired from the trial field over 7 years ago. Thanks, Gordon!

Pam Mueller - "Step in the box, step out of the box". I had a little trouble with Gordon's lilting accent and at first I thought he meant "be more creative with out of the box thinking". But then I realized he was talking about who is in control: Be "out of the box" and try to let the dog work on her own. But when she is wrong, or the chips are down, step in (the box) and take control like you mean it.

Peter Campot - My major takeaway is that "less is more," because we are not training the dogs, but rather just shaping their behavior. Since the clinic, Ben and I are doing much better; preventing the sheep from passing me is slowing everything down.

Val Henry - One of my favorite things about Gordon is his ability to clearly articulate the expected behavioral criteria for trialing. He is also excellent with creative problem solving. He definitely



Sylvia King

Pam Mueller's Fly learns to adopt a really slow pace on the fetch under the tutelage of Gordon Watt

thinks outside of the box, and he is quite astute at seeing and making the proper connections to help every team become the best they can be. That said, the area of focus at this past lesson was fixing the way Han “handles” his sheep. We fixed his excessive “poking, pushing and flipping.” He showed me how to teach Han to properly drive and hold the specific drive line I set.

Lori Tsuruda - Gordon taught me an extremely valuable training technique to increase respect and to obtain proper work from my dog, who has had a frustrating habit of working on his own despite my commands and then my attempts to correct him. My dog immediately responded to this new approach, which was a huge breakthrough for both of us.

Melanie Behrens - Gordon really helped with training the beginning stages of splitting sheep on the shed and having my dog come in to me to take control of them.

And finally, *one of our auditors* - As an auditor, I benefitted greatly from watching Gordon tailor his teaching to each dog/handler team, observing closely to see not only how best to achieve the desired long term outcome for that particular team but where the dog currently is in that long term learning process. Gordon is a keen ob-



Gordon demonstrates.....



Explains.....

server of humans, dogs and sheep and a wise and humorous teacher who helps put both the details and the big picture in focus. I also appreciated that he expects the sheep to be treated with respect at all times.

Gordon will be back at Bittersweet Farm in May 2020 for lessons and a clinic. If you'd like more information please contact Carolyn West at tobyfwest@gmail.com.



Then leaves it up to the student

NEBCA TRAVELLERS: In which NEBCA members venture near and far

A veritable flock of NEBCA snow birds travelled to sunny climes for the “Florida Circuit” in February: **Suwanne River, C54, Asher Dell and Linden Hollow Stock Dog Trials**. Seen on the field were: *Deb Donahue, Tracy Hinton, Kevan Gretton, Tara Dier, Anne Wheately, Mary Anne Duffy, Cheryl and Dick Jagger-Williams, Jim and Joanne Murphy, Michelle Brothers, Diane Cox, Josh Newcomb, Judy Gam-bill, Hilary Flower and Helen Dunning*. What a lot of sun-lovers!



More Travelling....

Betty Bellivue made the long trek to Florida to attend a clinic by Billie Richardson at Diane Menard's farm in Morriston.

And speaking of clinics....

Intrepid Sallie Butler travels to KY:

Mike Stewart of Kentucky is well versed in teaching handlers how to solve challenges that prevent correct livestock work in border collies. Mike taught a well-attended sheepdog clinic on problem-solving in western Kentucky in October that was organized by Sallie Butler.



Sallie Butler

Sallie Butler's young kelpie Sirius learning calm control by working in a closely packed small pen

And some NEBCA members will travel REALLY far....

Amanda Milliken and Howell to represent Canada at 2020 World Trial

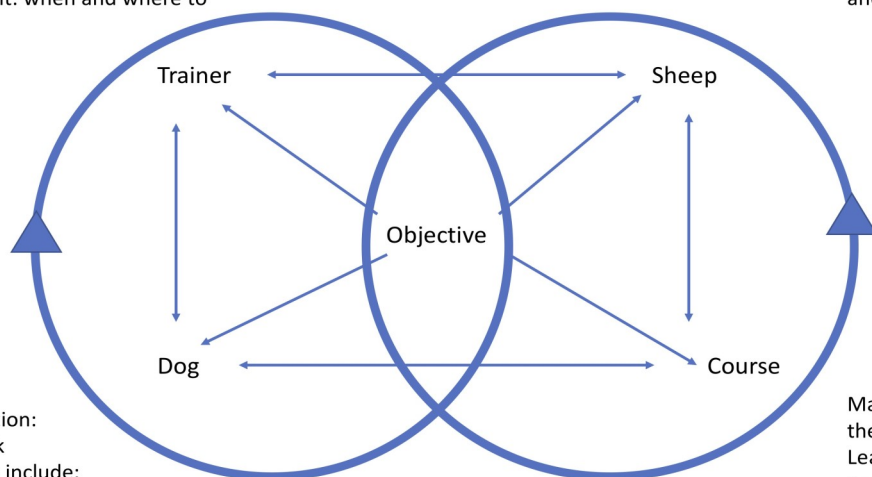
The 2020 World Trial, organized by the International Sheep Dog Society every three years, is scheduled to take place at the Castle Howard Estate, York, England, on 17 to 20 September, 2020. Qualifying events occurred in 32 nations in 2019.

Dave Young Handling Seminar

As we think about the upcoming trial season, we can review Dave Young's chart, which he presented at a seminar on sheepdog training and handling at the MA Sheep and Wool Festival, held at Cummington, in May 2019. Dave modeled the non-linear, coupled, system of variables interacting among three intelligent species (sheep, dog, and handler) as a synchronous solution for optimal handling. Thanks, Dave, for a concise overview of a complex topic.

Mental preparation:
Have a pre-run routine
Control the situation
Time management: when and where to
pace sheep

All sheep require the
same respect
Handle according to day
and time of day



Physical preparation:
Do practical work
Make up work to include:
Pressure, distance, lines, echoing,
weather (wind/rain)
Create a routine (on and off trial field)

Make yourself familiar with
the field
Learn where pressure is
Are there blind spots?
Look at the field from the
dog's viewpoint

Dave Young

Eric Johnson

May Brook New Year's Trial

December 30, 2019

By Sallie Butler

If the muses of sheepdog weather exist, they smiled on winter's May Brook event, held by Sue Schoen on her farm in Pittsfield, MA. While snow and cold had arrived in November, by the time of the May Brook Trial the paddocks were clear and the temperature was not bitter. Warren Mick's impeccable judging, May Brook Farm's healthy flock, a challenging course and the volunteer spirit of the handlers combined to create a welcome winter trial. Especially appreciated were the skilled hold-out and exhaust teams. Lunch was an extravagance, organized ably by Gina Kelley, warm friend, master gardener at May Brook and good neighbor. We are grateful that Sue Schoen donated \$750 from trial proceeds to USBCHBA National Finals. Open winner team was Maria Amodei and Marcus.



Brrr! A chilly look at the scoreboard

Eric Johnson



Chris Bowen waits at the post with Bella as the sheep packet approaches the set-out

Nursery Dogs Qualified

- | | | |
|----|-----------------|------|
| 1. | Paul Batz | Reyn |
| 2. | Amanda Milliken | Dar |

OPEN Results — 39 dogs ran

Judge: Warren Mick

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|--------|----|
| 1. | Maria Amodei | Marcus | 94 |
| 2. | Amanda Milliken | Dorey | 94 |
| 3. | Gene Sheninger | Aron | 88 |
| 4. | Eric Johnson | Blade | 93 |
| 5. | Amanda Milliken | Dar | 81 |
| 6. | Sallie Butler | Roo | 78 |
| 7. | Mich Ferraro | Dahlia | 77 |
| 8. | Teri Rhodes | Zuben | 77 |

May Brook Farm's flock strolling back from Exhaust to Set Out



Eric Johnson

NEBCA Annual Meeting

January 18, 2020, Albany, NY

I. Meeting called to order at 10:03AM.

Present: 28 (16 members on site; 12 remote sites); 19 proxies for a total of 47 members.

II. Procedures for remote participants reviewed.

III. Minutes from the Leatherstocking meeting were approved (BA/AH)

IV. Executive Committee Reports

A. Secretary's Report (Martha Walke) - At the end of 2019 there were 256 Members compared to 249 at the end of 2018 and 264 at the end of 2017. As of Jan. 17th, there are 187 members, 7 lifetime and 180 who have renewed (139 Individual and 41 Farm/Family memberships). There are 17 new members. All who have renewed their memberships have also been renewed in the new Points System.

B. Treasurer's Report (Denise Leonard) - Totals were reviewed; noted lower calendar sales; noted amount for sheep in the Fall Foliage is incorrect as it includes more than just sheep. Noted the \$500 voted to be donated to the 2019 Finals for the webcast of the semi-finals and final runs was not sent. Also noted that the Greenfield Bank charges \$7.00/check for cashing Canadian checks. A fairer system of payment for Canadian members will be worked on.

Discussion followed concerning what the organization can do to help with trials and other events. This included helping with sheep and hauling costs; an incentive grant system for farmers with available sheep for trials; raise the sheep budget for trials. Suggested that the two trials' committees have a few members get together and come up with a plan to help get a system going.

Report accepted with one change to be made in the Fall Foliage report.

V. Board of Directors' Report (Annie Palmer) - The new points system is up and running for Open handlers and dogs. Maria Amodei is working on the novice classes system and will have it up soon. It is requested that trial secretaries send results to Annie Palmer as soon as possible using the correct format (information for reporting can be found on the Points System page under About/FAQs). Report accepted.

VI. Standing Committees' Reports

A. Open Trials Committee (Warren Mick) - The 2019 open season went smoothly with 50 sanctioned trials. There were no significant issues or problems requiring committee involvement. The committee's main activity was to plan and run the 2019 Fall Foliage which was held at Caora Farm Oct. 11-3. The judge was Allistair Lyttle from Ireland. Out of the 60 entries, 39 were qualified. Since entry was not limited it was both NEBCA and USBCHA sanctioned. Thanks to a stellar committee, many excellent volunteers and good weather, the trial ran smoothly. Special thanks to Mich Ferraro and Kak Weathers for their hospitality and support.

There were 180 open dogs earning NEBCA points in the 2018-19 season. Roger Millen's Jesse won the High Points Competition with Mary Thompson's Teagan taking Reserve. Rewards for the top 10 High Points dogs have not yet been arranged.

It is the committee's opinion there should be no 2020 Fall Foliage because of the 2020 Finals being held in VA. Discussion on combining it with Leatherstocking (unlikely: not a viable site; too many dogs; long days). Report accepted.

B. Novice Trials Committee (Amy Hershberger) - They expect the expenses for the 2020 Novice Finals to be the same as for the 2019 Finals. The committee welcomed 4 new Novice Trials in 2019: Bittersweet Farm, True Colors, Heart Stone and Jimmie's Farm. They addressed several issues in 2019, including the cut off date for the Novice Finals' points; running in a higher class in a non-sanctioned trial; qualifying for the Novice Finals as dog/handler team vs dog only. Currently they are discussing different qualifying point(s), if any, for the Finals; the requirement of having sheep checked by a vet before being used in a trial; ideas on how to notify novice handlers on renewing their NEBCA membership; how to handle half points in scores; location and date for the 2020 Novice Finals. Discussion followed on how well the 2019 Finals went at a new venue; why fewer entries in 2019 (location); keeping the qualifying point(s) at one or none or adjust for circumstances. Report accepted.

VII. **Newsletter Report** (Sallie Butler) - The editors acknowledged the NEBCA members' talents, knowledge and efforts. The plan is to continue with the current format, published quarterly, both online and in paper form. Quickly locating trial results has yielded increased and timely coverage of said results. Deadlines for submitting material for the Newsletters are: Feb 1 for Spring issue; May

1 for Summer issue; August 1 for Autumn issue and Nov. 1 for Winter issue. Sallie Butler's last issue as editor will be the Summer 2020 issue. She is grateful to Pam Mueller for her enthusiasm and her dedication to the Newsletter.

Discussion with appreciation for all that Sallie has done as editor; whether Pam would be willing to take over as editor; and the value of the paper edition for educating people about NEBCA. Report accepted.

VIII. Select Committees' Reports

A. Merchandise Committee (Kim Lippolis) - The current committee consists of Joanne Krause, Kim Lippolis, Liz Shaw and Ed Walker. Our profit, after expenses, for 2019 was \$1,891.73. We set up at 8 trials in New England and NY. A huge thank you to all the members who helped with sales at the trials. A new t-shirt design has been selected for 2020. We are looking into sweat-shirts and considering a variety of styles as well as other new items. We are discussing whether to set up a booth for the final week-end at the 2020 Finals in VA. While profitable, it requires a lot of work and commitment from members to help. If interested and available, please contact a committee member.

Discussion followed on setting up a VENMO account and/or using Square for purchasers using a credit card.

B. Calendar Committee (Kate Collins) - The current committee consists of Kate Collins, George Northrop, Elizabeth Smith-Fries and Val Pietraszewska. We have 90 calendars, out of a print run of 300, left this year - a larger than usual number. A profit was made and we see no reason not to continue printing 300. The cost for the 2021 calendar will be \$891 plus tax, which is the same as for 2019. Photos to be considered for the 2021 calendar should be sent to katecollins64@gmail.com. The subject should be NEBCA working dogs and the files should be at least 300dpi. Please submit no later than 2/29/20.

Discussion followed concerning the selling of calendars at trials with the Merchandise Committee considering buying calendars to sell in order to alleviate previous money problems.

C. Education Committee (Rose Redick) - Current committee members are Rose Redick, Liz Shaw and Chris Bowen. Barbara Armata has retired from the committee. We supported several activities during trials as well as separate events and will continue to do so. Our hope is to expand our scope to include all levels of handling. Several events are under consideration for 2020 as well as accepting suggestions from members.

Discussion followed on the types of things this committee has supported as well as having a member be on the committee that will be looking at the funding of sheep/hauling for trials.

D. Audit Committee (Chris Bowen) - The process developed by Bill Black is still being followed. September 2019 was reviewed for this audit and end of year balance sheet entries were reviewed and reconciled to source documents. Feel that the Executive Committee maintains effective internal control over transactions and financial reporting. They ask that, should it be necessary, the BOD consider moving the deadline for completion of the financial audit for the previous year to the Spring membership meeting to allow for a more complete review of year end numbers.

E. Library (Martha Walke) - In 2019 there were 17 transactions made by 12 members. We received 11 books donated by Fran Wheeler Hedges. Steve Wetmore's family gave NEBCA his complete collections of *The Working Border Collie* magazine and all of his NEBCA Newsletters dating back to 1983.

Discussion followed on ways to help increase use of the library's holdings.

IX. Old Business

A. Election Results (Martha Walke) - There were 68 ballots received, four voted for only one candidate. Results of the BOD election are: Mary Ellen Young (55); Carolyn West (32); Ellen Fowler (25); Judy Gambill (23). Mary Ellen and Carolyn are the new BOD members. Many thanks to Ellen Fowler for her service on the BOD.

B. AED - Warren reviewed what was discussed previously and suggests that the final decision regarding purchase be left to the BOD.

Discussion followed on the advantage of an AED over CPR. The small committee formed to look into training required by different states will report in the spring.

C. Points system (Maria Amodei) - The system is up and running for open handlers. She is working on the system for the nursery and novice trials and that should be up and running by the start of the spring trials. A problem is the changing close date for the novice trial year. Amy Hershberger will have the Novice Committee clarify the date in the rules. Annie Palmer thanked Maria for her time and effort on this easily accessible points system!

X. New Business

A. 2020 Proposed Budget (Denise Leonard) - Suggestion to leave in the amounts for the Fall Foliage in case we have one.

Need to decide on an amount to donate to the 2020 Finals.

Discussion followed on the necessity of removing the amounts we are unsure of and stop being so cavalier about our budget. Need to know what we have for those things that come up during the year.

Motion (BA/AH): Move to modify the budget at the next membership meeting when we have definitive decisions about the Fall Foliage and the AED and other committee needs.

No discussion. Motion passed.

B. Committee appointments (Warren Mick) - Warren will talk with the Open Trials Committee members to see if any would like to stay on before suggesting new members. The Novice Trials Committee is complete for this year.

C. Other New Business

1. There will be a celebration of Steve Wetmore's life at his farm in Strafford, VT, on Sat., May 16th. All are invited. Details to come.

2. If you have memories of Steve you would like published in the Spring Newsletter please send them to Warren as he is compiling them. A donation was made to NEBCA in Steve's name by the Drummonds. It was suggested to incorporate it into the Long Road Award.

3. The NEBCA Facebook page was discussed and forming a media committee to monitor our face on the web was suggested.

D. Meeting dates for 2020

1. Cummington - 5/23/20

2. Leatherstocking - 8/22/20

It was suggested that we need to have a fall meeting and if anyone is hosting a fall event to please let Warren know to see if it would be appropriate for a meeting.

XI. **Meeting adjourned** at 12:56PM.

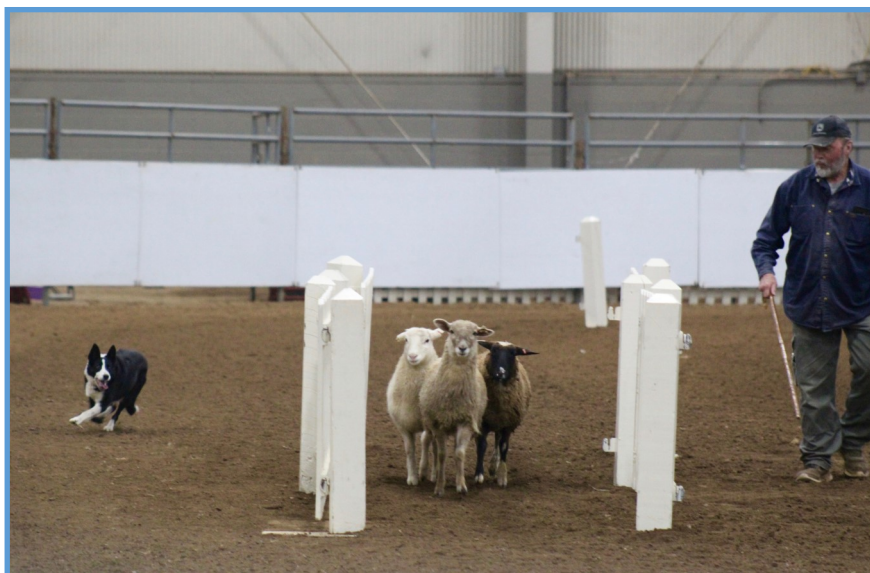
Respectfully submitted,

Martha M. Walke, NEBCA Secretary

PA Farm Show Sheepdog Trial Harrisburg, PA January 4-5, 2020

By Judy Gambill

Let's give a huge shout-out to Emily Falk and her dad Rick! Organizing the PA Farm Show sheepdog trial is a **big** job, but keeping it running smoothly without a glitch and always a smile on her face is **amazing**. Thank you, Emily for all your hard, hard work, before, during and after the Farm Show. Fairgoers appreciated the demonstrations of Gene Sheninger and Teri Rhodes' dogs deftly working ducks through agility tunnels and other obstacles.



Gene Sheninger and Sweet at the chute

Beth Murray

Applause to our judge, Jim Strohecker. And thank you to all of those who helped in making it such a success, including scribes, announcers and tireless sheep pen workers. You guys were awesome. You showed up on time, handled all curve balls with ease, and were professionals throughout. Couldn't ask for a better team. Thank you all very much.

PA Farm Show Points & Time Trial : Results**Judge: Jim Strohecker****OPEN 1 44 dogs ran**

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------|----------|
| 1. | Lori Cunningham | Gideon |
| 2. | Thom Conn | Nip |
| 3. | Lori Cunningham | Rope |
| 4. | Beth Murray | Petra |
| 5. | Maria Mick | Grace |
| 6. | Becky Bellaman | Czechers |
| 7. | Maggie Chambers | Mose |
| 8. | Gene Sheninger | Sweet |
| 9. | Carolyn West | Abe |
| 10. | Ron Madison | Blaze |

OPEN 2 41 dogs ran

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------|--------|
| 1. | Gene Sheninger | Aron |
| 2. | Gene Sheninger | Pele |
| 3. | Becky Bellaman | Ena |
| 4. | Maria Mick | Nick |
| 5. | Nancy Obernier | Ann |
| 6. | Emily Falk | Lena |
| 7. | Ron Madison | Blaze |
| 8. | Susan Rhodes | George |
| 9. | Judy Gambill | Mist |
| 10. | Lori Cunningham | Buck |

Finals, 15 dogs ran

- | | | |
|-----|-----------------|----------|
| 1. | Gene Sheninger | Sweet |
| 2. | Lori Cunningham | Rope |
| 3. | Emily Falk | Lena |
| 4. | Ron Madison | Blaze |
| 5. | Maggie Chambers | Mose |
| 6. | Beth Murray | Petra |
| 7. | Lori Cunningham | Gideon |
| 8. | Gene Sheninger | Aron |
| 9. | Becky Bellaman | Czechers |
| 10. | Carolyn West | Clyde |
| 11. | Peggy Simpson | Boone |
| 12. | Peggy Chute | Twizzler |
| 13. | Carolyn West | Abe |
| 14. | Susan Rhodes | George |
| 15. | Becky Bellaman | Ena |

Beth Murray



Top Three Handlers L-R: Emily Falk (3rd), Gene Sheninger (1st) and Lori Cunningham (2nd) sporting prizes Serta blankets and a BIG STUFFED SHEEP

Beth Murray



Stacey Rember and Hawkeye work the pen

Beth Murray



Ron Madison and Blaze maneuver sheep into the Maltese cross

Clinic Opportunity from Ginny Prince:

I am taking a poll to find out how many people might be interested in a sheep management clinic, time to be determined. I would have it at my place in Cornish, NH. Topics would include holding and tipping sheep, body scoring, foot trimming, giving injections, drenching, weighing and other things, as well as some ways to use your dog to help. Participants would have the opportunity to practice the techniques, but it would not be a dog handling clinic. If you are interested let me know by email, or if you see me at a trial. virginiaatprince@gmail.com

NEBCA 2019 Financials**INCOME**

	2019 Actual	2019 Budget	2018 Actual
Advertisements	\$130	\$100	\$120
Bank Charge Reimbursement	\$30	\$0	\$24
Breeders Directory	\$195	\$300	\$295
Calendar Sales	\$1,455	\$2,800	\$3,115
Donation	\$28	\$0	\$47
Fence Rental	\$20	\$50	\$40
Interest Inc	\$75	\$60	\$55
Library Income	\$60	\$100	\$73
Membership Dues	\$6,819	\$6,000	\$5,788
Merchandise Sales	\$4,071	\$5,000	\$4,898
Miscellaneous			\$27
TOTAL INCOME	\$12,882	\$14,410	\$14,482

EXPENSE

Administrative	\$844	\$650	\$668
Advertisment	\$0	\$50	\$0
Awards	\$153	\$350	\$23
Bank Charge	\$52	\$0	\$171
Calendar	\$1,083	\$1,200	\$1,067
Gifts Given	\$239	\$0	
Insurance	\$625	\$650	\$625
Library	\$57	\$350	\$230
Merchandise	\$2,179	\$2,500	\$2,636
Fall Foliage	\$2,139	\$3,000	\$2,165
Novice Finals	\$1,280	\$2,700	-\$410
Newsletter	\$1,290	\$2,000	\$1,659
PayPal Transaction Fee	\$165	\$150	\$117
Pamphlets		\$350	
Learning Trials	\$316	\$500	\$230
Other*		\$2,000	
* AED and First Aid Kit			
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$10,423	\$16,450	\$9,181

Net Income (Loss)	\$2,459	-\$2,040	\$5,301
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ACCOUNT BALANCES

	<u>12/31/2018</u>	<u>12/31/2019</u>
Bank Of America Checking	\$30,525	\$14,983
Greenfield Coop Checking	--	\$14,000
ING Business Savings	\$13,812	\$18,887
<u>Paypal</u>	<u>\$2,783</u>	\$2,000
TOTAL	\$47,120	\$49,870

Fall Foliage—Financial Review

INCOME	2018	2019	Difference
Entry Fees	\$4,600	\$5,800	(\$1,200)
Donations	\$330	\$250	(\$80)
Tshirts	\$0	\$0	\$0
Refund for prizes	\$0	\$0	\$0
Handlers Dinner	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL INCOME	\$4,930	\$6,050	\$0

EXPENSES

Equipment Rental	\$0	\$0	
Food, Snacks	\$0	\$160	(\$160)
Handlers Dinner	\$0	\$0	\$0
Insurance	\$50	\$50	\$0
Judge (Fees & Travel)	\$2,074	\$1,647	\$427
Ribbons & Awards	\$594	\$528	\$66
Premiums	\$1,710	\$2,290	(\$580)
Sheep & Transport	\$1,400	\$1800	(\$400)
Sheep Pen	\$89	\$40	\$49
Set Out	\$0	\$0	\$0
Field Rental	\$0	\$500	(\$500)
Portalettes	\$320	\$320	\$0
Workers	\$400	\$0	\$400
Miscellaneous	\$458	\$754	(\$296)
Postage, packaging	\$0	\$0	\$0
T-shirts, cost of goods	\$0	\$0	\$0
Refunds/reimbursement	\$0	\$200	(\$200)
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$7,095	\$8,289	(\$1,194)

NET **(\$2,165)** **(\$2,239)**

Novice Finals — Financial Review

2018	2019	Difference
\$3,207	\$3,435	\$228
\$775	\$400	(\$375)
\$0	\$214	\$214
\$0	\$159	\$159
\$1,282	\$1,275	(\$7)
\$5264	\$5483	\$154

\$747	\$693	\$54
\$91	\$417	(\$326)
\$1,325	\$1,562	(\$237)
\$50	\$50	\$0
\$0	\$600	(\$600)
\$890	\$875	\$15
\$0	\$0	\$0
\$0	\$1,000	(\$1,000)
\$700	\$350	\$350
\$0	\$0	\$0
\$0	\$0	\$0
\$390	\$391	(\$1)
\$0	\$0	\$0
\$660	\$514	\$146
\$0	\$68	(\$68)
\$0	\$243	(\$243)
\$0	\$0	\$0
\$4,853	\$6,763	(\$1,910)

\$411 **(\$1,280)**

**Q: My child won't eat meat.
With what can I replace it?**

A: A dog. Dogs love meat.

Cap the Border Collie

A farmer asked Cap to unload off the trailer the sheep just purchased, "Then walk them to the far paddock, gather them, and count them to make sure all 37 sheep I bought are there." Cap left with a wag, and returned twenty minutes later, "All done, and there are forty sheep." "Forty?" puzzled the farmer, "but I only bought 37!" "I rounded them up," smiled Cap.

NEBCA TRIAL CALENDAR 2020

<i>Date</i>	<i>Sheepdog Trial Name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Contact Person</i>	<i>Telephone</i>
May 6-7	Caora Farm Nursery	Millerton NY	Mich Ferraro	518-592-1320
May 9-10	Cascade Farm	Bath, NH	Mary Ames	603-838-2018
May 22-24	MA Sheep and Woolcraft	Cummington MA	Barb Eriksson	978-895-9775
May 24-25	Fetch Gate Farm Nursery	Cortland, NY	Roger & Heather Millen	607-745-1883
June 7	Sugarbush Gap Novice	Windsor, NY	Sara Reiter	607-655-2170
June 25-28	Caora Farm	Millerton, NY	Michele Ferraro	518-592-1320
July 3-5	Cascade Farm	Bath, NH	Mary Ames	603-838-2018
July 2-5	Fetch Gate Farm	Cortland, NY	Roger & Heather Millen	607-745-1883
July 5	Handy Dog Novice	Agatha, ON	Victoria Lamont	519-497-0765
July 11-12	Dancing Ewe Farm	Granville, NY	Joanne Krause	518-642-1580
July 17-18	Nevermoor Novice	Andover, NY	Diane Cox	585-610-2502
July 19-20	Ox Creek Novice	Canandaigua, NY	Paul Batz	585-298-0789
July 24-26	Fetch Gate Novice	Cortland, NY	Roger & Heather Millen	607-745-1883
August 14-15	Ox Creek Open	Canandaigua, NY	Paul Batz	585-298-0789
August 16-17	Nevermoor Open	Andover, NY	Diane Cox	585-610-2502
Sept 3	Lancaster Fair	Lancaster NH	Mary Ames	603-838-2018
Sept 26-27	Handy Dog Open	Agatha, ON	Victoria Lamont	519-497-0765
Oct 31-Nov 1	HerdEwe Farm Novice	Kensington, NY	Sharon Barrett	603-772-0221

2019 Breeders' Directory

Pam Davies

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

Gene Sheninger & Teri Rhodes

470 Schooley's Mountain Rd. #144
Hackettstown, NJ 97840
973-615-9053
els8586@gmail.com

Dick & Cheryl Jagger Williams

Culleymont & Sheepy Hollow Farm
State Route 2002
Hop Bottom, PA 18824
570-499-0316; 570-499-0318
culleymont@gmail.com

Note: Not all breeders listed here are necessarily handlers.

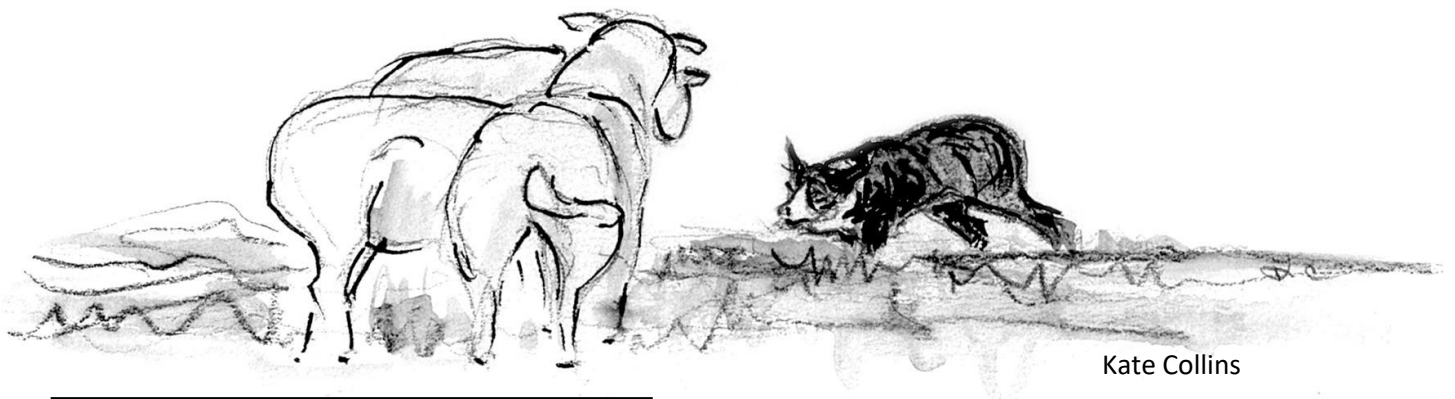
This listing of Border Collie breeders is for informational purposes only and in no way represents an endorsement of these breeders by the North East Border Collie Association (NEBCA).

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

*Please check the NEBCA website for updated trial
information and late breaking news*

Have you renewed your NEBCA 2020 Membership??



Kate Collins

2020 NEBCA Calendars are still available!

Contact George Northrup,
george01268@yahoo.com, 978-249-4407 or
P.O. Box 119, Royalston, MA 01368 or
Use Paypal <http://www.nebca.net/calnedars.html>