

American Border Collie Association, Inc.

Newsletter



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Denise Wall- 2016 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEE

Eileen Stein began the induction with comments on Denise Wall's competency as a Handler, trialing her dogs throughout the country along with recognizing her to be a knowledgeable and thoughtful Breeder. She did not breed often but her dogs were known for their natural talent and strong heart. Eileen went on to say Denise's trialing career and the care she took for quality breeding would not alone have been enough to qualify her for the Hall of Fame. Eileen said that Denise's outstanding qualification has been her SERVICE -- service to our breed organizations and service to the breed itself.

Denise has served on the Board of the ABCA, and a founding Director of the ABCA Health & Education Foundation. A person of many talents, she has generously and whole-heartedly put those talents to work for the Border Collie. A photographer, videographer and writer with many of her photos showcasing working dogs published on the USBCHA and ABCA websites, all provided at no cost. She captures the intensity, intelligence and strength of purpose of our dogs.

Denise developed a series of videos based on the training of her dog May, and shared it on the USBCC website. She also produced other training and handling works, including Kent Kuykendall's "Gaining the Winning Edge with Whistles" and the video "In the Mind of a Champion," where she filmed winning runs of Scott Glen and Alasdair Macrae at the Bluegrass, with a voice over of each of them explaining what they were seeing and thinking as the run progressed. She co-authored the book "Do Border Collies Dream of Sheep" and conceived, photographed and produced the video "How Sheep Dog Trials Relate to Practical Farm Work," a short film that can be seen on the ABCA website.

Genetics of Border Collies -- A Breeders and Buyers' Guide" in 2002. Well before that, she began her extensive collection of pedigrees and DNA samples of dogs with epilepsy. She spurred the research that resulted in the DNA test for CEA. She identified and documented the first known cases of Exercise Induced Collapse in border collies, illustrating it with videos of her dog Zeke. She brought Early Adult Onset Deafness to the attention of researchers who began to study it, at a time when most experts were saying that such deafness was not genetically caused. She found a new position for radiographically assessing hip joints in the literature, evaluated the method and the research with the support of ABCA, and in the course of doing that developed her own theory of Border Collie hip functionality.



L-R Mick, Denise Wall, Molly

Denise knew science and she knew the dogs. She could talk the language of science, evaluate researchers and the quality of research designs in a way that non-scientists could not. And she could explain health problems and the need for research into them to dog people in a way that only another dog person could. Because she knew the dogs, she had a sense of perspective that never elevated preserving health above preserving working ability. She was comfortable in both worlds, which is very rare, and which is what enabled the ABCA to take the lead in addressing the health of our dogs.

In closing Eileen shared that Denise's greatest service to the breed was her tireless and expert efforts to highlight, monitor, explain and seek remedies for the health and genetic issues affecting the working Border Collie. The

members in attendance rose for a standing ovation to honor Denise Wall's induction to the ABCA Hall of Fame.



Hall of Fame Nominations

Due To ABCA by June 1, 2017

Application forms available from the office or online at:

www.americanbordercollie.org

AMERICAN BORDER COLLIE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

STRANG RANCH, CARBONDALE, COLORADO

SEPTEMBER 15, 2016

Minutes

Mike Neary welcomed everyone to Strang Ranch, Carbondale, CO and called the meeting to order.

Debbie Bailey presented proof of mailing of the notice for the Annual Meeting. Debbie stated 2,071 ballots mailed to eligible voters, 15 ballots returned undeliverable. Patricia L. Smith, CPA, tallied the ballots and report 379 validly cast ballots. This represents more than a quorum of 10% of eligible voters. The results of the election; 4 Directors were elected for 3 year terms; Peg Anderson, Angie Coker-Sells, Dennis Gellings and Tom Wilson. Mike thanked the Directors rotating off the Board for their service; Jamie Spring and Eileen Stein.

The minutes of the 2015 Annual Meeting were distributed to those in attendance. A motion was made by Emil Luedecke to approve the minutes as presented. Mike Goracke made the second and the motion was approved.

Mike Neary gave the President's Report stating that in 2016 ABCA approved \$39,650 to help sponsor the National Sheepdog Finals and the National Cattledog Finals. ABCA is the longest tenured sponsor of both events. Funds have been allocated for livestock expenses, prize monies, and general support. The breakdown can be found in the financial report. The Board also approved \$11,460 in Promotional and Educational Funds for local and state organizations as well as individuals for working Border Collie events. These funds are provided by the earmarked \$1 per dog registered per state or province.

Mike stated that registrations were over 14,000, ending 2015 with another increase. The Board is very happy with the job that Debbie Bailey has done as the ABCA Registrar/Secretary. The Board approved a two year contract with Debbie in early 2016.

Mike reviewed the creation of the new ABCA Health & Education Foundation (ABCA HEF) in 2015. The year 2016 found the implementation of the Foundation. Eileen Stein is the President and other Board members include; Mark Billadeau, Denise Wall, Warren Mick and Mike Neary. The Treasurer is Cy Peterson. This 501(c)3 foundation is already giving advantages in advancing the issue of Early Adult Onset Deafness (EAOD) research. The ABCA HEF is the sponsor of the BAER Clinic at the 2016 Sheepdog Finals. The ABCA HEF has some exciting news contained in their report on future direction in EAOD research. (Details can be found in this newsletter, HEF Report)

The ABCA Board of Directors, in conjunction with the ABCA Health and Genetics Foundation, released a joint statement (contained on the ABCA website) on the proposed EAOD Test that was being promoted by projectDog. Both Boards of Directors studied the issue very closely. There were many hours of work invested in the statement and determining the best way forward to deal with EAOD in our breed. The conclusions reached were done thoughtfully and methodically, with input from the projectDog people, and after consulting with well respected scientists and researchers in the U.S. and internationally. There were some questions by the membership regarding the position of the ABCA Board, the offering by projectDog and how the two

Boards came to the conclusions reached on the joint statement. Mike detailed for the membership the past efforts with EAOD, the history the ABCA Board and Health & Genetics Committee had with the principal scientists with projectDog, and summarized the way we were going to move forward to develop a test for EAOD in Border Collies.

Mike reported the ABCA Board of Directors released the publication this year entitled, *ABCA Code of Ethics and Best Practices*, a brochure with the objective of educating current breeders and potential Border Collie owners on the stance of the ABCA regarding breeding practices. This is not policy set by the Board, but sensible guidelines and considerations on sound breeding practices. It is included with memberships, registrations and available for download on the ABCA website.

Mike concluded by reporting that ABCA published a list of "High Volume Breeders" on the website. This is a list of breeders who registered 30 or more pups in the calendar year 2014. This policy was announced at the 2015 Annual Meeting and was included in detail in the 2015 Annual Newsletter sent to all members. There was a great deal of support for this policy and there was also some vocal opposition to the policy. The Board had studied the situation of high volume breeders for well over a year and rather than enacting rules on breeding policy being set by the Board, it was determined that an educational approach was the best way forward. Thus, an annual listing of "High Volume Breeders", coupled with the ABCA Code of Ethics and Best Practices publication would help in these efforts. The Board of Directors feel that high volume breeding is detrimental to the long term best interests of the working Border Collie.

The Financial Statement was distributed and presented. After brief discussion, Jamie Spring made a motion to approve, and Sonia Craig seconded the motion. It was approved.

Eileen Stein provided a review of year one for the ABCA Health & Education Foundation. (The report can be found in this newsletter).

Mike Hanley, Chair of the Hall of Fame Committee, was unable to attend and in his absence Mike Neary announced Denise Wall is this year's Inductee to the ABCA Hall of Fame. Eileen Stein gave a moving induction highlighting Denise's many contributions to the working Border Collie breed (Details can be found in this newsletter)

Mike Neary asked if anyone had comments or further business. Amy Coapman took the floor to express her thoughts regarding EAOD. Amy disagreed with some of the details presented on projectDog and the EAOD situation. Amy also had some questions on the HEF and how it was to be run. Mike and Eileen reviewed the plans for HEF and EAOD research going forward.

There being no further business Emil Luedecke moved to adjourn the meeting and Angie Coker-Sells offered the second. Motion was approved.

Annual Memberships Due before January 1, 2017

Annual Memberships expire on December 31st of each calendar year. To be eligible to vote in the 2017 elections, your membership must be paid prior to January 1, 2017. Annual Membership fees are \$10 (\$11 if paid by credit card). Lifetime Memberships are \$100 (\$110 if paid by credit card). Both Annual and Lifetime Memberships offer the same benefits.

AMERICAN BORDER COLLIE ASSOCIATION, INC.
 STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND OTHER
 CHANGES IN NET ASSETS - MODIFIED CASH BASIS FOR THE
 YEAR ENDED
 DECEMBER 31, 2015

REVENUES

Annual memberships	\$	16,471
Duplicates and corrections		3,179
Lifetime memberships		20,620
Registration fees		159,723
Transfer fees		20,574
Donations		-
Miscellaneous		4,740
Investment income		18,676
Total Revenues		<u>243,983</u>

EXPENSES

Program services		
Prize monies awarded	15,650	
Promotional support to members	11,460	
Research support	3,629	
Trials sponsorship	<u>25,810</u>	
Total program services	<u>56,549</u>	

Supporting Services

Advertising	100
Annual meeting expenses	800
Bank fees	2,562
Computer expense, technical support, and web	6,145
Depreciation and amortization	1,198
File storage	1,171
Insurance and bonding	1,562
Investigation Expenses	1,413
Investment fees	8,978
Office supplies	1,220
Postage and delivery	11,113
Printing and reproduction	6,241
Professional fees	3,820
Secretarial fees	72,000
Telephone	2,186
Travel	3,492
Other office expenses	<u>417</u>
Total supporting services	<u>124,418</u>

Total expenses 180,967

OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)

Realized Gain (loss) on Investments	(27,504)
Other Income	-
Total Other Income	<u>(27,504)</u>

CHANGE IN NET ASSETS 35,512

NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR 884,355

NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR 919,867

Promotional Money Available through ABCA

Promotional money is available upon a request from any ABCA member to promote the working Border Collie in their area. Funding for these projects comes from a designated fund at the rate of \$1 per dog registered. Funds are allocated to the state or province of the Breeder. Events often include trials, clinics, fun days, school projects, etc. A Promotional Money Request Form is available on the website or through the office. The request must be submitted to the office prior to the deadlines of February 15 and July 15 of each year. Following is the amount available as of October 2016.

STATE	AMOUNT AVAILABLE	STATE	AMOUNT AVAILABLE
AB	\$357.50	NB	\$94.50
AK	\$220.50	NC	\$581.50
AL	\$1,224.00	ND	\$1,209.50
AR	\$1,335.00	NE	\$1,584.50
AZ	\$1,881.50	NH	\$791.50
BC	\$229.00	NJ	\$1,066.50
CA	\$1,145.00	NM	\$542.00
CO	\$1,053.50	NS	\$10.00
CT	\$483.00	NV	\$805.50
DC	\$2.00	NY	\$292.19
DE	\$74.00	OH	\$3,500.00
FL	\$745.00	OK	\$2,357.00
GA	\$592.00	ON	\$837.00
HI	\$4.50	OR	\$2,234.50
IA	\$569.50	PA	\$2,499.00
ID	\$590.50	PR	\$20.00
IL	\$622.00	QC	\$1,050.50
IN	\$2,101.00	RI	\$134.00
KS	\$1,477.00	SC	\$1,318.50
KY	\$1,005.00	SD	\$475.00
LA	\$3,219.00	SK	\$388.50
MA	\$1,141.00	TN	\$648.00
MB	\$233.00	TX	\$2,289.00
MD	\$439.00	UT	\$614.50
ME	\$1,222.00	VA	\$373.50
MI	\$1,775.00	VT	\$360.00
MN	\$464.50	WA	\$691.00
MO	\$1,199.00	WI	\$385.50
MS	\$426.50	WV	\$1,750.00
MT	\$1,595.00	WY	\$1,709.00

Grant funds are also available from the ABCA. Grants are generally made for scientific research and educational projects, and grant monies are not allocated by state. A Grant Request Form is available on the website. The deadlines for grant requests are January 15 and June 15 each year.

WHAT IS HEF?

The ABCA Health & Education Foundation, Inc. (HEF) is a non-profit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) charity recently formed by the American Border Collie Association, Inc., the principal Border Collie registry in the United States.

The HEF's mission is to 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.

The HEF is managed by a board of directors and officers elected by the board. While the HEF is a separate entity from the ABCA itself, the registry does have input into the election of directors. The HEF's officers and directors are all volunteers, there are no paid positions. The HEF is not a membership organization.

In the past, the ABCA has provided grants for health and genetic research and other efforts beneficial to Border Collies. This function will now be taken over by the HEF. The registry has provided a significant initial grant to get the HEF off the ground, but continued funding of the HEF's work will come primarily through tax-deductible donations, large and small, from those concerned about the future of the working Border Collie. We expect that most of these donations will come from individuals, but corporate donations are also welcome. Visit our Donations page for more information, www.bordercolliefoundation.org. If you have ideas on other sources, please let us know.

The HEF is still in its infancy. Programs and activities are being formulated. The work to create an education section on this website is just beginning. The HEF will need support from the working Border Collie community with all aspects of operation – in generating ideas, carrying out programs and activities, or simply recommending what would be most useful or what could be done differently. The HEF hopes to improve the future of the Border Collie and needs your help and input to do so.

WAYS THAT YOU CAN SUPPORT ABCA HEALTH & EDUCATION FOUNDATION

GENERAL DONATIONS

Gifts to the HEF are fully tax deductible. 100% of donations will support the activities, programs and grants of the HEF. None goes to paid fundraisers or salaries. You may make a gift online or by mail. Contact information below.

MEMORIAL GIFTS

A gift to the HEF may be made in memory of a family member or friend. The HEF will send a card to the recipient, letting them know of your thoughtful gift in memory of their loved one.

AMAZON SMILE

If you shop at Amazon, next time please go to www.smile.amazon.com and choose the ABCA Health & Education Foundation as your charitable organization. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% for every purchase. This is a loyalty program and there is no extra cost to us or to you. You'll have access to the same products, features, services and prices as on Amazon.com. The shopping experience is identical to Amazon.com with the added benefit that the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% to our Foundation!

Please remember to log on to www.smile.amazon.com each time you shop at Amazon — it uses your same Amazon log in. And please choose the ABCA Health & Education Foundation as the organization you wish to support.

Finally, please tell all your friends and family. This is a wonderful way to support our mission at no extra cost to anyone.

SUPPORT THE HEALTH & EDUCATION FOUNDATION BY VOLUNTEERING

The HEF is entirely run by volunteers. Every aspect of operation, from the business end to the programs and activities, all need the help and support of the Border Collie community. If you can share a little of your time and your talents, please contact the HEF to offer your help. The foundation needs help in the following areas:

- Creating, gathering & adapting educational content for the website. general health, specific diseases, breeding related topics, information for farmers and ranchers on training and use of stockdogs,
- Organizing and running health clinics health testing (Baer tests, other) sample collection for health studies
- Specific jobs: Fundraising coordinator: Generate fundraising ideas, acknowledge donors. Newsletter: Biannual e-newsletter (program updates, news, announcements)

Contact: Eileen Stein, President, ABCA Health & Education • P.O. Box 41 • Shady Side, MD 20764 • eileen@bordercollie.org • www.bordercolliefoundation.org

HEALTH & EDUCATION

REPORT ON THE ABCA HEALTH & EDUCATION FOUNDATION -- YEAR ONE

Eileen Stein, President

Formation of the ABCA Health & Education Foundation was announced at last year's ABCA Annual Meeting. Since that time, the HEF has moved forward in establishing itself as an organization and beginning work on its programs.

Cy Peterson has agreed to be the HEF Treasurer, and we feel fortunate to have our finances in such capable hands.

At the HEF Annual Board of Directors Meeting, the five incorporating directors were elected to continue as directors, serving staggered terms. A sixth director was also elected to the board -- Bob Wagner, a cattle rancher in northern Colorado with a doctorate in biochemistry and molecular biology, who is also a founder and current vice-president of the National Cattledog Association.

Susan Carpenter has set up the HEF website at bordercolliefoundation.org and is maintaining it as our webmaster. There is still work to be done on its design and content. It will be both enlarged and streamlined over the next few months, but there is enough information there now about Border Collie health and genetics in general, and the HEF and its projects in particular, to make it worth a visit. If you would like to support the HEF with a tax-deductible donation, or as a volunteer, the website will make that easy for you.

As we said last year, our top program priorities starting out were to get research into Early Adult Onset Deafness moving forward once again, and to create a databank of Border Collie DNA and health information that could be used for present and future research. We are well on our way with both goals.

The HEF has recently made a grant to Dr. Hannes Lohi of the University of Helsinki and the Folkhalsan Research Center for a project designed to identify the genetic mutation(s) that cause EAOD, leading to a definitive genetic test. Dr. Lohi is a highly regarded researcher in molecular genetics, and was one of the authors of the Yokoyama/Ruhe/Neff EAOD study published in 2012. He continued research independently into Border Collie deafness among other subjects (including epilepsy) thereafter. He will be collaborating with Dr. James Mickelson at the University of Minnesota, another distinguished researcher, who has received past research grants from the ABCA.

In addition to its primary purpose, this project has enabled HEF to get a jump-start on our Border Collie DNA bank. The DNA samples we have collected for the EAOD project -- approximately 300 to date -- are being sent initially to Dr. Mickelson's lab. After DNA needed for the EAOD project has been extracted from them, the remaining DNA will continue to be maintained as the property of the HEF, to be used as the start of our DNA bank, either in that lab or in another storage facility as we decide.

We feel the HEF has made a good start in its mission to benefit the working Border Collie and its breeders and owners. There is a lot of work still ahead, and your ideas, suggestions, participation and support are very welcome, and will make a big difference in how well we succeed.

DNA BANK

One of the top priorities of the ABCA Health & Education Foundation (HEF) is to establish a DNA Bank for the Border Collie.

Over the years, hundreds of samples have been obtained from Border Collies for various specific research projects. Many of those samples have been used to good effect, while many of them have been mishandled or otherwise lost, but in either case the DNA in those samples is no longer available. What the HEF hopes to do — aided by advances in storage methods, sequencing and techniques to amplify and copy DNA — is to build up a library of DNA samples that covers as wide a portion of the Border Collie genome as possible. An extensive bank of this type, combined with pedigree information and health information about the dogs sampled, will put us in a good position to address health issues that may arise in the future, as well as to attract researchers to work on our priority problems and areas of interest. It takes DNA, data and dollars to advance scientific research. We look for the DNA Bank to supply the first two of those needs.

The DNA Bank dovetails nicely with the HEF's other immediate priority — EAOD research. The samples and data we have collected and will continue to collect for that research, over and above what the scientists working on that project need, will be preserved and banked as resources for future research.



American Border Collie Association, Inc.

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Prize Monies Paid at the National Finals Each Year

**Handler must be a current American Border Collie Association Member to compete in the USBCHA Finals.*

Dogs must be ABCA registered to collect ABCA prize monies.

Sheep Finals - Nursery Top 30 Qualifying - \$100 each

Open Top 50 1st Go Round - \$100 each

Open Top 20 2nd Go Round - \$100 each

Breeder of the Top ABCA registered Nursery and Open Dogs - \$500 each

Cattle Finals - Nursery - 1st - \$300, 2nd - \$200

Open - 1st Go Round - 1st - \$200, 2nd-4th - \$100 each

Open - 2nd Go Round - 1st - \$200, 2nd-4th - \$100 each

Open Finals - 1st-\$500, 2nd-\$400, 3rd-\$300, 4th-\$200, 5th-10th-\$100, 11th-20th-\$50

Breeder of the Top ABCA registered Open and Nursery Dogs - \$500 each