

American Border Collie Association, Inc.

Newsletter



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Great Findings in Early Adult Onset Deafness (EAOD)

The ABCA Health & Education Foundation has received a progress report from Dr. Hannes Lohi's team studying EAOD, which says that they have essentially identified the causal gene and its likely causative variant. They need to complete some additional experiments to validate their conclusions prior to a peer-reviewed publication, but they hope to be able to submit their work for publication before the end of the year. That doesn't mean that the work will be published by then -- the peer review process can sometimes be lengthy -- but submission for publication is very important. It not only provides for evaluation of their work by other researchers, but also, once their results are published, it will be possible for any testing laboratory to develop and offer DNA tests for EAOD based on this research. Both the researchers and ABCA HEF agreed at the start that publication was essential, for the advancement of research and to permit competition to keep test prices lower.



Photo by Denise Wall

In the meantime, based on the results they've achieved, the research team has begun the process of developing a gene test in collaboration with a very large, well-regarded testing company. The intent is to ensure that a test is available for veterinary diagnostic purposes and breeding decisions as soon as possible. The best current estimate for availability of the test is January 2019. If the test becomes commercially available from this company before other companies have been able to bring a test to market, there is a side benefit for us -- we will be able to get data that will best show the prevalence of EAOD in our dogs. Right now, a certain percentage of our dogs carries the EAOD mutation, but we have no way of knowing what that percentage is. It's the portion of the dogs who show up as Affected, Carrier or Normal when the test first becomes

available that will give us this information. Later on, after the test has been on the market for awhile, these figures will gradually become less and less informative about the prevalence of the EAOD mutation, because more people will tend to send in only suspect dogs, so the data will be skewed. Early on will be when the sample of dogs being tested will be the most random, and will give us the best estimate of the true percentage of Carriers and Affecteds in our breed right now. That knowledge is very important in developing recommendations for breeding.

Dr. Lohi and his colleagues intend to continue and broaden their study to better understand this complex disease. Additional clinical studies will help in understanding its dimensions, including variations in age of onset and manifestations. For example, it is not yet certain that EAOD is 100% penetrant. There may be cases where dogs who carry two copies of the causative mutation do not become deaf. (This is similar to CEA. CEA has an autosomal recessive mode of inheritance, yet there are cases (often called "go normals") where a dog who carries two copies of the causative mutation, and therefore will pass that mutation on to its offspring, does not show symptoms of the disease. It's not yet known whether the same may be true of EAOD, or if so, how frequently this occurs.)

Dr. Lohi and his colleagues ended their report by thanking the ABCA Foundation for our "very helpful" and "much appreciated" support for this research. We in turn thank them for their hard work and the good results they have been able to achieve.

-ABCA Health & Education Foundation

AMERICAN BORDER COLLIE ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

ALTURAS, CA

SEPTEMBER 27, 2018

Minutes

Mike Neary welcomed everyone to York Ranch in Alturas, CA and called the meeting to order.

Debbie Bailey presented proof of mailing of the notice for the Annual Meeting. Debbie stated 2,320 ballots mailed to eligible voters, 26 ballots returned undeliverable. Patricia L. Smith, CPA, tallied the ballots and report 415 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; Allison Jarrard, Bob Johnson, Patrick Shannahan and Emil Luedecke.

The minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting were distributed to those in attendance. A motion was made by Wendy Schmaltz to approve the minutes as presented. Tom Wilson made the second and the motion was approved.

Mike Neary gave the President's Report. Mike stated that ABCA registered more than 15,000 dogs in 2017 and for the 5th straight year, registrations exceeded 14,000. Transfers have increased as well.

The Board approved a total of \$41,099 to help sponsor the National Sheepdog Finals and the National CattleDog Finals during 2017. The ABCA is the longest tenured and most dependable sponsor of both events. Funds have been allocated for livestock expenses, prize monies, and general support. The specific breakdown of these funds is contained in the financial report.

The Board of Directors approved the expenditure of \$4,500 to help with the live webcast of the 2017 National Sheepdog Finals.

The Board extended Debbie Bailey's contract from March 1, 2018 to February 29, 2020.

The Board of Directors approved changes in the fee structure and fees charged for the ABCA starting in January of 2018. The major changes were to eliminate differing charges for cash versus credit, and a slight increase in fees. The transition has gone better than anticipated.

In 2018, the Board approved the expenditure of \$16,653 in promotional and educational funds to local and state organizations and individuals for working Border Collies events. This was an increase of around \$4,000 from 2017 and is a direct effect of the promotional monies doubling from \$1 to \$2 per dog registered in Board action from 2017.

The Financial Statement was distributed and presented.

Eileen Stein provided a review of the year for the ABCA Health & Education Foundation. Eileen reported the foundation received a progress report from Dr. Hannes Lohi's team studying EAOD, which says that they have essentially identified the causal gene and its likely causative variant. Based on the results they've achieved, the research team has begun the process of developing a gene test in collaboration with a very large, well-regarded testing company. The intent is to ensure that a test is available for veterinary diagnostic purposes and breeding decisions as soon as possible. The best current estimate for availability of the test is January 2019. The crowd responded with a great, positive response. (The report can be found in this newsletter).

Amy Coapman shared the successful results of the BAER Clinic held during the National Finals in Alturas.

Mike Neary stated there would not be an inductee for the ABCA Hall of Fame 2018.

Mike Neary asked if anyone had comments or further business. Meeting adjourned.

Annual Memberships Due before January 1, 2019

Annual Memberships expire on December 31st of each calendar year. To be eligible to vote in the 2019 elections, your membership must be paid **prior** to January 1, 2019.

Annual Membership fees are \$15. Lifetime Memberships are \$150.

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, 2017

REVENUES	<u>2017</u>
Annual Memberships	\$ 20,912
Duplicates and corrections	3,877
Lifetime memberships	29,038
Registration fees	171,183
Transfer fees	21,560
Miscellaneous	3,474
Investment income	22,310
Total revenues	<u>272,354</u>
EXPENSES	
Program Services	
Prize monies awarded	15,450
Promotional support to members	14,810
Research support	1,000
Trials sponsorship	29,251
ABCA Health and Education Foundation support	25,000
Total program services	<u>85,511</u>
Supporting Services	
Advertising	100
Annual Meeting expenses	1,257
Bank fees	3,283
Computer expense, technical support, and web expense	6,094
Contract labor	2,395
Depreciation and amortization	675
File storage	1,228
Insurance and bonding	1,401
Investment fees	10,560
Office supplies	1,080
Postage and delivery	12,044
Printing and reproduction	7,929
Professional fees	4,225
Office Manager/Registrar fees	76,320
Telephone	2,033
Travel	3,006
Other office expenses	59
Total supporting services	<u>133,689</u>
Total expenses	<u>219,200</u>
OTHER INCOME (EXPENSE)	
Realized loss on investments	-
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	<u>53,154</u>
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>934,410</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	<u>\$ 987,564</u>

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 \$2 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 November 2018.

STATE	AMOUNT AVAILABLE	STATE	AMOUNT AVAILABLE
AB	\$ 420	NB	\$ 94
AK	\$ 279	NC	\$ 926
AL	\$ 2,202	ND	\$ 856
AR	\$ 1,164	NE	\$ 2,091
AZ	\$ 2,415	NH	\$ 865
BC	\$ 147	NJ	\$ 1,425
CA	\$ 1,035	NM	\$ 773
CO	\$ 1,177	NS	\$ 10
CT	\$ 619	NV	\$ 968
DC	\$ 2	NY	\$ 453
DE	\$ 92	OH	\$ 4,102
FL	\$ 1,089	OK	\$ 1,370
GA	\$ 468	ON	\$ 1,143
HI	\$ 4	OR	\$ 1,589
IA	\$ 1,248	PA	\$ 3,064
ID	\$ 497	PR	\$ 38
IL	\$ 532	QC	\$ 1,128
IN	\$ 3,233	RI	\$ 139
KS	\$ 2,549	SC	\$ 1,533
KY	\$ 702	SD	\$ 436
LA	\$ 3,999	SK	\$ 337
MA	\$ 1,267	TN	\$ 1,153
MB	\$ 260	TX	\$ 3,875
MD	\$ 437	UT	\$ 849
ME	\$ 1,394	VA	\$ 1,331
MI	\$ 2,328	VT	\$ 375
MN	\$ 545	WA	\$ 815
MO	\$ 1,667	WI	\$ 367
MS	\$ 465	WV	\$ 2,100
MT	\$ 1,298	WY	\$ 606

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.



American Border Collie Association, Inc.

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Hall of Fame Nominations

Due To ABCA by June 15, 2019

Application forms available from the office or online at www.americanbordercollie.org

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