

ABCA

December, 2004

American Border Collie Association, Inc.

82 Rogers Rd
Perkinston, MS 39573
Telephone (601) 928-7551
Fax (601) 928-5148
email: abca@datasync.com
www.americanbordercollie.org

Important Note: Registration Policy Changed!

On November 16, 2004, the Board of Directors voted to change the existing policy of the Association for accepting registration applications. Effective for pups born on January 1, 2005 and later, all applications must be submitted by the breeder of the litter. Applications for entire litters, partial litters, or individual dogs must be submitted to the association by the breeder.

Disciplinary Policy Enforced and Action Taken in 2004

Following an investigation and hearing into complaints regarding Mr. Richard Swafford of Portland, TN, a hearing board of the ABCA determined that Mr. Swafford had falsified documents submitted to the Association certifying parentage of several dogs. Mr. Swafford has therefore been expelled from membership in the American Border Collie Association, Inc. and his registration privileges have been revoked. The findings and decision of the hearing board have also been upheld by the full Board of Directors following an appeal by Mr. Swafford. As a result, we are no longer able to process any paperwork with his signature or involving any of the dogs that were deregistered as a result of the investigation. Those dogs deregistered were Speedy ABCA 231553, Duke ABCA 238782 and Craig's Megan ABCA 199792. These actions were necessary to maintain the integrity of the Association's records.

PRIZE MONEY AWARDED DURING THE CATTLE AND SHEEP FINALS IN 2004

During 2004, \$16,000.00 was paid directly to owners/handlers/breeders for prize money during the National Cattle Finals in March and National Sheepdog Finals in September. Also, \$18,467.00 was paid for other trials expenses through the USBCHA and other trial supporters for the Finals. These monies are divided among the top 30 cattle dog handlers, the top 30 Nursery Sheepdog handlers and top 50 Open Sheepdog handlers during each of the Finals.

Annual Memberships Due before January 1, 2005

All annual memberships expire on January 1 of each calendar year. To be eligible to vote in the 2005 elections, your membership must be paid prior to January 1, 2005. Be sure to mail your membership in as soon as possible. Annual membership fees are \$10.00. Lifetime memberships are also available. That cost is \$100.

Following is a list of all of the current directors and their addresses:

Larry Burkes
HC 3
Paducah, TX 79248
(806) 492-3456
stockdog@caprock-spur.com

Merle Newton
14200 Red Bank Rd.
Red Bluff, CA 96080
(530) 529-3700
merle@cwnet.com

Eileen Stein
P. O. Box 41
Shady Side, MD 20764
(301) 261-9750
eileen@bordercollie.org

Robin Nuffer
1082 Cherry Lane
Emmett, ID 83617
(208) 365-7225
robin_nuffer@hotmail.com

Martin Penfold
Box 359
Austin, MB Canada R0H 0C0
(204) 466-2904
martin@ruralroutevideos.com

Susan Carvalho
615 Lisle Rd.
Georgetown, KY 40324
(502) 867-1920
carvalho@uky.edu

Dan Gill
6189 Hwy. 51 S.
Hernando, MS 38632
(662) 429-6304
USBCHA4EVER@midssouth.rr.com

Norma Brice
P.O. Box 371
Franklin Springs, GA 30639
(706) 245-7880
nbbrice@yahoo.com

Mike Neary
11723 S. 300 E
Brookston, IN 47923
(765) 563-3982
mneary@purdue.edu

Jim Swift
857 22 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81505
(970) 243-1982
Jswift0327@aol.com

Bruce Smart (President)
20129, 8th Concession, RR 5
Alexandria, ON K06 1A0
(613) 525-3473
bruce.smart@sympatico.com

Gary Westbrook
10030 Foxbrook Lane
Benton, AR 72015
(501) 594-5612
stockdog@direcway.com

Financial Statements

During Fiscal Year 2004, the Board of Directors voted to change the Fiscal Year of the Association from year ending September 30 to a year ending February 28/29. Following is the audited Financial Statements for both periods:

**AMERICAN BORDER COLLIE ASSOCIATION, INC.
STATEMENT OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND OTHER
CHANGES IN NET ASSETS - MODIFIED CASH BASIS
FOR THE YEARS ENDED
SEPTEMBER 20, 2003 AND FEBRUARY 29, 2004**

	Five Months Ended February 29, 2004	Year Ended September 30, 2003
REVENUE		
Annual memberships	\$ 17,124	\$ 37,893
Lifetime memberships	10,315	17,648
Registration fees	57,434	146,229
Transfer fees	9,006	20,758
Miscellaneous	2,144	7,975
Investment income	<u>4,420</u>	<u>9,754</u>
Total revenues	100,443	240,257
EXPENSES		
Program Services		
Prize monies awarded	—	38,200
Promotional support to members	—	8,430
Research support	10,000	—
Trials sponsorship	<u>7,000</u>	<u>17,433</u>
Total program services	17,000	64,063
General and Administrative		
Advertising	285	3,600
Amortization	6,896	16,550
Annual meeting expenses		2,544
Computer and technical support	126	8,557
Depreciation	1,096	2,624
Donations	—	1,850
Equipment and supplies	1,639	2,678
File Storage	278	1,958
Insurance and bonding	208	1,572
Postage and delivery	3,969	10,254
Printing and reproduction	2,408	4,342
Professional fees	4,333	10,050
Rent	750	1,800
Secretarial fees	29,635	73,079
Telephone	2,381	4,492
Travel	1,806	3,148
Other office expenses	<u>1,491</u>	<u>2,237</u>
Total general and administrative expenses	<u>57,301</u>	<u>151,335</u>
Total expenses	<u>74,301</u>	<u>215,398</u>
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	26,142	24,859
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>466,466</u>	<u>441,607</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$ 492,608	\$ 466,466

Directors and Officers and Committee Chairmen for 2005

Norma Brice and Susan Carvalho were the two new directors elected for a three year term during the Annual Membership meeting in Sturgis, SD in September. Officer elections were held and committee appointments made on November 16, 2004. Following are those for 2005:

President - Bruce Smart

Vice-President - Jim Swift

Secretary/Treasurer - Patty Rogers

Executive Committee: Bruce Smart, Jim Swift, Mike Neary, Dan Gill, Gary Westbrook

Appeals Committee: Beverly Lambert-Chair, Robin Nuffer, Merle Newton

Health & Genetics Committee: Sally Lacy- Chair, Melissa DeMille, Eileen Stein, Denise Wall

Trials Committee:

Sheep - Jim Swift- Chair, Ray Crabtree

Cattle - Larry Burkes-Chair, Robin Nuffer, Gary Westbrook, Merle Newton, Dan Gill

Nominating Committee: Mike Neary-Chair, Robin Nuffer, Don Helsley

Communications: Susan Carvalho, Chair

Hall of Fame: Dan Gill- Chair

The ABCA Health & Genetics Committee Has Good News To Report

Discovery of the gene that causes Collie Eye Anomaly is a welcome Christmas present to the ABCA and its members. The Association committed a good chunk of its income for a period of years to fund research that will benefit all the dog breeds descended from the old Scottish farm-collie types. Collies are the worst affected of the modern breeds, but certain lines of Border Collies, Shetland Sheepdogs, Lancashire Heelers, and Australian Shepherds are potential victims of this genetic disease.

Collie Eye Anomaly (CEA) is a congenital disorder where the parts of the eye, particularly the retinal area, do not develop normally. The severity of the disease ranges from no visual impairment to blindness. It is not a progressive disease and most affected dogs have only mildly impaired vision. Until now the only tool in the box was the ophthalmic examination which was very useful in determining if a dog is Affected. Crossing non-affected dogs does result in surprises when both parents turn out to be Carriers of the CEA gene even though they do not have the disease. We needed a reliable DNA test to give us better control over breeding outcomes.

Dr. Gregory Acland's research at Cornell University has confirmed the disease's expected inheritance patterns. He has proved that a single mutant gene is responsible for the malformed retinal area. CEA is an autosomal recessive disorder. Autosomal means it's passed on and expressed equally in males or females. Recessive means that a dog may carry a single bad copy of the CEA gene and pass it on to its offspring without having the disease itself. A dog is defined as CEA Normal if it has no mutant CEA genes. A dog is defined as a Carrier if it has a CEA gene from one parent and a Normal gene from the other. When examined by an ophthalmologist, both the Carrier and the Normal dogs will appear to be unaffected by CEA. A dog is defined as Affected if it inherited a CEA copy from each parent and CEA is usually detected by ophthalmic examination.

This is what to expect from various crosses:

Normal X Normal = 100% CEA Normal puppies

Normal X Carrier = on average, 50% Normal,
50% Carriers

Normal X Affected = 100% Carriers

Carrier X Carrier = on average, 25% Normal,
50% Carriers, 25% Affected

Carrier X Affected = on average, 50% Affected,
50% Carriers

Affected X Affected = 100% Affected

How can breeders tackle this puzzle responsibly? The first principle of genetics is to do no harm. Harm includes paying no attention to the problem and spread-

ing the disease to the whole Border Collie population and conversely harming the proficient working dog by getting rid of good working lines because of the Carriers in them. Let's see first what the extent of the problem is.

Information gleaned from Dr. Acland's investigation and from CERF shows that the incidence of CEA-affected Border Collies in this country is still under 2.5%. The carrier rate is probably ten times that figure, nearly 25%. Dr. Acland's DNA test will identify which dogs are Normal (those with no copy of the CEA gene) and which dogs are Carriers (only one copy of the CEA gene). Breeders can reduce and eventually eliminate this disease in their lines if they use DNA testing to make informed breeding decisions such as: don't breed two Carriers and breed a Carrier only to a Normal dog. Best of all, of course, is to breed Normal to Normal, but remember the "do-no-harm" rule. Winnowing out all Carriers from breeding plans will dramatically shrink the gene pool and inevitably concentrate other mutations. It is more than likely that some of these mutations are lethal, which CEA is not, or debilitating, which CEA is not, or performance limiting, which CEA is only if the more severe modifying genes are also present.

This leaves us with the less-than-perfect option of breeding a known Carrier dog, whose working qualities you want to preserve, to a known Normal dog and then testing before breeding the next generation to see if the CEA gene has been lost in the genetic shuffle. By using this option, breeders combine selecting mates and pups based on their working traits with ridding the line of the CEA gene. Within a few generations their best dogs will be CEA Normal. The DNA test, if used here and abroad, means breeding plans for good dogs which are CEA Carriers may safely go forward if care is taken to find a CEA Normal dog.

Optigen, in Ithaca, NY, is marketing the CEA DNA test. Information will be on its website: www.optigen.com As part of its normal operation, Optigen offers a discount for multiple samples submitted at one time. Members of the ABCA will receive that special discount for a smaller number of samples (instead of the 20 mentioned) from February, 2005, through February, 2007. During this period, the ABCA will also give grants to defray the infrastructure of clinics held to collect blood samples and ship them to Optigen. This would include the attending veterinarian's fees, shipping costs and other incidental costs of a clinic. It is expected that these clinics will be organized by a club and held in conjunction with some other Border Collie function, such as a sheep dog or cattle dog trial. Dogs should be registered with the ABCA, the results are confidential, and participation is entirely voluntary. If the dog has a CEA Normal result - no copy

of the CEA gene - the report can be mailed to the ABCA office, along with a \$4.00 fee to cover administrative costs, and a symbol will be put on that dog's pedigree to indicate it is CEA Normal. This symbol will go with the dog's name whenever it appears on a pedigree. The dog also may be advertised as CEA Normal.

Submit grant requests for financial help at blood collection clinics to the office in February and July.

With the advent of this new tool available to our breeders, the breeding guidelines are revised:

Ethical breeding guidelines:

—For owners of known Carriers (unaffected dogs that have produced a CEA affected puppy or have been DNA tested a CEA Carrier) - ABCA recommends that anyone who inquires about the dog's progeny or as a mate be told that it is a Carrier. It also recommends that people who have any of this dog's progeny be informed that all its offspring have at least a 50% chance of also being a Carrier even if the other parent is DNA tested Normal..

—Do not breed two known Carriers together, as this will likely result in Affected puppies.

—Do not breed CEA affected dogs. These dogs and their progeny are not eligible for registration with ABCA at this time.



The Health & Genetics Committee has also received a grant from the ABCA to proceed with a pilot study of a new procedure for detecting which dogs are likely to develop hip dysplasia in early adulthood. Dr. Rory Todhunter, of Cornell University, and colleagues have developed a predictive test that can be performed on dogs between the ages of 8 and 12 months when the hip joints are still maturing. It is called the Dorsolateral Subluxation test (DLS). Sedated dogs are x-rayed in a position which simulates the normal weight-bearing posture of a standing dog. Measurements of the degree of subluxation (whether the femur fits well in the socket or not) are made from the radiographs. A year later, the dog is x-rayed again in the standard position and that data is compared to the earlier prediction. We expect to learn not only if the DLS test will be an accurate predictor of the quality of mature Border Collie hips, but what the general incidence of dysplasia in young dogs is and what degree of subluxation (laxity) is tolerated before problems are encountered. We also ask that owners keep us informed throughout the dog's life of any arthritic changes in the dog's hips. At this date approximately 25 dogs have been enrolled in the study at either of two centers which currently perform the DLS tests: Cornell's Companion Animal Hospital and the Rochester, NH, Broadview Animal Hospital. We would like a few other key locations so that we can be sure the sample is representative of working Border Collies all across the country. If Sturgis, SD, is convenient to any of you, please

contact me at smlacy@verizon.net and we can set up a participating veterinary surgeon there. People who live near the centers and who would like to have their young dogs considered for this pilot study at minimal cost to themselves may also inquire by email.



Web Health Survey:

There has been a good response thus far to the Health Survey on the ABCA web site. To date we have information from nearly 500 respondents representing well over 2,000 dogs, with approximately 75% of these being working dogs. If you have not yet filled out the ABCA Health Survey, please go to <http://www.americanbordercollie.org> and complete the form. It is designed to be quick and easy to fill out so please take a few minutes to help us determine the incidence of these diseases. When we have information on a sufficient number of dogs, a full report on the incidence found for each disease and an evaluation of the results will be written up and published in the ABCA Newsletter as well as the working border collie magazines.



Epilepsy Study:

We are continuing to collect information on and pedigrees from dogs diagnosed with idiopathic epilepsy. If you have such a dog, please contact:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| Sally Lacy | email: smlacy@verizon.net |
| Denise Wall | email: cdwall1@yadtel.net |
| Mellissa DeMille | email: mellissad1@yahoo.com |
| Amy Coapman | email: acoapman@karuk.us |
| or Eileen Stein | email: eileen@bordercollie.org |

All information shared on affected dogs and their relatives is strictly confidential.



Promotional Money Requests Due By February 15, 2005

Fifty cents (\$.50) from every registration is designated for promotional money to be used in each state where that application is received. Those fees are accumulated from the beginning of the registry and allocated according to the number of requests received every February 15 and July 15 of each year. Applications should be received in the office by those two deadline dates. The application should include the name of the person and/or organization making the request, a description of the event requesting funding, planned expenditures for the monies received, and amount requested if known. Following is a list of monies available following the July, 2004 requests being granted:

State/Province	\$ Available	State/Province	\$ Available	State/Province	\$ Available
AB	\$284.50	LA	\$2,849.00	OH	\$880.50
AK	\$4.00	MA	\$477.00	OK	\$1,516.00
AL	\$468.50	MB	\$206.00	ON	\$686.50
AR	\$511.00	MD	\$137.50	OR	\$273.00
AZ	\$754.50	ME	\$618.50	PA	\$533.50
BC	\$77.50	MI	\$273.50	PR	\$5.00
CA	\$542.50	MN	\$668.50	QC	\$156.00
CO	\$186.50	MO	\$527.50	RI	\$54.00
CT	\$43.50	MS	\$266.50	SC	\$80.50
DC	\$2.00	MT	\$440.50	SD	\$390.50
DE	\$14.00	NB	\$54.00	SK	\$166.00
FL	\$480.50	NC	\$976.50	TN	\$328.50
GA	\$296.50	ND	\$669.50	TX	\$563.50
HI	\$4.50	NE	\$248.00	UT	\$561.00
IA	\$215.50	NH	\$250.50	VA	\$547.00
ID	\$626.00	NJ	\$324.00	VT	\$292.00
IL	\$126.00	NM	\$248.00	WA	\$261.00
IN	\$286.50	NS	\$0.50	WI	\$212.00
KS	\$110.00	NV	\$538.00	WV	\$485.00
KY	\$142.50	NY	\$1,837.50	WY	\$364.50

Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting

Sturgis, SD

September 24, 2004 -- 7:00 p.m.

Bruce Smart, President, called the meeting to order and asked for the agenda to be changed to recognize the Inductees into the ABCA Hall of Fame first.

Bruce Smart then introduced Bruce Fogt who introduced Dodie Green's Soot as outstanding dog.

Dr. Leroy Boyd next introduced Francis Raley who was inducted into the Hall of Fame for outstanding achievement and contributions to the ABCA.

Both Dodie Green and Francis Raley expressed great appreciation for this recognition by the Board and membership of ABCA.

Next Bruce Smart called the business meeting to order. Patty announced that a quorum was present for the meeting for election of officers with the presentation of ballots received by Alexander, Van Loon, Sloan, Levens and Favre, PLLC. There were 4,155 ballots mailed to eligible members with 722 members returning ballots and casting their votes. This represented more than the required 10% of 415 votes.

The minutes of the 2003 meeting and financial report from Alexander, Van Loon, Sloan, Levens, and Favre were also printed and distributed. Gary Westbrook made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. 2nd by Lena Bailey. There being no discussion, motion was approved.

Motion was made by Sally Lacy to approve the financial statement as presented. 2nd by Gary Westbrook. All approved.

Bruce Smart then gave his Presidential update. He stated that the computer system upgrade had been completed, and disciplinary policy had been established and adopted by the Board of Directors and it had been tested with the first

(continued on next page)

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Website:
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(Minutes of the Annual Membership Meeting continued from previous page)

Disciplinary Hearing this year. He asked Eileen Stein to give a report.

Eileen reported that an investigation had been completed and a hearing had been conducted by a Disciplinary Hearing Board this year concerning Mr. Richard Swafford from Portland, TN. He was determined to have submitted false certifications on applications to the registry concerning parentage of dogs and/or pups; he had falsely certified mating on applications given to others to be submitted to the registry and maintained such poor kennel operations that it led to the incorrect information being submitted to the registry. Eileen stated that Mr. Swafford had been expelled from membership in the American Border Collie Association, Inc. and his registration privileges had been revoked. These findings were a decision of the Hearing Board and they were appealed to the Full Board of Directors and upheld by them. This action became effective on all information regarding Mr. Swafford as of June 9, 2004.

Next Bruce Smart asked for the results of the election. He had asked Linda Fogt to tally the votes received during the meeting and add them to those from the accountant.

The four directors elected to serve a three year term were as follows:

Norma Brice, Susan Carvalho, Mike Neary, Martin Penfold

Next Sally Lacy gave a report from the ABCA Health and Genetic Committee. She reported that the 2004 clinic here at the finals had gone quite smoothly because of the excellent volunteers provided by the local group.

Sally also presented the award that was received last year from Cornell University and presented to the Association for contributions made by a breed club to their research.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.



Check Your Label for Membership Info!

If the information in the mailing area above does not match your records, or if you have any questions, please notify the office. It should look like the example below.

INDICATES LAST YEAR PAID



www.americanbordercollie.org