

ABCA

December, 2010

American Border Collie Association, Inc.

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Minutes of the American Border Collie Association, Inc. **Annual Membership Meeting**

Belle Grove Plantation, Middletown, VA
September 23, 2010 • 6:30 p.m.

The Annual Meeting of The American Border Collie Association was held at the trial site in a big tent located at Belle Grove Plantation, 336 Belle Grove Rd., Middletown, VA 22645 at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, September 23, 2010. Following a light meal, Mike Hanley called the meeting to order.

Mike asked Patty Rogers for the proof of mailing and presentation of proxies. She presented a letter from Leona Dedeaux who was contracted to handle the mailing of the proxies and the tabulation of the votes. (see attached) The letter stated that there were 2,251 ballots mailed to eligible voters. 40 were returned with no forwarding address, 6 were without signatures and 445 were properly signed and returned. This represents more than a quorum of 10% of the eligible voters.

Patty Rogers distributed copies of the minutes and financial statements. Mark Billadeau made a motion to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion was 2nd by Bruce Fogt. All approved.

Next on the agenda was the presentation of the Hall of Fame Awards. Mike called on Amanda Milliken to make the presentation to Tommy Wilson. Mike stated that Guido Lombardi was unable to attend the meeting and the medallion would be presented to him later in the fall at the San Joaquin Trial in November.

Next was the presentation of the financial report from Alexander, Van Loon, Sloan, Levens, and Farve. See attached. Motion was made by Emil Luedecke to accept the report as presented. Motion was 2nd by Bruce Fogt. All approved.

Mark Billadeau gave a report from the Health Committee. Eileen had been helping with the eye clinic during the finals. Dr. Nancy Brombert was conducting the eye clinic this year in the absence of Dr. Acland. Cost would be \$30/dog this year. There had been some discussion from last year's reports to conduct a hearing clinic, but were unable to get it arranged. Dr. Mark Neff would be at the trial site on Sunday to answer questions about the tests. He had left UC Davis, but would not be working on dogs as much, but will use canine as it relates to human hearing loss.

He also reported that Dr. Sue Taylor was doing some research on exercise induced collapse in labs and ABCA was supporting research in border collies. The goal was to find clinical markers to diagnose the syndrome. They were still looking for more candidates to include in the study. Mark stated that there would be a summary included in the newsletter later this year.

Mike Hanley gave a report on this year's activities. The fiscal year of the Association currently ends in February and will be changed to end with the calendar year. Money included \$44,000 being paid in prize money, trials and promotions. Also, \$29,000 to research and this eye clinic would be \$4-\$6,000.

(Annual Minutes continued on next page)

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

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Annual Memberships Due before January 1, 2011

Reminder: Membership is required to be able to register dogs with ABCA.

All annual memberships expire on January 1 of each calendar year. To be eligible to vote in the 2011 elections, your membership must be paid prior to January 1, 2011. Be sure to mail your membership dues in as soon as possible. Annual membership fees are \$10 (\$11 if paid by credit card). Lifetime memberships are available for the cost of \$100 (\$110 if paid by credit card).

(Annual Minutes Continued)

Amanda Milliken asked for an update on promotional money. It was stated that the amounts available would be in the newsletter for each state. The deadlines are February 15 and July 15 each year. It was asked if the amounts could be available on the website for each state.

Mike then asked for the results of the election. New Directors would be Thad Fleming, Juan Reyes, Dale Montgomery and Eileen Stein.

Barbara Ray then asked to talk about help for clubs to host the National Finals. There needed to be seed money for any committees to request. It was suggested from the floor that a committee be formed to develop a plan to make a recommendation for both boards to vote on. Members present wanted assurance that this matter would be considered by the board of Directors. It was stated that it would be given to the Board to consider.

Bruce Fogt asked that all handlers remember to wear pink the next day and made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. Motion was 2nd and approved.

Promotional Money Available Thru ABCA

Promotional Money is available upon request from any ABCA member to use to promote the working border collie in their area. Events often include trials, clinics, fun days, school projects, etc. A written request stating what your request is for, how it will promote the border collie, and the amount of money requested must be submitted to the office prior to the two deadlines of February 15 and July 15 of each year. Funding for these projects comes from a designated fund at the rate of \$1 per dog registered. Funds are allocated to the state of the breeder (member). Following is the amount available by state as of November 15, 2010.

Grant funds are also available from the ABCA. These grants often don't fall into a category for promotional funds and are not allocated by state. A Grant Request form is available on the website and the deadline for grant requests is January 15 of each year.

NEW ABCA OFFICERS, DIRECTORS AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS

On October 26, 2010, the 12 directors of the American Border Collie Association, Inc. elected Eileen Stein of Shady Side, MD as President and Emil Luedecke of Zephyr, TX as Vice-President. Patty Rogers was re-elected as Secretary-Treasurer. In late October, Leroy Boyd resigned from the Board. Leroy was one of the founders of the ABCA, and the association is grateful for the years of service he has given to the registry in many capacities. The directors appointed Mike Hanley to replace him as director.

The Board has elected Michele Howard, Liz Hubbard and Mike Hanley to serve on the Executive Committee along with Eileen and Emil. The other committees and their members are:

Finance Committee: Emil Luedecke (Chair), Jim Swift

Nominating Committee: Liz Hubbard (Chair), Pearse Ward, Don Helsley

Health & Genetics Committee: Mark Billadeau (Chair), Pearse Ward, Denise Wall, Kate Ash, Amy Coapman, Mike Neary, Sally Lacy, Eileen Stein

Communications Committee: Liz Hubbard (Chair), Eileen Stein

Finals Committee--Sheep: Emil Luedecke (Chair), Michele Howard, Pearse Ward

Finals Committee--Cattle: Norma Stewart (Chair), Juan Reyes, Angie Coker-Sells

State	Amount Available
AB	\$ 489.50
AK	\$ 203.50
AL	\$ 1,541.00
AR	\$ 429.00
AZ	\$ 1,096.50
BC	\$ 348.00
CA	\$ 1,008.00
CO	\$ 240.50
CT	\$ 598.00
DC	\$ 2.00
DE	\$ 55.00
FL	\$ 346.00
GA	\$ 605.00
HI	\$ 4.50
IA	\$ 388.50
ID	\$ 559.50
IL	\$ 696.00
IN	\$ 2,282.00
KS	\$ 350.00
KY	\$ 816.00
LA	\$ 4,743.00
MA	\$ 847.00
MB	\$ 140.00
MD	\$ 240.00
ME	\$ 1,019.00
MI	\$ 974.00
MN	\$ 1,579.50
MO	\$ 1,041.00
MS	\$ 590.50
MT	\$ 897.00
NB	\$ 91.50
NC	\$ 1,363.50
ND	\$ 1,277.50
NE	\$ 1,350.50
NH	\$ 517.50
NJ	\$ 1,002.50
NM	\$ 557.00
NS	\$ 5.00
NV	\$ 527.50
NY	\$ 268.19
OH	\$ 2,766.00
OK	\$ 801.00
ON	\$ 683.00
OR	\$ 891.50
PA	\$ 965.00
PR	\$ 8.00
QC	\$ 429.50
RI	\$ 111.00
SC	\$ 656.50
SD	\$ 574.00
SK	\$ 426.50
TN	\$ 402.00
TX	\$ 1,520.00
UT	\$ 290.50
VA	\$ 1,815.50
VT	\$ 317.00
WA	\$ 406.00
WI	\$ 506.50
WV	\$ 1,250.00
WY	\$ 952.00

Health & Genetics Committee Summary for 2010

By Mark Billadeau, Chair

Eye Clinic – Dr. Nancy Bromberg, DACVO

The eye clinic was held over two days and was organized by Eileen Stein. We requested a summary from Dr. Bromberg of her findings during the clinic.

RESULTS FROM THE EYE CLINIC AT THE 2010 SHEEP HERDING NATIONALS

Total of 200 Border Collies examined

Abnormalities identified:

Eyelid:

Eyelid growth 1

Cornea:

Corneal ulcer (injury): 1

Corneal foreign body with inflammation 1

Scar 3

Corneal cholesterol dystrophy 6

(Possibly secondary to injury)

Persistent pupillary membranes (iris to iris) 2

Lens pigment, no strands 1

Lens opacities

(none suspected to be inherited) 8

Retina

Post-inflammatory chorioretinal scars

One eye: 9

Both eyes:

(extensive: can't rule-out PRA) 2

Extensive one eye 1

Note: This dog has history of retinal detachment and cataract in the other eye

The owner of the dog with the foreign body in its eye was not aware of it.

The Health and Genetics Committee is currently working with two research groups: Dr. Mark Neff and Dr Susan Taylor/Dr Jim Mickelson. The work with Dr. Mark Neff has involved coordination of sample collection for a few genetic research projects. Drs Taylor and Mickelson requested funding of a research proposal this year which was approved by the Board of Directors. Below are overviews of each researcher's projects.

Dr. Mark Neff

Our association with Dr. Mark Neff started while he was at UC Davis. He has since left UC Davis for a new research position which he describes.

"My research has now moved with me as I head a new program at two non-profit research institutes. I am the Director of the Program in Canine Health and Performance; our mission is to leverage state-of-the-art genomic technologies (established at the Translational Genomics Research Institute -- TGen --in Phoenix, AZ) to accelerate discovery in the dog. To give a sense of the scale being brought to bear, our labs at TGen have increased eight-fold the DNA sequence data that exists for the dog, and this has been achieved in just the past two months! The discoveries we are making in the dog -- principally in the areas of cancer and neurological disease -- will be translated for the mutual benefit of the canine and human patients who share these disease etiologies (the transformative, translational work is being driven out of the Van Andel Institute in Grand Rapids, MI). As an Investigator at both TGen and Van Andel, my role is to engage human geneticists, cancer researchers, and genome scientists to drive research and discovery in the dog. Our projects in the Border Collie are now an integral part of this paradigm."

Epilepsy – Dr. Mark Neff/Dr. Steve Hamilton (UCSF)

Our association with Dr. Mark Neff started with his research on epilepsy. This project is in collaboration with Dr. Steve Hamilton at UCSF. Dr. Neff has summarized the status of this project.

"For the epilepsy study, we had collected DNA samples from roughly 60 affected dogs. We typed these dogs on nearly 60,000 DNA markers, and compared the genetic profiles to a roughly equal number of healthy control Border Collies. Unlike the hearing loss study, which had only about half the sample size of this study, the epilepsy genome-wide mapping failed to reveal and 'hits' with statistical significance. In fact, there were not really any signals that were even suggestive of positive association. This does not indicate that epilepsy is not hereditary. There are many reasons why a signal might not have been detected. For instance, it is possible that there are many genes that contribute a modest amount of risk for idiopathic seizures; the size of the cohort we studied would not allow us to detect genes of subtle effect. Both the hearing loss and epilepsy studies are ongoing as part of a collaboration with Steven Hamilton's laboratory at UCSF. We chose to share data because of Steve's work on noise phobia in the Border Collie breed. By collaborating, we were able to have a common set of 'healthy control' dogs."

Continued progress towards identifying the possible genetic sources of epilepsy will require more samples. A free sample collection kit (saliva) is now available for submission of samples for this research. To receive a sample collection kit contact Alyson deWalle (Alyson.deWalle@vai.org) in Dr. Neff's research group.

Early On-Set Adult Deafness – Dr. Mark Neff

While working on the initial testing in the epilepsy study, Dr Mark Neff decided to look into another likely inherited (and recently recognized) disease of early on-set adult deafness, where adult dogs were losing their hearing between 4 and 8 years of age. Dr. Neff outlines the status of this project below.

"The Border Collie Hearing Loss Study

A collaborative effort between The Van Andel Institute, the University of California, San Francisco, and TGen

We had heard of hearing loss in Border Collies. Many people in the community attributed this to age-related decline. The range of

onset suggested this might be more than age-related decline; some of the dogs were only a few years of age.

We collected samples from owners who said their dogs had lost their hearing (but had heard fine in younger years).

Many noticed as their dogs missed commands on the field. This worsened over time, and was not correctable, arguing against a 'biddability' problem.

We collected 32 affected dogs and 32 unaffected controls. We generated DNA profiles of both sets of dogs using 50,000 DNA markers. We asked if there was any marker pattern that was shared in the affected dogs that was either absent or present at a lower frequency in the healthy control dogs.

We identified a strong genetic signal emanating from a discrete region of the dog genome. This suggested several important points. First, the hearing loss was likely tied to at least one gene variant in the Border Collie gene pool (the hearing loss was inherited). Second, all affected dogs had exactly the same genetic signature, indicating that hearing loss traced back in time to a single ancestor. Third, some dogs were recent imports, suggesting the mutation is ancient, pre-dating the separation of geographic bloodlines. Fourth, all dogs had the signature on both copies of the DNA, indicating that the hearing loss was recessive. This further indicated that both the sire and dam of an affected dog carried (at least) the causal gene. In short, we have identified one locus that is necessary if not sufficient for adult onset hearing loss in the Border Collie.

What we do not yet understand is considerable. We do not know what fraction of the dogs with this signature will indeed go deaf. It could be 100%, it may be 1%. A survey of more dogs, followed by hearing tests throughout the life of 'at-risk' dogs is needed to address this question.

We also do not know if there are more genes that conspire to create hearing loss. The variable age of onset leaves open the possibility that other genes might specify earlier or late onset for hearing loss (or change the rate of hearing loss). We can test this if we collect additional affected dogs.

The ultimate goal of this research is a DNA test that will allow breeders to reduce hearing loss in their bloodlines. This test could also be used to identify young dogs that may be at increased risk for hearing loss.

Samples from dogs for which the owner suspects their could be diminished hearing loss, even in old dogs, is important for validating and refining the successful mapping result. Samples from healthy controls, both young and old, are important as well. The former will provide a chance to survey the gene pool to estimate the frequency of the mutation. By identifying young dogs that are at risk, and offering free hearing tests every six months to the owners of these dogs will permit better defining the onset and rate of loss. Older dogs that have retained hearing will serve as the best possible controls."

The Health & Genetics Committee and members within the working Border Collie community have been working with Dr. Neff to hold BAER testing and sample collection clinics at trials. The number of free clinics has been increasing. Any trial host who is willing and interesting in having a free clinic at their trial should contact a member of the Health & Genetics Committee.

Border Collie Collapse – Dr. Sue Taylor (U Saskatchewan) & Dr. Jim Mickelson (U Minnesota)

The ABCA was contacted by Drs Taylor and Mickelson for funding of a study on a possible Border Collie variant of Exercise Induced Collapse identified in Labrador Retrievers. These researchers had been contacted by Border Collie owners with dogs that had similar symptoms to the inherited disease EIC they were studying in labs. The Border Collies were tested for the genetic mutation that produces EIC but were not found to have this gene. The proposal was for funding extensive testing of "affected" and "normal" to determine the clinical symptoms of this syndrome which does not fit the clinical definition of heat stroke. Dr. Taylor has provided a status report of their project.

"We have completed our assessment of the physical, hematologic, biochemical, blood gas and acid base changes that occur in normal Border collies during 10 minutes of strenuous exercise. We evaluated 10 normal exercise tolerant Border collies chasing a ball and 5 normal exercise tolerant Border collies herding sheep. Physical and metabolic changes occurring during and after exercise seem at first glance to be very similar to those that occur in other breeds during intense exercise, but data analysis is not complete.

We have also evaluated a number of dogs with Border Collie collapse (BCC) using each of our strenuous exercise protocols (ball chasing and sheep herding). Because it appears that there may be significant variability in the manifestations of BCC in affected dogs, it is important that we evaluate more affected dogs to get a complete and accurate picture of BCC. We are continuing to recruit affected dogs to participate in both of our exercise protocols. The ball chasing dogs can be evaluated anytime at the WCVN - to be arranged on a case by case basis with Dr. Taylor. Because the sheep herding protocol must be done off-site, extensive coordination is required to evaluate dogs using this exercise protocol. We plan to arrange evaluation of additional affected sheep herding dogs during one session in Spring 2011 (we limited numbers in June 2010 because we were not yet sure if we had funding).

All of the affected Border collies we have evaluated thus far have exhibited significant gait and mentation abnormalities during or after exercise. We will use our videotapes together with the results of questionnaires collected from owners of dogs with BCC to describe and characterize the abnormalities that occur during BCC episodes as well as to summarize information such as signalment, age of onset, trigger activities, factors associated with collapse, progression over time, known affected relatives, etc.

Data analysis is still underway, but thus far we have not identified an obvious physical, metabolic, muscular, or cardiac reason for the collapse episodes in dogs with BCC - we have, however, ruled out many established reasons for exercise intolerance in dogs. Based on clinical observations we are most suspicious that BCC will be an inherited central nervous system disorder."

Drs Taylor and Mickelson are seeking additional participants for their study. Additional information on this study (including how to participate and a video of a Border Collie during an episode) can be found at:

<http://www.cvm.umn.edu/vbs/faculty/Mickelson/lab/EIC/bordercollieEIC/home.html>

AMERICAN BORDER COLLIE ASSOCIATION, INC.
STATEMENTS OF REVENUES, EXPENSES, AND OTHER CHANGES IN NET ASSETS-MODIFIED
CASH BASIS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED FEBRUARY 28, 2010

	2010	2009
REVENUES		
Annual memberships	\$ 19,861	\$ 23,103
Lifetime memberships	13,731	16,954
Registration fees	171,706	122,066
Transfer fees	23,392	19,441
Miscellaneous	4,324	3,587
Investment Income	<u>15,196</u>	<u>19,019</u>
Total Revenues	\$248,210	\$204,170
EXPENSES		
Program services		
Prize monies awarded	16,000	15,900
Promotional support to members	15,750	19,050
Research support	2,421	2,427
Trials sponsorship	<u>10,000</u>	<u>10,180</u>
Total program services	44,171	47,557
General and Administrative		
Advertising	1,150	2,011
Annual meeting expenses	1,735	— 3,732
Bank fees	1,591	898
Computer and technical support	9,647	10,500
Depreciation and amortization	2,112	3,944
File storage	5,507	822
Insurance and bonding	1,478	1,270
Investment fees	6,208	6,743
Office supplies	2,318	4,153
Postage and delivery	8,124	11,372
Printing and reproduction	2,104	
Professional fees	3,485	9,690
Rent	3,300	3,900
Secretarial fees	62,761	74,861
Telephone	5,748	4,949
Travel	2,491	3,605
Other office expenses	<u>14,586</u>	<u>5,146</u>
Total gen & admin.	\$134,345	\$147,596
Total expenses	\$178,516	\$195,153
OTHER INCOME		
Realized (loss)/gain on investment	(101)	330
Other income	<u>1,897</u>	<u>4,894</u>
Total other income	1,796	5,224
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	71,490	14,241
NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>655,498</u>	<u>641,257</u>
NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR	\$726,988	\$655,498

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Prize Monies Paid at the National Finals Each Year

- Sheep Finals - \$3000 to the Nursery Top 30 Qualifying
\$5000 to the Open top 50 1st Go Round - \$100 each
\$2000 to the Open top 20 2nd Go Round - \$100 each
\$500 to the Breeder of the Top ABCA registered Nursery and Open dogs
- Cattle Finals - \$500 to the Breeder of the Top ABCA registered Open and Nursery Dogs
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



HALL OF FAME NOMINATIONS DUE IN ABCA OFFICE BY JUNE 1, 2011

Application forms available from the office or online at:

www.americanbordercollie.org

ABCA Member Survey

We'd like to learn more about our members and their thoughts about the ABCA. Can you help us out? Please fill out this survey, fold, stamp, and mail to the office. We hope this will help us improve our services to you and to the breed.

Thank you for your time and assistance. All individual responses will be kept confidential.

1. How many border collies do you currently own? ☐ 1 ☐ 2-5 ☐ 6-10 ☐ More than 10

2. Do you breed border collies? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, how many litters do you breed per year, on average?

☐ Less than 1 ☐ 1 or 2 ☐ 3 to 5 ☐ 6 to 7 ☐ 8 to 10 ☐ More than 10

3. Do you register your border collie(s) with any registries besides ABCA?

☐ ISDS ☐ CBCA ☐ AIBC or NASDS ☐ AKC ☐ Other _____ ☐ No

4. Do you own livestock? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, what kind, and approximately how many head?

Sheep ☐ 1-20 ☐ 21-50 ☐ 51-200 ☐ more than 200

Cattle ☐ 1-20 ☐ 21-50 ☐ 51-200 ☐ more than 200

Goats ☐ 1-20 ☐ 21-50 ☐ 51-200 ☐ more than 200

Other (_____) ☐ 1-20 ☐ 21-50 ☐ 51-200 ☐ more than 200

5. Do you work your border collie(s) on livestock? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6. Do you participate in stockdog trials or herding trials with your border collie(s)?

☐ USBCHA ☐ ASCA or AHBA ☐ AKC ☐ other _____ ☐ No

7. What is your primary purpose for owning your border collie(s)? (If you have more than one purpose, please rank in order of importance, i.e., 1, 2, 3 . . .):

_____ farm or ranch work

_____ breeding

_____ pet or companion

_____ sheepdog or cattledog trials

_____ sports competition (agility, flyball, obedience, etc.)

_____ other _____

8. Which of the following would you like to see the ABCA support? Please rank in order of importance, with 1 being most important, 2 being second, etc., and 0 indicating that you favor no support:

_____ sheepdog National Finals

_____ other sheepdog trials

_____ health/genetic research

_____ public education

_____ other _____

_____ cattledog National Finals

_____ other cattledog trials

_____ border collie rescue

_____ promotion/education for farmers/ranchers

_____ other _____

Please share your thoughts and suggestions about the ABCA (add additional pages if needed):

Name (optional): _____ Email Address (optional): _____