



Ontario Border Collie Club

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The family is growing: puppy Nick meets housemate Olive for the first time.

WANT TO JOIN US?

On September 22, 1984, the Ontario Border Collie Club was formed near King City, Ontario. An enthusiastic group had gathered for a trial near Winchmore farm, and they sat down after supper on Saturday night to draw up the aims and objectives of the new club.

The primary objective of the club is to promote the traditional herding ability of the Border Collie by holding trials and training clinics. The club also encourages obedience and other non-traditional uses of the dog.

It was decided to publish a newsletter a few times each year to keep members up to date on upcoming activities. The club members are mainly farm people with a high regard for and a common interest in the Border Collie. We want to maintain the dog's natural working instinct and hope to prevent it turning into nothing more than another show dog,

If you have an interest in working dogs on stock, or are interested in being an informed spectator at sheep dog trials, please fill out the online membership form and send it along with your cheque to: Kim Gretton, 309 Lorneville Road, Woodville, ON K0M 2T0.

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2018 Newsletter contribution deadlines
Feb 10, June 21, August 31, November 1

Opinions expressed are the opinions of the author(s) and are not necessarily those of the OBCC.

Cover Photo by Christine Koval



From the Editor

The summer is at an end and it has certainly been another hot and dry one here in Ontario (and elsewhere). Concerns about raging forest fires (here and out west) and the drought affecting crops and livestock left us hoping, ardently, for rain. Many of

us experienced the "full of sound and fury, signifying nothing" storms where the thunder threatened, and the lightning promised a deluge. Alas, either it skittered away or delivered a few paltry, frustrating drops. Here's hoping that the fall season is more temperate!

No matter the weather, the trial season was in full swing, with members hosting trials here and traveling to participate or spectate at others. This issue is chock-a-block full of our Ontario trial reports and features from the Kingston Trials, the CBCA Championships (Cyprus Hills, Alberta) and the Moncton Highland Games.

Those of us who were unable to be there in person were able to enjoy the International Sheepdog Trials in Dromore, Ireland vicariously via live feed. We are grateful to Carol Mellon. Through her generosity and filming skills, we witnessed some wonderful handling moments. Jim Cropper, who was a judge at the Kingston trials this year, and his dog Dan had the most amazing single shed and made it look easy.

It's these moments that are inspirational in this sport and are the aspiration of novice handlers too. Every two years, the OBCC presents The Most Promising Novice Handler Award to a novice handler; candidates who exemplify the criteria are chosen through nomination by the members. There are three candidates this year; their nominations appear in the following pages. Please submit your vote to Tracy Hinton per the instructions given. Voting closes on Nov 11.

The Fundraising Committee wish to express their sincere gratitude to all who contributed items for the silent auction and/or volunteered time to help them with sales at the Kingston Sheepdog Trials. There is still merchandise available for purchase: please see the ad on the inside back cover.

We look forward to seeing you at the Triple Crown and the new Falfor and Jimmie's Farm Fall trials. Good sheep to all the competitors!

Michelle & Kris

Message from the Board

Greetings from the Board: Summer is over, and the Fall trial season is upon us. The Triple Crown fast approaches and we look forward to seeing our Club members hosting, competing and volunteering at the events.

On a bright note, we will end our season this year with two new trials taking place the weekend of October 27 & 28 at the farms of Leslie Gamble and Janet Fahey! Thank you to both of you for taking the leap, and we look forward to participating!

Please make a note that this year's Annual General Meeting will take place on Saturday, November 17th at 1:00 pm at the home of Andrea de Kenedy. (Further details will be posted in the Members Only section of the website). If you cannot make it to the meeting in person, please take the time to fill out your voting proxy form under the Members page on the website.

At the end of this year, Tracy Hinton will be stepping down from the Board after serving for five years. The remaining Board members would like to extend our thanks to her for all her support and hard work over this time. It won't be the same without her!

The Board would also like to extend our thanks for the various committees: Newsletter, Trials, Learning & Outreach, and Fundraising for helping the Club to run smoothly! Happy trialing and safe travels to all our members!

Cynthia, Tracy, Kim, Rebecca and Werner



Ontario Border Collie Club

2018 MOST PROMISING NOVICE AWARD

The OBCC Most Promising Novice Handler Award will be given out at this year's AGM in November. This award recognizes novice handlers who demonstrate:

- Good sportsmanship
- A willingness to learn and improve
- Concern for the welfare of stock
- A willingness to volunteer
- Awareness of and respect for the tradition and history of our sport

We received 3 nominations for this award; Pamela Hall, Rebecca Lawrence and Kelly Morrow. Please take the time to read what the nominators had to say about these superb novice handlers on the following page. You may vote for your favourite by sending an email to vicepresidentobcc@gmail.com. We will take votes up to November 11, 2018.

Pamela Hall

I would like to nominate Pamela Hall for the following reasons:

- 2 years ago, before even working her dog Journey (a “pet dog”) she volunteered at many trials helping out in all aspects trying to learn more about the sport, and to help her dog learn more. This is where I first met her.
 - Currently she has started competing in trials with Journey and is doing quite well with her “pet dog” and excelling at the sport.
 - At trials she is supportive of all competitors, and always ensuring that stock are well cared for (she was brought up on a sheep farm)
 - She takes lessons with all the best trainers and coaches to ensure she is up to speed on her new-found love of the sport. You can always find her helping whether it is at the set out, exhaust or in the booth at Kingston or baking pies for those at the trials.
 - She has worked tirelessly this year to ensure the auction/merchandise booth at Kingston would raise funds for the club.
 - I feel that her dedication to the sport, the sheep and supporting the club is a great asset.... (oh and she is fun to work with an added bonus!)
-

I would like to nominate Pam Hall for this award:

- Pam started working her dog just last year but has been an active member from the beginning. I remember sitting with her at a trial answering many questions she had about trialing, trainers, club activities and how to get started.
 - Since then she has been working and training her young dog and attending OBCC trials when her shifts as a fire fighter have allowed. She has worked the pens, helped with set up and done just about anything that helps a trial run smoothly. This year she has also taken on the job of selling OBCC wares at trials.
 - When not working her butt off she has now started to very successfully trial Journey. She has had very good results at her first couple of trials and continues to learn, ask questions and improve her skills. all this with a good-natured smile and good humour. Pam has become a huge asset to our herding community and should be recognized for her efforts.
-

Rebecca Lawrence

I would like to nominate Rebecca Lawrence for this award:

- In addition to her website work, at trials she is helpful, reliable, shows a great deal of respect for other handlers, dogs and livestock.
 - Her enthusiasm for herding is contagious.
-

We think Rebecca comes closest to deserving the most promising novice handler award:

- She works hard at training
 - Participates in and / or helps with events
 - Posts scores and keeps the website
 - Has a long history of interest in sheep herding. Went to Grass Creek as a child.
 - Has concern for the wellbeing of stock. Notices when sheep are tired or hot etc.
-

I would like to nominate Rebecca and think she is a good candidate for several reasons:

- Supports the OBCC by maintaining the website and is club secretary.
 - Good sportsmanship and manners always displayed at trials and events.
 - Performance at trials improving and is actively improving her skills to make the move to Open. She is not complacent with this goal, I am convinced she will make it!
 - I can't remember a trial that I have been at where Rebecca has not been volunteering in some capacity.
-

Kelly Morrow

I would like to nominate Kelly:

- Kelly has jumped into SDT's with both feet, she started with her Novice-Novice dog Dara and now in Pro-Novice with her new dog Spot.
- Kelly is always ready to help at any job, just ask her, she'll help.
- Currently trialing in Pro-Novice with her new dog Spot, Kelly has demonstrated her increasing knowledge of handling and stock management on the field.
- She always demonstrates good sportsmanship, willingness to help, making progress on her handling skills and knowledge of sheep care and welfare.
- I think she is a worthy recipient of the most promising Novice handler award.

Holstein Agro Expo

By Lene Band

Each year Holstein, a small town hosts an international shearing competition. Each year it has grown and added more events to the competition. This was the second year offering an arena trial and the first year they offered a Drop spindle competition and a Sheep-to-Shawl competition.

Many who attend this event are farmers and especially sheep farmers. It was good to be able to show them what a good dog could do on the farm. Many asked questions about training and the purpose of having a dog to help around the farm.

The official trial was on Saturday but for those of us arriving on Friday, there was an unofficial game organized. An open handler was teamed up with a non-open handler and given a set of obstacles to put the sheep through in a set time. Since there were a few novice handlers competing in their first trials, this was a great ice-breaker and way to get to know other handlers. Teams discussed strategies, made plans and got to know each other. What a great way to welcome new handlers. Lots of cheering, laughter and camaraderie.

The weather Saturday morning was clear and not too hot. The sheep, somewhat lively and challenging but fair to the dogs if treated right.

It was great to see many new novice handlers who were participating in their first ever trials. Yes, they were nervous but made to feel very confident and comfortable

by the more experienced handlers. There were some really nice runs by novice handlers and some really beautiful work done by the more experienced open dogs.

It was very exciting to watch the top five combined Open scores finalists compete for the prizes in a run-off. The winner was Viki with her 11-year-old Macy. Second to fifth places were Tracy with Dax, Jim with Charlotte, Carol with Hank and Louise with Tug.

My thanks to Viki and the Holstein crew for hosting this trial. I really look forward to seeing what next year brings as this event seems to grow and grow.



The Winners

Photo by Pamela Hall

NOVICE-NOVICE					
Handler	Dog	Points	Total Time	Chute Time	Placing
Dorian Clark	Violet	12	3.30	1.52	1
Dorian Clark	Celt	12	3.30	1.02	2
Rachel Dawson	Beckett	12	3.30	0.54	3
Lori Ledingham	Carly	11	3.30	1.53	4
Pamela Hall	Journey	10	3.30	1.23	5
Kim McClure	Charlie	9	3.30	0.09	6
Cindy Ghent	Spinner	8	3.30	1.18	7
Lene Band	Quincy	6	3.30	1.12	8
Cindy Ghent	Ryme	6	3.30	0.00	9
Dianne Buist	Shep	6	3.30	0.00	10

PRO-NOVICE					
Handler	Dog	Points	Total Time	Chute Time	Placing
Kevan Gretton	Bud	12	3.30	1.57	1
Lynn Johnston	Eve	12	3.30	1.33	2
Viki Kidd	Bonnie	12	3.30	1.11	3
Carol Guy	Bud	11	3.30	1.47	4
Tracy Hinton	Mead	9	2.53	-	5
Ken Steepe	Mac	9	3.30	2.15	6
Rebecca Lawrence	Key	9	3.30	1.35	7
Helen Knibb	Kelley	9	3.30	-	8
Kim Gretton	Clint	6	3.30	2.00	9
Kelly Morrow	Spot	6	3.30	0.00	10

RANCH					
Handler	Dog	Points	Total Time	Chute Time	Placing
Joanne Unrau	Quin	14	4.00	2.05	1
Victoria Lamont	Dram	12	4.00	3.22	2
Louise Hadley	Kate	9	4.00	2.30	3
Lene Band	Gypsy	3	4.00	-	4
Marie Sawford	Jill	3	4.00	-	5

OPEN 1					
Handler	Dog	Points	Total Time	Chute Time	Placing
Louise Hadley	Tug	18	2.23	1.29	1
Jim Valley	Charlotte	18	2.43	1.47	2
Carol Guy	Will	18	2.49	1.35	3
Carol Guy	Hank	18	3.00	1.36	4
Tracy Hinton	Lad	18	3.17	1.50	5
Cathie Vodden	Rose	18	3.48	2.35	6
Viki Kidd	Macy	18	3.53	1.35	7
Cathie Vodden	Finn	18	3.58	2.46	8
Tracy Hinton	Dax	17	3.26	1.41	9
Viki Kidd	Reed	15	3.08	2.03	10

OPEN 2					
Handler	Dog	Points	Total Time	Chute Time	Placing
Jim Valley	Charlotte	18	2.28	1.46	1
Jim Valley	Twix	18	3.15	1.43	2
Viki Kidd	Macy	17	3.14	1.55	3
Anne Wheatley	Dusk	16	3.30	1.38	4
Tracy Hinton	Dax	16	3.53	2.53	5
Joanne Unrau	Ben	15	3.54	2.11	6
Viki Kidd	Reed	14	4.00	3.06	7
Carol Guy	Hank	14	4.00	1.53	8
Louise Hadley	Tug	13	4.00	1.52	9
Victoria Lamont	Dram	12	4.00	3.10	10



Holstein - Sheep-to-Shawl Competition
Photo by Rebecca Lawrence

Handy Dog Novice Trial

By Susan Moore

It was a beautiful day for the first Novice field trial of the 2017 season. Our host for the 2nd Handy Dog Farm Summer SDT was Victoria Lamont and Jim Valley judged. It was a full day with many new handlers as well as several new dogs.

Pro-Novice had the honour of being first to the post. The sheep moved very nicely as long as they were not pushed. 13 handlers went to the post with Kim Gretton with Clint winning the class. Seven Ranch teams were next with Anne Wheatley with Dusk coming out on top.

It was the first time to the post for many of the 11 Novice-Novice handlers. Jim Valley kindly let handlers leave the post if their dog needed help and encouraged them to continue their run. It was exciting to see how well everyone did. The winning team was new handler Jane Kessler with Wren. Before the second NN run, Jim reminded us that handler and dog are a team and we need to make ourselves more present, especially at the pen. With the first run under our belt, everyone seemed more relaxed. The winning team was Lori Ledingham with Carly.



Jane Kessler and Wren turning the post for the first time

Lunch was a BBQ with host John Lamont cooking up hamburgers and sausages. No one left hungry. Awards were handed out to all the morning class winners as well as the Novice-Novice high combined winner Pamela Hall with Journey. Rachel Dawson, a student of Viki Kidd's, generously donated a brass shepherd's whistle to be awarded to the most promising Novice-Novice handler. It was awarded to Chris Lucas who Jim Valley felt made the most improvement over the two classes for the day.

I offered to help in the pens for the afternoon runs. The nice pen set up and cooperative sheep made my job easy. The great work by the set-out crews made the afternoon runs move smoothly. Kelly Morrow and Spot won Pro Novice II while Kevan and Bud won Ranch II.



*Ranch Handlers meeting with Judge Jim Valley
All article photos by Susan Moore*

Global Pet Foods, Laurelwood Shopping Centre, Waterloo, generously donated two beautiful gift baskets. They were awarded to both the high-combined Pro-Novice and Ranch and were won by Kelly Morrow with Spot and Anne Wheatley with Dusk, respectively.

Congratulations to all the winners and big thank you to our hosts and everyone who helped put on such a successful trial.

Hope to see everyone at the next trial.



Dianne Buist and Shep turning the post.

Handy Dog Novice SDT Scores

Novice I		
Handler	Dog	Score
Jane Kessler Copeman	Wren	62
Pamela Hall	Journey	59
Lisa McPherson	Grace	53
Joyce Fredericks	Mairi	44
Lori Ledingham	Carly	44
Chris Lucas	Twig	38
Lene Band	Quincy	27
Rachel Dawson	Beckett	21

Pro Novice I		
Handler	Dog	Score
Kim Gretton	Clint	69
Lynn Johnston	Eve	65
Kevan Gretton	Bud	65
Carol Guy	Bud	62
Kelly Morrow	Spot	58
Rebecca Lawrence	Key	40
Catherine Rae	Glen	37

Ranch I		
Handler	Dog	Score
Anne Wheatley	Dusk	72
Kristin Bryant	Bea	70
Victoria Lamont	Dram	67
Joanne Unrau	Quin	60
Anne Wheatley	Dan	53
Marie Sawford	Jill	43

Novice II		
Handler	Dog	Score
Lori Ledingham	Carly	65
Joyce Fredericks	Mairi	53
Pamela Hall	Journey	53
Jane Kessler Copeman	Wren	53
Lisa McPherson	Grace	49
Rachel Dawson	Beckett	41
Lene Band	Quincy	14

Pro Novice II		
Handler	Dog	Score
Kelly Morrow	Spot	71
Rebecca Lawrence	Key	66
Michelle Taliana	Blake	52
Kim Gretton	Clint	52
Lene Band	Penny	50
Tracy Hinton	Mead	43
Lynn Johnston	Eve	42

Ranch II		
Handler	Dog	Score
Kevan Gretton	Bud	77
Joanne Unrau	Quin	65
Marie Sawford	Jill	62
Anne Wheatley	Dusk	54
Anne Wheatley	Dan	49

80 Acres SDT Scores

Open 1		
Handler	Dog	Score
Barbara Ray	Grant	81
Robin French	Cain	71
Mich Ferraro	Puppa	66
Amanda Milliken	Dorey	60
Amanda Milliken	Hazel	59
Lori Cunningham	Matt	59
Louise Hadley	Tug	58
Maria Amodei	Drum	57
Leslie Scruggs	Rex	54
Cy Peterson	Erin	53

Open 2		
Handler	Dog	Score
Marianna Shreeder	Amy	86
Joe Haynes	Pepper	80
Amanda Milliken	Howell	79
Amanda Milliken	Dorey	73
Mary Minor	Tane	72
Michelle Brothers	Flo	70
Linda Tesdahl	Glyn	69
Beverly Lambert	Lee	68
Nancy Obernier	Nell	67
Mary Minor	Feist	66

Shepherds Crook Labour Day SDT Scores

Open 1		
Handler	Dog	Score
Christine Koval	Olive	98
Wendy Villareal	Cap	94
Fiona Robertson	meG	91
Mary Thompson	Jake	91
Roger Millen	Mattie	91
Lorna Savage	Tyler	89
Heather Millen	Lass	88
James Valley	Twix	86
Mary Thompson	Teagan	84
Nathalie Labelle	Mia	84

Open 2 (Double Lift)		
Handler	Dog	Score
Cathie Vodden	Finn	110
Mary Thompson	Teagan	107
Mary Thompson	Jake	103
Mary Thompson	Paris	93
Wendy Villareal	Cap	90
Christine Koval	Jim	83
Stacey Rember	Hawkeye	82
James Valley	Charlotte	77

80 Acres SDT

By Michelle Taliana



80 Acres

All article photos by Michelle Taliana

80 Acres began on Saturday morning at 7:30 am. The course was 10 minutes, a left-hand drive, pen and split of the four sheep. The first dog in was Lori Cunningham's Matt. He lifted the sheep and worked really hard on the fetch as the sheep were not a cohesive group. It was a group of four

yearlings. It took Matt 4 minutes to get the sheep to the post. Matt completed the drive. He and Lori got to the pen however ran out of time. Matt was followed by Dave Young's Pic. I found this ironic as there was a nice litter of Matt/Pic pups a few months ago.

Lots of dogs struggled with these sheep. Barbara Ray and Grant had a good run and completed the course with an excellent and speedy pen and split. Their score was an 81 which put them in the lead. It ended up that no one could beat that score in Open 1.



Mary Minor and Feist

For Open 2, there were changes to the course. The post was moved a little further up the field, away from the judges' wagon for a better turn at the post. The setup was moved closer, all which made the outrun a little less. The course time was 9 and 1/2 minutes and only three sheep. This was a good decision as most of the groups of four

yearlings didn't want to stay together in Open 1. There were hopes of much better runs. It was a left-hand-drive, shed and then pen. There were more scores and handlers remained positive. There were lots of comments about the sheep. The yearlings were described as in good shape, fit and not having much respect for dogs. One handler described them as healthy, sassy sheep.



Amanda and Dorey

A trial is not a trial without a few difficult sheep. While sitting under the handlers' tent, one yearling decided to avoid going to the exhaust and ended up trying to join us under the tent. Amanda sprung out of her chair and single-handedly grabbed the yearling and put it in a sitting position, so someone could come and get the sheep. While holding the sheep, she said she didn't want to get her pants dirty as she had to run her dog soon. We all got a good chuckle. Another handler mentioned we should have had a special sheep wrangler's award. There were a few good contenders for the award.

The last run in Open 2 was Marianna Schreeder and Amy. They had a great run and achieved a score of 86 which was the winning run for Open 2. Second place was Joe Haynes and Pepper with a score of 80. The combined overall winner was Barbara Ray and Grant.

As tough as the sheep were to run, I believe all had a good time and enjoyed the challenge. Some handlers mentioned that they learned what they needed to work on with their dogs. I'm sure there was some relief when handlers were advised that ewes would be paired with the yearlings at the Kingston Sheep Dog Trial at Grass Creek.

Moncton Highland Games

By Carol Guy

Travelling with friends is always terrific, especially when you can combine visiting friends and family with some sheepdog work. Anne Wheatley and I travelled to New Brunswick and Nova Scotia in June and spent lots of time eating seafood and driving to some of the places I love. Our trip included entering the time trial in downtown Moncton at the Highland Games.

The trial was held on a fenced ball diamond with a warning track. The sheep were housed in a livestock trailer to the upper left side of the diamond. Hilary Flower did most of the set out. She lives four hours away from Moncton, just outside Lunenburg N.S. She generously provided and transported the sheep to the trial for the event – amazing!

Fred and Anne Hamilton from Onslow, N.S. (two hours south of Moncton) organized the trial. They took all the entries, kept track of the points and times and they also transported the obstacles, pens, a sound system and water troughs - awesome!!

The sheep were walked from left to right across the top of the course from the trailer to the set-out point where a small petting zoo was just on the other side of the fence. The draw back to the cow, donkey goats and horses got increasingly difficult as the runs went on, making for some tough starts to runs or dogs unable to pick up the sheep off the fence where they preferred to be.

The fetch was from the set-out point through a large Maltese Cross type of structure toward the handlers' post. After the sheep exited that, the handler left the post and worked with the dog to turn the sheep counterclockwise through the same obstacle. The dog, sheep and handler

then proceeded straight from those panels across to the right where a small raised footbridge - "Bridge over Troubled Water"- was the next challenge. It proved difficult because it was narrow and a large musical purple jumping castle was visible to the sheep through the fence when they trotted toward it. Successful runs meant keeping a steady pressure on the sheep; pushing them resulted in a loss of points because the sheep tended to scatter around the bridge and time was wasted regathering. Then all headed to back towards the set-out point where the next obstacle was the Y chute. Once the chute was negotiated, the dog had to pick the sheep up quickly at the exit point and the handler proceeded quickly...most of us ran... to the pen to keep the sheep from running back to the petting zoo. Holding the sheep off the pen until the handler had the gate open and rope in hand led to several successful pens with good scores and fast times.

What a great start to a vacation – working dogs with old friends and new. We had lots of laughs in a very relaxed atmosphere. I was amazed at how well all the dogs managed with all the pipe bands, constant generator noises, yelling people and music in the background. I ran Bud for the first time in a trial and he kept his head and won the first go in PN; the host, Fred Hamilton, won the second PN go around. There were lots of nice working dogs there and everyone helped with announcing to keep the crowd informed about the dogs and the handlers. We all stayed after to help tear down and pack up. Many, many thanks to all who made it such a fun day – Fred and Anne Hamilton, Hilary Flower, Heather Soper and Paula Reardon.



[Nathalie Labelle's] Mia at the chute



*Fred Hamilton and Cap
All article photos by Paula Reardon*

Kingston Sheep Dog Trials: A Personal Perspective

By Kris Kiviaho

The 31st Annual Grass Creek Sheepdog trials ending with a dramatic tie for first place honours between long time handler, Barbara Ray with her nursery dog Grantham (Grant), and first time at Kingston competitor, Dianne Deal with her dog Sway. The tie was broken on highest outwork points: Barbara Ray with Grant was the Champion and Dianne Deal with Sway was Reserve Champion.



Reserve Champion Sway

Champion Grant

Photos by Kris Kiviaho

I attended my first Grass Creek trial in 2006 and was immediately hooked. I spend a great deal of my time at the trials trying to capture the perfect photos. The opportunity to photograph these amazing dogs, and the friendships that have developed over my years of attending, brings me back every year. One of my first memories of Grass Creek was at the end of the day when all the sheep were let out to graze and seeing a dachshund 'herding' them along. Kate Broadbent's Hummer was a real hit with all the spectators!



2006 Kris Kiviaho

My first Grass Creek Trial in 2006
Photo by Kris Kiviaho

We always report on the handlers and dogs with the trial reports, I thought I'd take a different view and ask some people what brought them there for the first time or what was their most memorable moments.

Randy Scott*, a fixture at the Grass Creek trials booth and a long-time volunteer, said it was his relationship with his dear friend Karen [Curtis] that got him involved in the first place. When I asked what his most memorable moment was, he laughingly replied it was when the sheep decided to head to the river and young Hamish had to swim out to retrieve it.

Dave Young is not only a long-time competitor but is always the man on the spot. He remembers the time a wolf was watching the trial while Maria Mick was on her way through the drive panels. This year, much to the enjoyment of the crowd,

Dave gallantly offered a ride to Leslie Scruggs from Mississippi when her dog Sipsey had some issues with the very ornery sheep. "Going my way darlin?" was met with a "Why yes, I am" and applause from the crowd.



Dave Young with Leslie Scruggs
Photo by Kris Kiviaho

Joe Haynes, who has been attending the Kingston trials for about 5 years, flies in from Washington State. He enjoys the level of competition, the fact there are two big trials over two weeks (the other being 80 Acres) and the opportunity to compete in a double lift. When asked what brings him back, he replied – "It's the people".



Joe Haynes and Pepper

Photo by Kris Kiviaho

At the special viewing area for people with mobility issues, I had conversation with Allan Gravelle, who has been attending the trials for more than twenty years. While he doesn't have a farm, he loves watching the dogs work the sheep. He has a great admiration for the working border collie.

Another gentleman, sitting on his walker by the fence, had his camera gear set up for the next great shot. He's been attending the trials for the past three years, coming down from the Pembroke area and marvels at the competition. When asked why he comes, he smiled and replied – "the dogs."

Lori Cunningham, a long-time competitor, replied that this is her favourite trial of the year. It is well organized, and the crowd is special. One of her fondest memories was the trial where she had Riff and Tess in the double lift final.



Lori and Matt

Photo by Kris Kiviah

Behind the scenes, it takes a great deal of commitment to ensure that the more than six hundred sheep are well taken care of. Mike Crellian gave some insight into the task. "This is my third year in the pens. I can't really say I have a most memorable moment in the pens. We all just aim to please the handlers by giving out a consistent group of sheep that are sound to walk and look good to view. We really don't have one job. We are a team. Hamish and Sandra work at moving the grazes and bring the sheep up. I then sort through the bunch watching for lameness or anything that I think could injure the ewe or make a bad run. To us the trial is all about the sheep. We want them to go back the same as they came."

Each competitor has a role to play in the handling of the sheep. After their Open run, the handler and dog are required to work the exhaust pen for the next competitor. Many of the competitors are also working the pens doing the set out to ensure that every handler and dog has a similar experience.



Judge Jim Cropper, Champion Barbara Ray with Grant, Judge Shirley Cropper, Reserve Champion Dianne Deal with Sway
Photo by Michelle Lawrence

The judges this year were a couple from Lancashire, England – Jim and Shirley Cropper. The Croppers are both recognized top handlers. Jim has over 50 years' experience trialing and winning competitions and has competed for England in the International over 30 times. He was a commentator on the BBC series "One Man and His Dog" and had won that competition running a brace. Shirley has been competing over 20 years, has been on the English National Team several times and amongst her many trials successes also has won the "One Man and His Dog" competition. Jim and Shirley each have judged trials in several different countries.

Jim took over some of the commentating duties and the crowd responded enthusiastically to his colourful comments. When describing the course from the handler's point of view, he referred to the drive panels as the 'obstacle illusion'. His animated commentary had the crowd in stitches as he 'oohed and awed' when a handler or dog made a good move ... or maybe not such a good move!

For the many people that I had a chance to speak to, the Grass Creek trials are a wonderful experience that always brings them back for more.



The Prize Table

Photo by Kris Kiviah



The committee board of Amanda Milliken, Karen Curtis and Randy Scott govern the Kingston trials in cooperation with the City of Kingston and all the numerous volunteers. Many of the volunteers are OBCC members. Thank you all! Ed

At the Double Lift Award Presentation: Amanda hugs Sue Schoen as Randy and Karen look on.
Photo by Michelle Lawrence

CBCA Championships

By Tara Dier

The Canadian Border Collie Association sponsors an annual Championship each year. Many of you have attended the event when it has been held in conjunction with the Grass Creek trial and at Kevan and Kim Gretton's Shepherd's Crook trial. Always a class event.

This year the event was held in Cypress Hills, Alberta in late August. Again, a class event. Three of us from Ontario attended: Amanda Milliken, John Palmer, and me. About 90 dogs ran, many Western Canadian dogs but also a significant number of American dogs.



Cypress Hills is in the southeast corner of Alberta and is very different from Ontario fields. The spaces are vast and much of it is unfenced; the hills are low and lovely. This summer a drought had taken hold, and the colours were yellows and browns. The sky should have been a spectacular blue, but the terrible wildfires in British Columbia sent an evil smoke our way causing

stinging eyes and throats for all. Difficult times for our western colleagues.

Chris Jobe of Canine Solutions hosted the event with skill and hospitality. The sheep were tough, as legend has it western sheep are, but they were a healthy and handsome lot. This was my first exposure to them and my new dog Kip struggled mightily on his first run but learned much and moved them around the course more successfully on his second run. It seemed to me that the sheep sorted out the dogs quite fairly.

The Double Lift Final posed significant challenges for the dogs, with the second set out on the left being difficult to see. At the end of the day Scott Glen and Alice were the winners, with Amanda and Howell Reserve. Nursery Champion was Scott Glen and Jill, with Peter Gonnet and Gus Reserve.

All article photos courtesy Alanna Leach Photography

Amanda and Howell



Tara's Kip

John and Mara



An American in Woodville

By Christine Koval



Christine and Olive shedding

Photo by Carol Guy

It was my first time attending a trial at Kevan and Kim Gretton's Shepherd's Crook Farm in Woodville, Ontario and I must say that it exceeded all of my expectations. As I approached the farm, what first caught my eye was the beautiful tree lined driveway welcoming guests like a scene out of a movie...complete with a manicured lawn and lovely landscaping. The Grettons, including many of their children and grandchildren, were wonderful hosts and went above and beyond in every aspect throughout the weekend.



Tom Hoerber's Quinn

Photo by Christine Koval

The trial field is tricky with a good bit of space to the fence line on the left of the handlers post (those of us with old dogs or fence runners notice things like that and plan accordingly). In Open 1, we ran four of the farm's commercial whiteface sheep and ended doing split, pen and single.

Open 2 provided an extra special treat as we all got to do a double gather and try our hand at the international shed (3 collared sheep out of 12 to sort off and pen). Cathie Vodden and Finn were the only ones to complete the course and won! So many of us got down to the dreaded "don't ever leave yourself with one sheep" international shed and failed to cut off that last single before the clock ran out. What a wonderful experience for all of us, though. The thing I enjoyed most was the fellowship and hearing everyone cheering on the other competitors. It is definitely a trial I will return to.



Andrea de Kenedy and Moss

Photo by Christine Koval

Thank you to Kevan, Kim, their family, Tracy Hinton (organizer), Paul Tucker (judge), Rebecca Lawrence (secretary/score runner), and all the volunteers who helped set up/tear down, scribe, set out, exhaust and just help whenever needed. It was an exceptional trip to Woodville for me.



Viki Kidd and Macy

Photo by Christine Koval

Good Companions

By Patrick Gosselin

With less Novice trials on the calendar this year, many handlers were looking forward to getting their dogs out on the field, some for the first time. The Good Companion Trial definitely is challenging with its relatively small field, many pressure points and mix of ewes/lamb to maneuver through gates and chutes. However, the atmosphere is more like friends gathering together with their dogs to practice and catch up on things.

This year's edition was marked by newcomers. In N/N, Matthieu Gingras' Queen did pretty good with a first place in the morning and a second place in the afternoon. Grant Calder's Dave (8), got in the car and left the farm for the first time to demonstrate his capacity to work in a trial

setting. John Steele and Sweep took a day off the sheep farm to trial as well.

In P/N, a second run was necessary to determine first place. François Leblanc won the morning run while Carol Guy took the honors in the afternoon.

As with any trial, many volunteers were required for things to run smoothly. Cathie Vodden took care of the pen, Cynthia Palmer and Andrea de Kenedy made sure sheep were set up properly for the outrun, Victoria Lamont judged, and Teresa Castonguay hosted. The day ended with a second round to the oversized potluck and a couple of drinks.



Francois with his PN (am) first place prize!
Photo by Rebecca Lawrence

PRO NOVICE AM		
Handler	Dog	Score
Francois LeBlanc	Joy	43
Leslie Gamble	Switch	40
Leslie Gamble	Switch	62
Francois LeBlanc	Joy	62
Rebecca Lawrence	Key	48
Carol Guy	Bud	48
Andre deKenedy	Storm	37
Helen Knibb	Kelly	36
Michelle Taliana	Blake	30

} Run-Off
} Tie

NOVICE NOVICE AM		
Handler	Dog	Score
Matthieu Gingras	Queen	48

PRO NOVICE PM		
Handler	Dog	Score
Carol Guy	Bud	56
Francois LeBlanc	Joy	53
Helen Knibb	Mirk	52
Leslie Gamble	Switch	50
Michelle Taliana	Blake	47
Carol Guy	Craig	36

NOVICE NOVICE PM		
Handler	Dog	Score
Jane Kessler	Wren	43
Matthieu Gingras	Queen	36
Grant Calder	Dave	21



2018 OBCC EVENTS

You'll want to mark the following dates on your calendar so that you don't miss these events:

September 29 to October 1

October 2 to 4

October 5 to 7

October 27

October 28

November 17

Fall Triple Crown SDT: Swaledale, Blackstock

Fall Triple Crown SDT: Shepherds Crook, Woodville

Fall Triple Crown SDT: Indian River, Village of Indian River

ForFar Open SDT: Portland

Jimmie's Farm Novice SDT: Elgin

Annual General Meeting

Watch the website for more details!



Ontario Border Collie Club

Thank you!

Thank you for your generous donation(s) to our silent auction and/or volunteer time spent helping us in the booth. With your support we have had a successful silent auction and good sales at Grass Creek, Kingston Sheepdog Trials, 2018. Through generous donations and support we can continue to contribute to the ongoing functions of the Club.

Sincerely,

Pamela Hall & Tania Costa
FUNDRAISING AND MERCHANDISE COMMITTEE

AND **The Executive of the OBCC**

NEW OBCC MERCHANDISE FOR 2018

\$30 Front/Back Decal T-shirt

\$20 Embroidered T-shirts

\$35 Embroidered Golf shirts

\$45 Zippered Hoodies

\$20 Ball Caps

\$15 Stock Sticks

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Available for purchase at the 3 Triple Crown Trials, or contact Pamela Hall: email: pmhall22@bell.net • 647-669-6063

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