



# Ontario Border Collie Club

**HOLSTEIN AGRO EXPO**

**HANDY DOG NOVICE SDT**

**LEARNING & OUTREACH: PIPERDOWN PRACTICE DAY**

**K9 SPORTS FEST SDT**

**NEW OWNERS 80 ACRES**

**RANDOM THOUGHTS AT KINGSTON SDT**

**GOOD COMPANIONS NOVICE SDT**

**LEARNING & OUTREACH: PENNING PRACTICE DAY**

**INAUGURAL HANDY DOG OPEN SDT**

**AN AMERICAN IN ONTARIO: FALL TRIAL SERIES**

**FORFAR OPEN SDT**

**JIMMIE'S FARM NOVICE SDT**

**CBCA CHAMPIONSHIPS**

**ADVENTURES IN WORMING**



**SUMMER/FALL**

**2019**

## WANT TO JOIN US?

**Website:** <https://ontariobordercolliclub.com/obcc-home>

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.

### 2019 CLUB OFFICERS

#### PRESIDENT

Tara Dier

[presidentobcc@gmail.com](mailto:presidentobcc@gmail.com)

#### VICE PRESIDENT

Victoria Lamont

[vicepresidentobcc.com](mailto:vicepresidentobcc.com)

#### TREASURER

Kim Gretton

[treasurerobcc@gmail.com](mailto:treasurerobcc@gmail.com)

#### SECRETARY

Rebecca Lawrence

[secretaryobcc@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryobcc@gmail.com)

#### DIRECTOR

Janet Fahey

[directorobcc@gmail.com](mailto:directorobcc@gmail.com)

#### WEBMASTER:

Rebecca Lawrence

[obccwebsite@gmail.com](mailto:obccwebsite@gmail.com)

### NEWSLETTER

#### EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

**ART DIRECTOR/DESIGN:** Michelle Lawrence

**CONTENT EDITOR:** Kris Kiviaho

[obcceditor@gmail.com](mailto:obcceditor@gmail.com)

2020 Newsletter contribution deadlines to be announced  
3 Issues planned: Winter/Spring; Spring/Summer; Summer/Fall

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

*Cover Photo: Mike Crellian & Elle at Indian River  
by Amanda Milliken*

## From the Editor ~

Our Ontario trial season is over and winter weather is looming. It's time to put the last issue of 2019 to bed.

As you can see from the cover, we have made a few changes to the Newsletter. We, along with the Board, have decided to publish three issues a year, rather than four. This allows flexibility for our contributors to work around busy trial schedules and for personal issues that may arise in our own lives (as I had this year). The consequence of this is a larger issue with a flexible deadline: Winter/Spring, Spring/Summer and Summer/Fall. Also, I have changed the formatting of the interior to facilitate scrolling when reading it with smart phones and tablets.

I am personally grateful to all the people who contribute with articles and photographs at any time and especially so at the 11<sup>th</sup> hour. Kris has done an amazing job sourcing the content for this issue on her own this time around. Although we talked, I simply did not have the time to devote to it for several months. Thank you all for cooperating and for the support.

May you all enjoy a wonderful holiday season with family and friends. I wish you happiness and health and I look forward to seeing you again next year.

*Michelle*



From Tracy Hinton, at  
CBCA Championships:

#### *Kristi Oikawa*

*We had a moving memorial for Kristi prior to the handlers' meeting. The team also put together a Sparkle Award that we all voted on. Louanne Twa won with the most votes.*

*For exemplifying:  
"Fun, Positivity, love of dogs, never showing defeat and always being there."*

### 2019 COMMITTEES

<i>Trials:</i>	Tracy Hinton; Janet Fahey; Carol Guy; John Palmer
<i>Learning &amp; Outreach:</i>	Patrick Gosselin; Jane Kessler Susan Shipton; Anne Wheatley
<i>Fundraising:</i>	Pamela Hall; Tania Costa
<i>Nominating:</i>	Kelly Morrow

## ***Message from the President***

It's been a good year for the OBCC and its members. If trials are the core of the OBCC program, we have never been richer. We started with a new trial at Andrea de Kenedy's farm in May, continued with another new one at Maxville in July, and went to a third new Open trial at Victoria Lamont's farm in early September. And we didn't lose any existing trials this year.

The Championships have been determined and the silverware is ready to be awarded at the AGM on November 17. Those trophies have a lot of history recorded in their engravings and winners can be proud.

In addition, committees and volunteers have worked smoothly and effectively this year. The Trial Committee handled sanctioning and funding requests promptly and calculated points toward the championships in good time. The fundraisers were enormously busy and raised an excellent amount of money to support our programs. The newly reconstituted Learning and Outreach Committee helped organize four events: a discussion day based on the USBCHA's judging videos, and three one-day training events on the field.

Our Newsletter took a necessary break earlier but is back with another excellent issue today.

The year is coming to an end. I have enjoyed my work with the Club. I want to thank all committee members, volunteers and Board members, and I hope next year is just as productive.

Thank you, OBCC members.

*Tara Dier*

### **Notice of Annual General Meeting**

**November 17 at 1 pm at the home of Victoria Lamont, 1446 Berlett's Road, St Agatha ON.**

**Please bring a snack to share.**

The Draft Agenda, Trial Committee, Learning and Outreach Committee and Treasurer's Reports are posted on the Members Only page of the website. Minutes and information on how to attend via teleconference will be posted.

If you cannot attend, please complete the Proxy Form in the Members Only page and return it the secretary by mail, email (see masthead) or hand delivery via someone attending the meeting. If you do not have the Members Only page password, please contact the webmaster.

From the OBCC Learning and Outreach Committee 2019

Our Practice Days have wound up for this season.

We would like to thank the Practice Day participants, all of whom brought an eagerness to learn, a sense of humour, and great food to each event! And thank-you Anne Wheatley, Louise Hadley and Lorna Savage, for volunteering your time to coach participants and help out with sheep management.

We extend a very special thank-you to our hosts. Tracy Hinton, Carol Guy and Tara Dier partnered with the committee this year to make our three Practice Days possible, sharing their farms, their sheep and their knowledge, so that others might learn.

We are grateful to you all.

From Pamela Hall of the Fundraising Committee

Thank you to everyone that supported the club through the year! I will catch up with you in the New Year.

# Holstein Agro Expo Trial

By Lene Holm

July 5, 6

Holstein hosts one of the few arena trials in Ontario in conjunction with the International Sheep Shearing competition. Spectators gather from around the region to watch the dogs, the shearers, spinners and weavers, in other words, all things sheep related.



The field at Holstein

Photo by Carol Guy

Friday evening, after setting up camp, the handlers gathered to have a bit of fun and competition. A few bucks in the hat and the fun began. An open handler was teamed with a novice handler and the race was on!! Each team had to gather as many points as possible by moving the sheep around the course within a set time frame. The big winners were Anne Wheatley and Tom Hoeber. Lots of laughs and cheering, a great way to get to know some new handlers, some mentoring and a lot of familiarization of the dogs to a new venue.



Random sheep shot at Holstein  
Photo by Kim McClure

The weather for the trial Saturday was perfect; warm, clear and calm. The sheep were challenging but very consistent. We witnessed some beautiful runs by our open handlers. The spectators were very impressed by what the dogs were capable of and how useful a good dog could be on the farm.

There was a great turnout of novice handlers too. For some it was their first trial and they were given lots of support and advice from the more experienced handlers.



Carol Guy and her new dog Baz take 3<sup>rd</sup> prize  
Photo by Kim McClure

This was the third year this trial has been sponsored in Holstein and it continues to grow. Our hosts make the event fun and enjoyable for spectators and competitors. There's lots to see, not just the dogs.

My thanks to Vikki, Kevin and crew. It takes a team of great people to put on this event. Until next year...

## Holstein Agro Expo SDT Champions and Reserve Champions

Novice-Novice		Pro-Novice		Ranch	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Dorian Clarke	Ceit	Carol Guy	Bud	Louise Hadley	Kate
Lori Ledingham	Carly	Lene Band	Penny	Anne Wheatley	Dusk
Open 1		Open 2		Open Finals	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Kevan Gretton	Kai	Viki Kidd	Reed	Viki Kidd	Reed
Kevan Gretton	Bud	Kevan Gretton	Kai	Kevan Gretton	Kai



Macy and her son Levi watching the action  
Photo by Kim McClure

# Handy Dog Novice Trial

By Kelly Morrow

July 20, 21

Sunday brought cooler temperatures and no humidity which was a relief after a hot day in Holstein the previous day. The sheep seemed to appreciate it as they moved nicely throughout the day, although I can attest that some were a little reluctant to leave the holding pen.

Our judge for the day was Wendy Villareal.

Viki Kidd and the rest of the set-out crew made the day run smoothly. The Novice-Novice trial had 10 competitors. It was great to see so many stepping up to the post with such great enthusiasm and support for the teams. Novice handler Pamela Hall finished a night shift and headed straight to the trial to run with her dog, Journey.

Lunch was a BBQ potluck with John at the grill. There as a great variety of side dishes to choose from so no one left hungry. Everyone was moving a little slower when they headed back to the fields.

We had a visit from members of the 4H Sheep Club who had lots of questions about what was going on. Hopefully some of them will be on the field one day.

Linda Shantz took many pictures of dogs and handlers which she made available on her Facebook page.

Congratulations to all the winners. One of the most unique prizes were the handmade sheep placemats made by Sheila McMillan.

Thank you to Victoria Lamont and John Straube for hosting the trial and to Vicki Kidd and the set-out crew.

Looking forward to the next one.



All Article Photos by Linda Shantz, with thanks.

## Handy Dog Novice Trial Champions and Reserve Champions

### Novice-Novice 1

Handler	Dog
Tania Costa	Ben
Susan Moore	Skye

### Pro-Novice 1

Handler	Dog
Susan Moore	Gibb
Andrea de Kenedy	Storm

### Ranch 1

Handler	Dog
Kelly Morrow	Spot
Viki Kidd	Bonnie

### Novice-Novice 2

Handler	Dog
Susan Shipton	Gin
Lori Ledingham	Carly

### Pro-Novice 2

Handler	Dog
Susan Moore	Gibb
Andrea de Kenedy	Storm

### Ranch 2

Handler	Dog
Kristen Bryant	Bea
Anne Wheatley	Dusk



# Piperdown Practice Day

By Susan Shipton

July 14

July 14 dawned on a perfect day for the second Learning and Outreach Committee practical event. Originally the Piperdown day was planned for the spring but was postponed due to the torrential rains that flooded the farm fields of southeastern Ontario at that time. The perfect conditions for sheep dog training seem to exist in some netherworld between rain, haying, extreme heat and extreme cold. The second Piperdown date managed to huddle in that sweet spot, but it did not do so without help.



Practice Day Field All Set Photo by Carol Guy

When Carol Guy devised a plan for the day, she thought that participants would appreciate the opportunity to run a trial course. So, in the days before July 14th she, Anne Wheatley, Louise Hadley and Lorna Savage worked to create an ideal learning environment for participants. Fortunately, the Piperdown field was hayed and baled the week before. Electronet was stretched and staked, holes were filled, fetch gates and a pen set up, a handlers' tent erected, and water tubs set out.



Photo by Anne Wheatley

The result was a dry and truly beautiful sheep dogging field!

It had been pre-determined that a field with a minimal draw would provide the best learning experience for participants. This meant that the sheep had to be brought from some distance and similarly, exhausted back a distance. On the day Carol worked behind the scenes to accomplish this task. She was assisted by Lorna Savage who worked field exhaust and Anne who coordinated on the walkie talkie. Louise and Tug did set out.



Photo by Anne Wheatley

For the first half of the day participants used the course to further their training goals. Some people concentrated on their outrun and Louise and Tug were at the ready to re-set the sheep after each try. Some handlers saw the big field as an opportunity to test themselves and their dogs against a Pro Novice length drive, still others worked on shedding, but pretty much everyone worked on the basics; square flanks and the lie down! But no one could resist the co-operative spirit of Carol's sheep at the pen; everyone took advantage of their obliging nature to show their dogs that putting ewes in a box was actually possible.

Before the day participants were sent two video links explaining the finer points of stock handling. One featured Temple Grandin, the other Curt Pate. Both videos address best practices with regard to the management and movement of livestock. And so, the afternoon at Piperdown was devoted to moving Carol's sheep through her handling system without dogs. Participants partnered up and gave it a go. Sheep, it seems, must be moved with a nuanced application of authority in combination with a certain softness of touch. Carol was on hand to coach participants on their path to understanding that delicate balance. Her girls were accomplished teachers as well; they were very clear about what would and would not, make them yield.



Photo by Anne Wheatley

Carol devised a terrific plan for a great learning experience at Piperdown Farm; combining trial work with lessons in hands on stock management. The Learning and Outreach Committee is grateful to her and her group of helpers for the hard work they did putting together this wonderful event. It was great to spend a day working dogs and sheep, learning, and enjoying the company of friends. Thank you!

# K9 Sports Fest SDT, Maxville Fairgrounds

By Andrea de Kenedy

July 20, 21



Andrea de Kenedy

It was hot. Really hot. Really REALLY hot. And there was a tornado warning. And pond-sized flooding. And an enormous fairground teeming with various agility, flyball (I think!), dock diving, and other mysterious combination-type events. Nevertheless, the Maxville trial was quite fun.

I know! I was surprised too. But there it is. A somewhat weird hybrid of an arena trial (Open) and a novice trial (Novice-Novice, Pro-Novice, and Ranch), held in an outdoor fenced area that was, yes, a hybrid of an arena and a modest trial field, the trial offered two runs each of all classes, an Open final, and plenty of opportunity to help out in the pens, do set out, and exhaust. Several hardy souls stepped up to cover the jobs, which was also fun. The ribbons were nice too! And there were misting areas, and plenty of water tubs for the dogs.

As for the trial itself, the draw was brutal, sight lines evaporated as soon as you got off course, and the pen was tiny and, evidently, massively threatening to the sheep. Like I said, fun!

The sheep were the Palmers' own yearlings, which they had kindly trucked in from Indian River, along with all the components necessary to set up a course. Don't ask me how they did that, except that I did spy panels stacked up on the table in their trailer early on. They brought a litter of puppies too. And all their dogs, including "guard dog" Whiskey. And even a box of ice cream sandwiches! (I got to have one. Thanks Cynthia.)

Results? You've probably seen them already, but if not, check the OBCC website.

Onwards to the late summer and fall trials!



Carol Guy



John Palmer



Bruce Smart

All Article Photos by Michelle Lawrence

## K9 Sports Fest SDT Champions and Reserve Champions

Novice Novice 1	
Handler	Dog
Genieve Pronovost	Skye
Marie Claude Gauthier	Kira

Pro Novice 1	
Handler	Dog
Patrick Gosselin	Drew
Amanda Milliken	Maxine

Ranch 1	
Handler	Dog
Andrea de Kenedy	Dylan
Carol Guy	Bud

Open 1	
Handler	Dog
Amanda Milliken	Howell
Carol Guy	Bud

Novice Novice 2	
Handler	Dog
Sara Geer	Rockit
Tania Costa	Ben

Pro Novice 2	
Handler	Dog
Tracy Hinton	Mead
Patrick Gosselin	Drew

Ranch 2	
Handler	Dog
Val Henry	Tag
Val Henry	Han

Open 2	
Handler	Dog
Tracy Hinton	Lad
John Palmer	Mara

# New Owners of Eighty Acres

By Amanda Milliken

August 3 - 5

The Eighty Acre Trial is on a long undulating stretch of hay field, about 60 acres, fifteen minutes from downtown Kingston if the traffic is not heavy. Recently we have brought in sheep for the trial, to make it more of a trial than my farm sheep would provide. We have built permanent set-out facilities on it. Bev Lambert and Sue Schoen take care of many of the technicalities. We have committed to getting it off the ground to accommodate those handlers who, from so far away, come to Kingston as two trials make it more worthwhile.

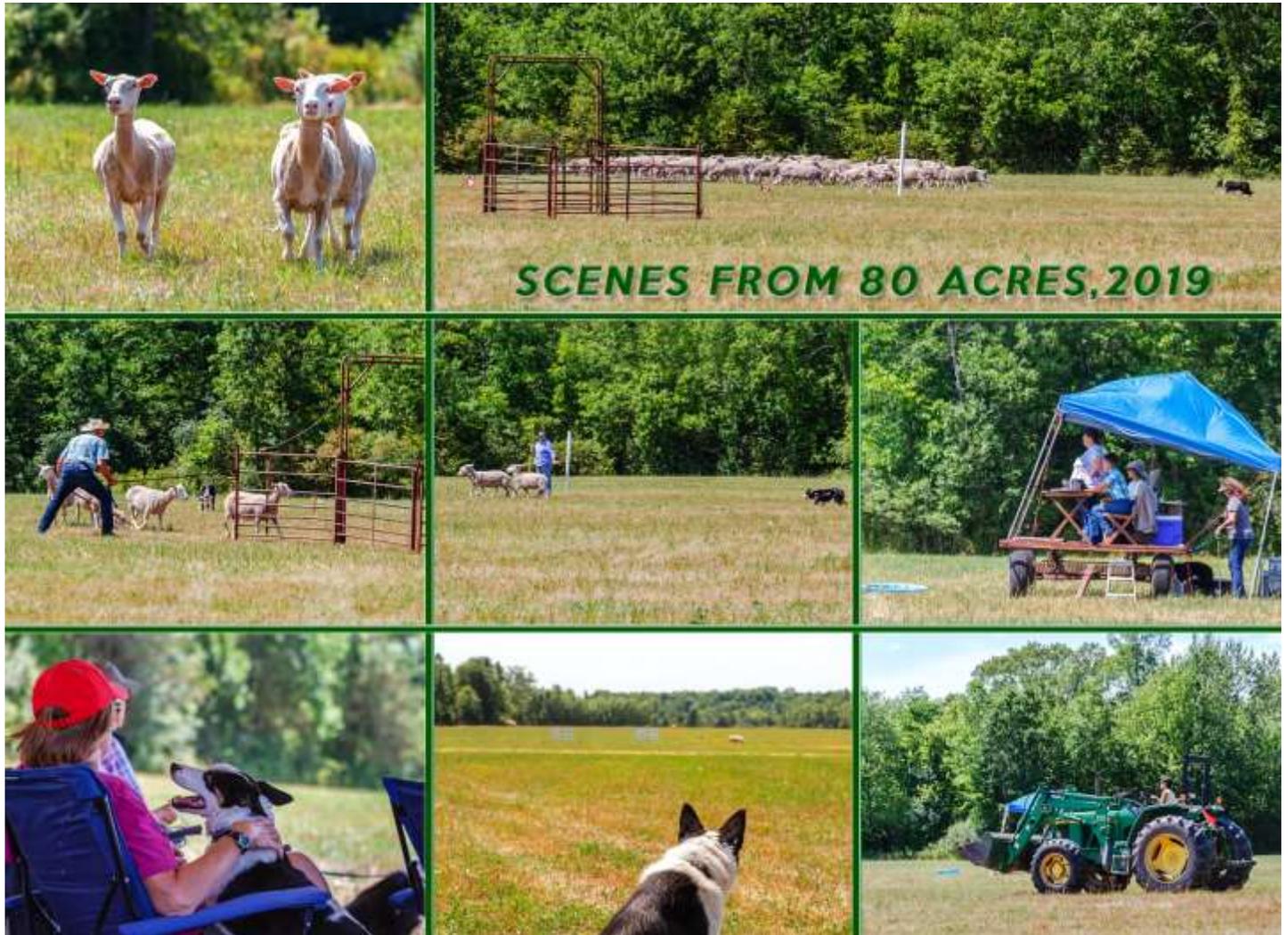
A change has come to the 80 Acre Trial held for a long time in Kingston, just before the Kingston Sheep Dog Trials on the long weekend in August. I have owned that property a long time, since my Dad died. I sold it this year to the neighbours who back onto it.

Part of the sale arrangements includes no changes to the management. That means that I continue to take off the hay, graze it sometimes and hold that sheep dog trial the first weekend in August.

Brian Back and Andrea Winthrop are the new owners. They like the Sheep Dog Trials. They are your new hosts, while Bev, Sue and I continue to put it on. Next time you are there, you can thank them for their hospitality and acquaint them with sheep dog trialing 101, so they can develop their benevolent interest in our sport.



80 Acre Field Photo by Amanda Milliken



Photos by Michelle Lawrence

# Random Thoughts at the Kingston Sheep Dog Trials

By Rebecca Lawrence

August 7 - 11



Rebecca and Key  
Photo by Michelle Lawrence

Scottish judge Fiona McMillan was funny and kind, and her friend Eileen shared the same sense of humour. Fiona was very encouraging to the handlers.

Scottish judge Mosse Magnusson (originally from Sweden) seriously loved his ice cream. His wife Lotta was sweet. Mosse wins the award for most zippers on a pair of pants. Seriously, I'm jealous of the pants: female pants suffer from a lack of proper pockets and zippers.

Well done Dave Young and his crew for keeping the flow going and excellent clean up and set out. A shout-out to Tracy Hinton and her set out crew too.

A special thanks to the people in the pen at set out: Sandra Massey, Mike Crellian and Hamish McMaster, Matt Aplin and Chris Plewes. We couldn't have a trial without them and all their hard work and sacrifice! It's a dirty job, but you guys do it so well.

Tara Dier and her team under the tents helped to run scores, boards and keep the judges happy. I am quite happy to be a part of this team. Michelle Taliana and I got our 10k steps in a day...easily!

Amanda arranged a contortionist to entertain and amaze us with her flexibility at the handlers' dinner. Alanna Leach did her best to keep up with the contortionist while taking pictures. We were also treated to a performance by a child band, organized by Rhonda Evans (of Glocca Morra Farms, who also provided the wonderful food).

After being a spectator at this trial every year for all the years it has been at Grass Creek (and helper at the last several), it was exciting to be able to stand at the post this year for my first time. It didn't go as well as I had hoped but Key and I are focusing on being better next year.



Tending the flock: Sandra, Hamish, Mike  
Photo by Michelle Lawrence

Congratulations to all the handlers and their dogs. Open 1 Champion was Mary Minor with Feist, Reserve was Amanda Milliken with Howell. Open 2 Champion was Tracy Hinton with Lad, Reserve was Barbara Ray with Wise. Joe Haynes with Pepper won the combined qualifying score.

Congratulations to Amanda Milliken and Dorey, Double Lift Champion and to Mary Minor and Feist, Double Lift Reserve Champion.

A big thank you to Amanda, Karen Curtis and Randy Scott for another great year!



Scenes from Kingston SDT  
Photos by Kris Kiviaho

Clockwise from right top:

Ornery sheep  
Tracy Hinton at the Pen  
Lori Cunningham and Rope at the Pen  
John Palmer at the Pen  
Helen Dunning and Sis



# Good Companions Novice Trial

By Teresa Castonguay

August 24

The Good Companions SDT happened on a very busy August weekend; a number of nearby NEBCA trials and the Canadian Nationals were at the same time. With everyone attending pitching in, all the jobs got done from the scribing, to the pen (thanks for coordinating, Helen Knibb), to setting out (thanks to Cynthia Palmer for mentoring). Huge thanks to judge Sheri Purcell for her patience and consistency."

By Cynthia Palmer

On a warm August day, we converged on Good Companions from across Ontario. Teresa and her team had done a great job getting the farm ready and the sheep prepped. Andrea's sheep were used for the PN course and Teresa's sheep for the NN competitors. Sheri Purcell took charge of the judging assignment for her first time and did a fantastic job!

I spent the day up top setting along with Helen Knibb and Patrick Gosselin. A few guest setters and pen workers came to complete the party! It is fun to watch from the top. Teresa's field is deceptively difficult with knolls hiding the sheep for the competitors and the sheep knowing exit stage left. I do like to watch the lifts and fetches. Most of the dogs are doing way better outruns than when I was a novice! As a set out person, I guest handle from the top wishing I could take notes about the good and the bad. But with the quick runs, I had to rush back to get the next group of sheep ready and calm for the next competitor.

Lunch was excellent with Teresa and her friends providing quite a spread with lemonade and ice water to quench our thirst from the warm day!

Round 2 commenced in the afternoon. A few people left the post to help their dog be correct and the team work on the day was excellent. I want to thank my puppy watchers while I was out working my dog. What a great community that helps out during the entire trial.

Thanks to Teresa for putting it on and to the winners and all the participants!

## Good Companions Novice Trial Champions and Reserve Champions

Novice Novice AM		Novice Novice PM	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Tania Costa	Ben	Susan Shipton	Gin
Susan Moore	Skye	Dorian Clark	Violet

Pro Novice AM		Pro Novice PM	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Patrick Gosselin	Drew	Patrick Gosselin	Drew
Susan Moore	Gibb	Michelle Taliana	Roy

## A Look Back at Good Companions Trials

Photos by Michelle Lawrence



This year's judge, Sheri, going through her paces at GC back in 2017



Happiness is: first trial, first ribbon (2016)  
Rebecca and Key



Retired from trialing this year, we enjoyed seeing Bruce Smart on the trial field. He was running his young dog, Spice, at GC in 2017.

The sheep. The look. The challenge.



# OBCC Penning Practice Day at Tara Dier's Farm, Stirling

By Susan Shipton

September 22



Photo by Anne Wheatley

Is the weather ever perfect for sheep doggers? Survivor of the drought ridden Stirling Ontario summer that I am, I none the less found myself crossing my fingers for a rainless day for the final practical event of the OBCC Learning and Outreach Committee.

My garden wasn't happy, but our participants were. The unseasonably warm day began with an overcast sky and a brief sprinkle of rain. We wrestled my old shelter into submission to shade our group, filled the cool off tub and the people water container, and we were off.

We had asked participants to send along a brief statement about themselves and their dogs, and any elements of penning they were working on. The teams represented a wide spectrum of experience from novice dogs and handlers just getting their feet wet, to more experienced handlers working on specific issues, to handlers with well-trained dogs who they had recently acquired and were getting to know.

Our session began with an introduction by Tara Dier and Anne Wheatley. Anne gave us the 'Coles Notes' version of Vergil Holland's chapter on penning from his book 'From The Handler's Post.' Her presentation emphasized that penning, like everything done on a trial field, has its origins in practical farm work. At a trial penning is the test of the dog and handler's skill in the movement of stock through gates and into and out of enclosures. Along with achieving the goal of getting an often-reluctant group in, we were reminded that points at the pen also reward a calm and controlled execution.

Copies of the USBCHA's guidelines for judging the pen were circulated and Tara reviewed them. During Anne and Tara's presentation participants gained an understanding of the strategies to achieve a successful pen, and the rules governing all aspects of this part of a sheep dog trial.



Photo submitted by H el ene Lawler



Photo submitted by H el ene Lawler

The talk before we began our working sessions also included helpful insights gleaned from Tara and Anne's years of experience. The sharing of overheard conversation between Big Hats whilst watching the pen from the sidelines at major competitions, was an added bonus, and particularly enlightening!

We had put two cones out in the field about 150 yards from the pen to serve as drive panels. Handlers began their pen by bringing the sheep in from there. Tara's sheep provided the perfect opportunity to learn the art, and heartbreak, of penning. They were convincible, but not easily swayed. As in any group at trial or on the farm, there was often that one who looked for the safe way out of the squeeze, and found it by darting out of the mouth of the pen and around to the back.

There was nothing like getting out there and trying, especially with support from people with experience, but watching other participants was equally valuable. On this day as on many others however, the sheep and the dogs were perhaps our greatest teachers. One handler worked a seasoned Open Trial dog and we had the opportunity to watch this dog do a job he knew well. Commentary from Anne and Tara as he worked gave us wonderful insight into how a dog should respond to the sheep to get them into a pen. We couldn't have manufactured a better visual illustration of the lessons of the day!

After a lovely lunch supplied by the handlers, we headed out to the field once again. The sun had come out and made the already hot day even hotter. The second go 'round for everyone showed marked improvement from the first. By the time the last team left the field we were all very tired, but much improved in our penning skills!

Thank you, Tara, for hosting us on your beautiful farm. We learned and we had fun. And really, in the waning days of summer, what more can a student of sheep dogging ask for?

# Inaugural Handy Dog Sheep Dog Open Trial: 2 Perspectives

By Carol Guy

September 7, 8

Handy Dog Farm is located in the lovely area of St Agatha just a stone's throw from Waterloo and the home of Blackberry. John Straube and Victoria Lamont are the owners of this farm and Viki Kidd, who lives on site, owns & shepherds the flock of North Country Cheviot crosses. She has been growing the flock for several years and we were fortunate to benefit from her hard work. Viki has been very active in this sport for over 25 years – she served several terms as the Secretary Treasurer of the OBCC and was also the Newsletter Editor.

Although John does not trial or run dogs – he grew up on a farm and enjoys helping to host these events. Victoria has been involved in dog activities for many years and has had many successes on the trial field since she has taken up the sport.



All Article Photos by Kim McClure



These three have teamed up to host several novice trials over the past several years. We are so pleased to have them offer to host a new Open trial especially in western Ontario.

The trial was judged by Ed Hawkins, Stowmarket, England. Ed has been working dogs since he was 14 years old. He was a member of the English National team that competed at the 2019 International Supreme.

We ran on Viki's flock 100 ewes and 80 March lambs. Each run included 1 lamb and 2 ewes. Viki and her pen crew carefully managed the sheep to ensure the lambs only ran once a day-(and boy, did some of them run! jump and fly out of the chute).

The trial field was large and very tricky – it looked deceptively flat with tricky dips and a draw to the barn. On the first day the field was set to run from the southwest to the northeast. This was to help mitigate the draw. However, many dogs would not cover the pressure adequately on the fetches and many fetches took a painful hit.

The first leg of the drive was surprisingly difficult- firstly because of the draw - forward to the panels. Many handlers commented that it was like moving overcooked pasta left on a plate. Once they made the drive panel – the sheep trotted. This made for some nail-biting moments as many packets of sheep began galloping on the approach to the panels and dogs had to race around to cover. Most groups penned well but singling proved to be quite tricky.



The handlers' dinner was scrumptious and was prepared by the local 4H club leader, Susan and her husband and served in the house. Lots of smiling hungry faces enjoyed the meal and chatting and laughing with each other -my favourite part of each trial.

On the second day the post was moved to the right of previous position in bottom centre of field and the set out was moved to the west. This was to aid a better fetch line and in most cases it was successful. The sheep still were leaning on the dogs, but the fetches improved considerably.

Two beautiful days of weather and running on great sheep on a very tricky field – we all want to do it again next year. Many thanks to John Straube, Victoria Lamont and Viki Kidd for all their hard work and hospitality. We hope you invite us back next year.

# Inaugural Handy Dog Sheep Dog Open Trial: 2 Perspectives

By Mary Thompson

September 7, 8

What a wonderful new addition to the Ontario trialing circuit! Thanks to Victoria Lamont, Trial Mgr., and her partner John Straube, (behind the scenes) for opening up their lovely farm to us, and to Viki Kidd, Sheep Mgr. that provided for a well run, efficient trial.

I enjoy entering and running at new venues and this one did not disappoint. The fact that it is only 1.5 hrs from home, just made it that much sweeter. The generous parking to the right of the house also includes plenty of areas to walk and exercise dogs. A shaded boardwalk over a narrow bushy low area leads handlers up to the back of the barn which then opens up onto a huge magnificent rolling hay field.



Teagan Stalking Photo by Mary Thompson

The first course was designed to run kitty-corner, with the outrun being approximately 450 yards. Directly following the lift, there was a deep swale to traverse. So, with sheep and dog out of sight, who knew where they might pop up? The field is shaped like a huge top-heavy hourglass with small indents on both sides about a third of the way out. It then opens up very wide and deep at the top. A few dogs made use of the extra real-estate at the top end, at the risk of the sheep leaving early for the draw, which was back to either the set out, or down the field with a heavy lean to the right aiming for the barn yard gate. The very capable judge; Ed Hawkins, from Stowmarket, England sorted out the first round. His lovely companion, Daisy Huxtable, even entered the fray by climbing into the hedge row to assist with extracting a reluctant ewe who had decided that this “trailing thing” was not to her liking. The North Country Cheviot commercial cross with some blackbelly barbados mixed in, were feisty and in super shape, and made some packets very challenging.



Champion Prizes Photo by Mary Thompson

Victoria and John invited us to the house on Saturday evening for a tasty catered dinner, and a good time was had by all. Ed handed out the awards and entertained us with a few stories.

To improve the sight line on the fetch, both for the handlers and judge, the second round was brought more central to the field avoiding the deep swale just after the lift and that improved the scores from the first round.

I was thrilled to be the first Handy Dog Open Champion with Teagan, winning the lovely handmade placemats donated by Sheila and Bruce McMillan.

I hope this trial will become an annual event, and most certainly would be a welcome insertion to the Triple Crown series of fall Ontario trials. It would be very easy to travel north of Toronto, west to east, or east to west with Shepherd’s Crook being the middle event. Thanks again for hosting a challenging new trial.



Photo by Kim McClure

## Handy Dog Open SDT Champions and Reserve Champions

Open 1		Open 2	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Mary Thompson	Mia	Mary Thompson	Teagan
Mary Thompson	Jake	Marilyn Terpstra	Lola

# An American in Ontario: Fall Trial Series

By Eleanor Peavy

September 28 – October 6

As I headed north for the fall trials at the end of September, I realized I hadn't been to Ontario in two years. It was about time I returned! I was grinning from ear to ear as I crossed the border at Detroit/Windsor. I took my open dog, Lad, and my pro-novice dog, Rollo, to compete. I also had my young dog, Gould, with me, for comic relief.

My first stop, naturally, was for a cup of Tim Horton's, and to purchase a couple of packages of it to take home with me. And, then on to Cynthia and John's farm for the first trial. I laid down a nice run with Lad, and as I was setting up my shed, I heard a horn honking. So, I turned around and walked off. Oops, the judge didn't honk. I realized my mistake, thanked George and laughed at myself all the way to the exhaust while reflecting on the reasons I entered these trials.



The Jolly Green Giant

Photo by Helen Dunning

I love coming up to Ontario and my dogs are a good excuse for me to do so. I love the camaraderie and the hospitality of these trials. I always enjoy visiting with everyone. And I have yet to meet a Canadian that I didn't like. I always look for rocks around the pond at the Palmers. It was a bonus to get one last run at Swaledale with Lad (and to see the Jolly Green Giant and to throw bread to the fish in the stream). I did a little shopping while at the Grettons (checking out an antique shop and a short search for Sortilege).

I have a good time, no matter the outcome of my runs. Rollo handled the sheep nicely and we had some successful runs. Lad gave me everything he had. Gould, well, Gould loved watching from the handlers' tent so much that he escaped me the last 2 mornings to go watch. The siren's call of the whistles drew him to the tent, and he was caught by friends.

Thank you, Cynthia, John, Sheri, Hugh, Kim and Kevan, for letting me invade your beautiful farms. And thank you to everyone else for being welcoming and encouraging. You are my friends, old and new. I appreciate being a "temporary Canadian". Remember that my door is always open to each and every one of you (and I am on the I-75 migratory path to Florida -- with room to park campers overnight). Just call me on your way. And if you happen to think of it, bring me a bottle of Sortilege!

Shepherd's Crook Champions and Reserve Champions			
Novice-Novice 1		Pro-Novice 1	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Pamela Hall	Journey	Amanda Milliken	Maxine
Kate Davidson	TBC Benson	Patrick Gosselin	Drew
Novice-Novice 2		Pro-Novice 2	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Lori Ledingham	Carly	Amanda Milliken	Maxine
Julia Anderson	Frankie	Amanda Milliken	Dar
Ranch 1		Open 1	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Helen Knibb	Mirk	Fiona Robertson	meG
Mary Thompson	Creed	Kevan Gretton	Kai
Ranch 2		Open 2	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Viki Kidd	Jones	Dave Young	Pic
Kathy Farkos	Kai	Fiona Robertson	meG

Swaledale Open Champion and Reserve Champion		
Handler	Dog	Score
Mary Thompson	Teagan	71
Fiona Robertson	meG	66



Indian River Judge George Strombolic

Photo by Kris Kiviahio

Indian River Champions and Reserve Champions			
Novice-Novice 1		Pro-Novice 1	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Susan Moore	Skye	Amanda Milliken	Dar
Susan Shipton	Gin	Susan Moore	Gibb
Novice-Novice 2		Pro-Novice 2	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Susan Moore	Skye	Patrick Gosselin	Drew
Pamela Hall	Journey	Tracy Hinton	Mead
Ranch 1		Open 1	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Kathy Farkos	Kai	Amanda Milliken	Dorey
Mary Thompson	Creed	Kevan Gretton	Bud
Ranch 2		Open 2	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Viki Kidd	Jones	Tracy Hinton	Lad
Mary Thompson	Creed	Amanda Milliken	Hazel

# SCENES AT INDIAN RIVER



**Moving the Pen**  
Photo by Cynthia Palmer



**Penning**  
Photo by Anne Wheatley



**Duke**  
Bringing the goats home from  
touring the neighbourhood  
Photo by Cynthia Palmer



**Waiting our turn**  
Photo by Anne Wheatley



**Watching**  
Photo by Anne Wheatley



**Observing**  
Photo by Anne Wheatley



**Judge George & Andrea's Moss**  
Photo by Cynthia Palmer



**Watching**  
Photo by Kris Kiviaho



**Well done!**  
Photo by Anne Wheatley

# Forfar Open SDT

By Anne Wheatley

October 19

Forfar is a very small Ontario farming town located about 50 kms north of Kingston in the beautiful Township of Rideau Lakes. It's where, last October, Leslie Gamble hosted her inaugural open trial and where this October 19th, she held the second annual one day Forfar Open Trial. Last year it snowed and blowed and this year we were running our dogs in the sunshine and our t-shirts by noon.

## Forfar Open SDT Champions and Reserve Champions

Open 1		Nursery	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Tracy Hinton	Lad	Paul Batz	Reyn
Amanda Milliken	Hazel	Werner Reitboeck	Finn

The running began around 9 am. What luxury not to have to greet the post a little bleary eyed and in half darkness.

Corey Perry judged the day. The sheep were fit and feisty. But the perfect amount of dog to tell them ya meant it, along with the perfect amount of staying off, resulted in a pretty darn decent run. It was tricky and challenging but Tracy Hinton and Lad showed us how to do it. Amanda and Hazel were second and Kevan Gretton and Kai came 3rd.

Leslie spoiled us with muffins and coffee and tea in the morning and arranged for or personally prepared hot soups and chili for lunch. We all stood around chatting and eating in the sunshine and admiring the leaves. Heaven in late October!

After lunch the nursery dogs showed off their prowess on the now slightly quieter sheep. Paul Batz earned a leg with his youngster, Reyn.



Corey Perry Judging (with Louise Hadley)  
Photo by Belinda Betz



Trial Host Leslie Gamble

Photo by Belinda Betz



Amanda Milliken

Photo by Belinda Betz



Werner Reitboeck

Photo by Belinda Betz



Kevan Gretton

Photo by Belinda Betz

## Jimmie's Farm Novice Trial: 2 Perspectives

By Jordan Markowski

October 20



Jordan

Photo by Amanda Milliken

As a band of eager and bright-eyed handlers arrived with their dogs on October 20th at picturesque Jimmie's Farm for this year's edition of the Jimmie's SDT, the air was crisp and cool. Trial hosts Janet Fahey and her husband Howard pulled out all the stops to make everyone feel welcome and, even early in the morning, the emerging blue skies and shining sun were already hinting that the day would be unseasonably warm.

The trial began with the PN class taking the field under the watchful eye of judge Corey Perry. Immediately it was clear that the sheep at Jimmie's Farm had been plotting their game plan all year. As if to do justice to the name of their home, they immediately set to rustling the jimmies (see *note*) of more than a few handler/dog teams. Out of everyone in PN, only Amanda Milliken and Tracy Hinton managed to earn points beyond the fetch and complete their runs – taking first and second place respectively.

Next up the NN class took to the field, and initially had more consistent success bending the savvy sheep to their will. Catherine Rae and her dog Oakley took first followed narrowly by Tania Costa and Ben in second.

Following a brief respite, the second runs of the NN class began but the sheep had clearly taken some time to regroup and re-organize their strategy as there were no placing runs this time around.

For the second PN runs of the day, only Amanda Milliken and her dog Maxine earned points beyond the fetch and completed the course. Rumour has it the sheep were very disappointed in not being able to complete their clean sweep of the entire class.

Finally, the Nursery class stepped up to the post and this is where the real magic of the day unfolded. Up until this point, the sheep had run the table against handler after handler. But their plots and schemes had nothing on Paul Batz and his star-of-the-show Kelpie Raffy. Out of 7 entrants in the class, they alone emerged with a complete run that had all in attendance cheering, laughing and clapping enthusiastically. A star was born.

All in all, although only a handful of handlers managed to eke out completed runs at this year's Jimmie's Farm trial it's hard to argue that it wasn't an enjoyable, educational and fun-filled day. If sheepdog trialing were easy, everyone would do it – and it's the savvy and diabolical sheep that really put a handler and their dog's skills to the test. Despite the many RTs and DQs, morale remained high throughout and there were plenty of laughs, good conversation and camaraderie.

Huge thanks to hosts Janet and Howard for organizing this year's trial and to Helen and Gordon Dunning for helping with set out and stock management. Surely more than a few handlers are already planning for their next rematch with the devious sheep that call Jimmie's Farm home.

*Note: Internet slang. Rustle someone's jimmies is to bother someone, to make someone feel upset. (Synonym: ruffle some feathers)*

By Anne Wheatley

The next day and ten minutes down the road from Forfar, near a village called Phillippsville, Jimmie's Farm Novice Trial was held. As at Forfar, last year we couldn't see the trial field for the blowing snow and this year, though the field was a bit wet, the sun shone, and it was warm. Janey Fahey's Scottish black faces were not pushovers. Corey again judged the day. Catherine Rae and her not yet 2 yr old Oakley outscored Tania Costa and her young dog Ben in the NN class. Amanda and Maxine came first in PN morning and afternoon. Tracy Hinton and Mead came second in the morning. Paul Batz got another leg in the nursery class with his Kelpie Raffy. That was very fun to watch because Raffy is so keen and fast.

It's always worth talking about lunch. It was held in Janet and Howard's farmhouse. We left our boots outside in the sun and went in for soup and bread and cheese. Lovely!

Thanks to trial hosts Leslie Gamble and Janet Fahey and her husband Howard. Huge thanks to Corey Perry for judging both trials. Thanks to those who set up and those who set out with their great dogs. Thanks to the scribes and the score posters and those who contributed food. Thanks to the pen crews. We all know that none of the great trials we enjoy each season could happen without those volunteers.

Thanks to all who came and ran their dogs. See you there next October!!

### Jimmie's Farm Novice Trial Champions and Reserve Champions

Novice-Novice		Pro-Novice AM	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Catherine Rae	Oakley	Amanda Milliken	Maxine
Tania Costa	Ben	Tracy Hinton	Mead

Nursery		Pro-Novice PM	
Handler	Dog	Handler	Dog
Paul Batz	Raffy	Amanda Milliken	Maxine

## *Jimmie's Farm Novice Trial Photos*



*The Millenial (Jordan)*

*Photo By Amanda Milliken*



*Trial Host Janet Fahey*

*Photo by Belinda Betz*



*Paul Betz*

*Photo by Belinda Betz*



*Mike Crellian*

*Photo by Belinda Betz*

## *Adventures in Worming*

*By Teresa Castonguay*

Cynthia put out the call to help her worm the flock while John was away (while the cat's away?) So, five saucy shepherdesses showed up. The first discussion was about the new worming protocol ... would we do doses of two different wormers (we couldn't get the third type easily)? The consensus was to try two. So, two of the ladies armed themselves with different categories of drenches.

Now we had to funnel 200+ sheep into increasing small spaces - the field to the open barn to the worming stall. Field to barn went well but barn to stall was challenging. The large number of sheep created a whirlpool effect so dogs at the back of the flock had little impact on the swirling mass at the front. The dogs worked their hearts out but finally it was mostly grain buckets that motivated those in front.



*The Worming Crew*

*Photo from Andrea de Kenedy*

Then the dance of "hold a sheep - open its mouth - drench one and then over to drench two - did you get both drenches in? - mark the sheep as done." One group done - move them out - bring another reluctant group in.

While I am not going to claim all went smoothly ... we did keep our tempers and senses of humour ... and lunch as usual was great.

# The CBCA Championships

By Tracy Hinton

August 22 - 25



*Dogs being loaded*

The CBCA finals were held August 22-25 in Airdrie, Alberta.

Our judge was Shirley Cropper from Burnley, Lancashire UK.

The finals had a full entry of 80 open dogs and 27 nursery dogs in all.

The field was large and the terrain very challenging. Weather changed by the minute from heat and humidity, to rain, to wind, to cold! "Welcome to Alberta" someone said.



*International shed. The sky was huge and distracting from the running!*

It was a wonderful trip for me! I loved it! This was the first time I flew my dogs, so I was super happy with how my dogs managed the trip, terrain and sheep!



*A familiar face: Linda Comeau. Welcome back to Ontario Linda and Alastair and thank you for putting us up during our trip to Alberta!!!!*



*Scott Glenn waiting to run. Wasn't windy at all that day!!!!*



*Lad and me!*

Congratulations to Dennis Gellings the 2019 Canadian Champion with Tess and 2019 Reserve Champion with King.



*Dennis Gellings, Canadian Champion and Reserve*

Dennis also won the long road award buckle awarded to the highest placing dog raised trained and handled by its owner. The award is donated by RMS Stockdogs (Bob and Nancy Stephens) in memory of their dog Turk.

Congratulations to George Strombolic and Sweep, 2019 Canadian Nursery Champion and our own Amanda Milliken and Dar, 2019 Reserve Canadian Nursery Champion.



*George Strombolic and Amanda Milliken, Nursery Champion and Reserve*

*All photos submitted by Tracy Hinton*



**ONTARIO BORDER COLLIE CLUB NEWSLETTER**  
**14 Woodgarden Crescent**  
**TORONTO, ON M1E 3K2**