

History and Description of Piedmont Border Collie Association

The Piedmont Border Collie Association (PBCA) began to take shape in 1995 as a loose group of Border Collie owners in the central part of North Carolina who were interested in educating the public about what it means to own a Border Collie as well promoting canine sports in general and Border Collie activities in particular. The Constitution and By-Laws were written in July, 1997 and club was formally organized in the fall of that year with an open enrollment of members. Our members elected officers and approved the By-Laws in April of 1998. We applied for and were approved as an affiliate of the Border Collie Society of America (AKC parent club for Border Collies) in May of 1998. As of August, 1998, we had a active membership of 29 households. Membership as of 6/2000 was 43.

In June 1999, we were approved to hold sanctioned matches in agility, obedience/conformation, herding and tracking. We hosted a BCSA sanctioned, AKC licensed herding trial in November, 1999 and were licensed to hold our first AKC herding test and trial in February, 2000. By December 2001, we were offering two herding trials in Durham and one in Sanford each year.

In July, 2002, the club was moved to "A" status after successfully petitioning AKC Club Relations and our first plan A/OA match was held on August 18, 2002 and our plan A agility trial on September 27, 2002. We currently host several herding trials and agility trials each year and will hold our first regional specialty in Sanford, NC, June 10-12, 2005.

The mission of the PBCA is to preserve and enhance the integrity of the Border Collie. We will strive to preserve the working attributes and intelligence of the breed by promoting a better understanding of the breed's unique herding abilities and promoting a spirit of encouragement and support for all activities in which Border Collies excel. In addition we will promote responsible breeding and ownership and work to prevent exploitation and abuse of the breed. Our vision is a club that spans the interests and activities of all its members and provides a local structure for Border Collie rescue, public education, and Border Collie events.

The PBCA's philosophy is to protect the Border Collie as a versatile dog with a strong work ethic. This protection must begin with an understanding, appreciation, and promotion of the principle definitive trait of the breed, which is its uncanny herding instinct. In doing so, the PBCA will not lose sight of the importance of structural soundness and health. Focus will always be on education about and elimination of hereditary genetic defects that have been propagated due to poor breeding practices. PBCA education will not end there, but will also include buyer, owner, and breeder guidance. A strong Code of Ethics will be enforced, and a Rescue program will be developed.

Area Served by the Club: The PBCA serves the central part of North Carolina, an area commonly referred to as the Piedmont. Our membership is concentrated in Durham and Raleigh, NC, although we have a number of members in Greensboro, Charlotte and smaller towns in North Carolina and southern Virginia and few members spread out in other Southern States (South Carolina primarily). The focal point of activities to date have been in Durham.

Summary of Activities of the Club: Members of our group have been active in organizing canine activities for quite sometime. Many of our members are also members of the Border Collie Society of America (AKC parent club for Border Collies) and have been active in organizing events for this group. For example we organized a conformation match, obedience fun match, and breed study group at the Durham Kennel Club Building on May 7, 1995. This event was reported by the Border Collie Society of America in their proposal to be chosen as parent club. In addition we organized two obedience fun matches on August 13 and 20, 1995 at the Durham Kennel Club Building. On November 24, 1996 we held an AKC sanctioned Herding Match for the BCSA in Salisbury, NC, featuring HT/PT and B course classes. That event was judged as a qualifying event by the AKC and was used in granting permission to BCSA to hold its first AKC licensed Herding Trial at their national specialty in 1997. On November 25, 1996, we held a herding Funday, also in Salisbury, and invited people to try their hand at ISDS type herding.

We have continued this record of active involvement in organizing events for the canine world and Border Collie owners. In August of 1997 we sponsored an Obedience Clinic given by Dee Dee Rose at the Durham Kennel Club Building. This event raised approximately \$3600, \$1600 of which was donated to Border Rescue. In 1998, after official formation of our group, we sponsored a herding clinic given by Steve Clendenin (Feb. 8, 1998, Salisbury, NC) and an obedience match and club meeting (Durham, NC, April 23, 1998). On July 25 and August 1, 1998 we began a series of Farm Fun Days in Oxford, NC (just north of Durham) where we provided instruction and facilities to help our members get more involved with herding and provided additional opportunities to train their dogs and develop their herding skills. On August 22 and 23, 1998, we held our first quarterly club get-together and club meeting. This two day event included activities directed towards agility, obedience and conformation, a potluck dinner and a club meeting. Our intention is to continue these as Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer meetings.

Initial Slate of Officers (1998-2000): The first slate of officers was voted in by our members in April, 1998.

- President - Richard Whorton (NC)
- Vice President - Fran Hoffman (NC)
- Secretary - Rickie Morrison (NC)
- Treasurer - Betty Swenson (VA)
- Board Member - Judy Edwards(VA)
- Board Member - Debra Snyir (SC)

Immediate and Future Goals:

- Maintain the Border Collie's outstanding herding instinct and ability.
- Support the rights of Border Collie owners to pursue any activity they wish.
- Promote and participate in Herding, Agility, Obedience, Tracking, Conformation and other events. Early emphasis will be to establish AKC herding in our region and to encourage participation in local ISDS style herding events.
- Promote Border Collie Rescue.

- Educate potential Border Collie purchasers regarding the advantages and disadvantages of the breed.
- Educate Border Collie breeders on their responsibilities to the breed.
- The receive AKC sanctioning in all events so that we may organize a regional AKC Border Collie specialty celebrating Border Collie Versatility.