



The Ridgeline

Newsletter of the New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club

February 16, 2021

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Regional Specialty Show dates are September 16th—19th, see page 2 for a list of judges
- Potential events to be held in 2021 are listed on pages 14 & 15
- 2021 Meeting Schedule is set, see page 15 for details

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President's Letter

Happy New Year! It is such a hopeful time and I trust you all are looking forward to all the positive feelings, plans and changes a new year brings.

We had our first meeting of the year, via zoom, and have lots of fun activities in the works that will encourage even the best couch jockey Ridgebacks to get involved. As with all of these plans we will be in need of volunteers to lend a hand to be sure the events are successful.

I want to thank Alan Fraser for his 16 years of service to NERRC as treasurer. He did a wonderful job keeping account of all the club's Financial endeavors.

Volunteers are not paid-not because they are worthless but because they are priceless.

Barbara
Sahibu@comcast.net



To appreciate the beauty of a snowflake it is necessary to stand out in the cold. ~ Aristotle

Welcome New Members!!

- Erin Capone & Dylan Todd, Newmarket, NH
- Sally Carpenter, Woodstock, VT
- William Cormier, Ashburham, MA
- Rhonda & Nathan Lapham, Douglas, MA
- Jeremiah & Dawn Walsh, Mashpee, MA
- Peter & Sharon Faust, Taunton, MA

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2020— Virtual Meeting



Meeting was called to order at 10:10 AM by Alan Fraser

Attendees: Alan Fraser, Helen McCune, Nikki Newton, Evelyn Strawn, Meghan Terwilliger, Barbara Ferguson joined at 10:50

Chris Greeley, liaison to Mass Fed, Cheryl Fraser joined for her committee reports

Secretary's Report: Evelyn Strawn

Membership applicant:

Molly & Phillip Rosano, Framingham, MA Voting Family

Sponsor: Julie Paul

First read applicants from August BOD meeting will be eligible to be voted into membership after September 25.

Treasurer's Report: Alan Fraser

Little change from last month's balances since there were no expenses.

Rescue Funds	\$2,102.87
General Funds	\$8,789.44
Show Funds	\$2,305.55
Current Balance	\$13,197.86

Details available upon request.

Regional Specialty Show - Barbara Ferguson:

The dates for 2021 are Thursday, Sept. 16 through Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021. The location will remain at the Fairgrounds.

There is no change in the judges from 2020:

Thurs. Brett Thompson

Fri. Dr. Ryan Buzard

Sat. Jeffrey Lentsch

Sun. Dana Cline

The committee will need to focus on ribbons and silent auction items for 2021.



Mass Fed – Chris Greeley

Chris updated the BOD about legislative issues as detailed in the information provided below.

There are many legislative actions moving forward across the country but MassFed.or does not report any new actions in Massachusetts at this time. However, the following may be of interest:

Massfed.or invites you to celebrate AKC Responsible Dog Ownership Day on Thursday, Sept. 17th starting at 11:00 AM on Facebook at AKC.t.

Massfed also posted various reports as to the continuing unraveling of HSUS and accusations that it is hoarding donation money in offshore accounts and abandoning local shelters and rescue. No Massachusetts shelters were mentioned or included.

A bill in the Virginia Legislature aims to provide immunity from Civil Claims related to COVID-19. This would protect individuals, (incl. corporations, non-profits and others) from "civil causes of action arising from any act or omission alleged to have resulted in the contraction of or exposure to the COVID-19 virus, provided that the person has complied with applicable federal, state and local laws and guidelines." While this does not affect us in Massachusetts, I have not doubt that the Commonwealth will have consider similar legislation at some point, which could also protect NERRC for upcoming events.

If you would like to learn more, please visit MassFed on Facebook. They do not regularly update their website, massfeddogs.or. Or <https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/> or the latest legislative alerts from AKC.

Historian – Cathy Ford

Cathy has said that she will remain in this position until the end of the year. The new board will need to find a replacement.

Membership Care – Jack and Trish Hamilton

Nothing to report.

Rescue – Cheryl Fraser

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED - Rhodesian Ridgeback Rescue, Inc. (RRRI) remains in great need for **foster homes**. We continue to scramble when a dog is in need to find a foster home willing to provide foster care. Please consider giving back to our beloved breed by volunteering to be a foster home.

HOME CHECKS – With the ongoing pandemic, we have reverted to performing **virtual homechecks**. The use of Zoom and FaceTime and other virtual means are being used. If you would be able to perform home checks for potential adoption applicants, please let us know. We have a checklist of questions to ask applicants while virtually visiting them in their home. Help is always needed to vet adoption applicants.

Sales of the 2021 Ridgeback-a-Day Calendar are underway. Calendars can be purchased at this link https://forms.ridgebackrescue.org/calendar/order_calendar. This is an important fund raiser for rescue and everyone is encouraged to buy one for yourself and for gifts.

NERRC Website – Meghan Terwilliger & Cheryl Fraser

The Website is up to date. Information about the October lure coursing event will be posted with a link to the Calendar on the NERRC website that has information about the LC premium including COVID safety guidelines.

NERRC Policy & Procedures – Cheryl Fraser

Nothing to report at this time.

Alan will update the job description and responsibilities of the Treasurer's position.

Ridgeline – Helen McCune

The 3rd issue of The Ridgeline was sent out on August 25th. One final newsletter will be sent out to the membership before the end of the year.

Ways and Means – Cheryl Fraser

Cheryl sent pricing on various wearables to the NERRC Board for review prior to the meeting.

The discussion focused on what items should be ordered prior to the lure coursing event. There were a number of items discussed including sweatshirts, tee shirts, golf vests, fleeces, lure coursing magnets. There was consensus that more generic lure coursing items would be in higher demand at these events since other breeds participate. There is not enough time to come up with a design in time for the fall event. This something that should be done. There was agreement that the puppy design that the club owns rights to might be of more general interest than items with the NERRC logo.

It was moved by Helen and seconded by Nikki that the Ways and Means committee order tee shirts, sweatshirts and magnets. The puppy image should be used on the tee shirts and sweatshirts. The vote was unanimous in favor, therefore the motion passed.

By Laws – Alan Fraser

Nothing to report.

Social Media – Meghan Terwilliger

Meghan will create an events page which will include a link to the calendar on the NERRC website with a link to Premium for the lure coursing event.

Regional News (for The Ridgeback Magazine) – Bonnie Johnson

Nothing to report.

Lure Coursing – Nikki Newton and Chris Greeley

The lure coursing event scheduled for October 24 and 25 has been approved by AKC. All the roles have been filled including having three lure operators on site. The COVID safety plan required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has been completed. One outstanding issue is the ribbons. Nikki will consult with Bonnie about what should be ordered.

It was recommended that vests be provided for people who are working the trial to make it clear to participants who they are.

The board supported the idea of having an event in the spring. There was some discussion of using a field in Vermont but there are some questions that need to be resolved. There was also support for offering AKC judges' training.

Another popular event is the CAT trial. This event is simpler to plan and operate plus it more than pays for itself. The board agreed that this should continue to be offered in the spring.

Unfinished Business

REPORT OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nominating committee consisting of Alan Fraser (chair), Cheryl Cote, Julie Paul with alternates Heidi Dommers and Rebecca Fitzpatrick started their deliberations July 28th.

The post of President proved a very difficult post to be filled, this is due to the dual requirements of being a full member of NERRC and a RRCUS member. Eventually three persons responded in the affirmative and the committee agreed to the following slate:

President - Barbara Ferguson
Treasurer – Nikki Newton
Board Members – Meghan Terwilliger and Christiane Greeley

All have agreed to serve in these positions and have sent resumes to the chair to be sent to the secretary for distribution to the members of NERRC

I want to take this opportunity to thank the committee members for their work in assisting me in determining who should be nominated to NERRC board for the next two years

Respectfully submitted
Alan C Fraser, Nominating Committee Chair

The secretary will send this proposed slate along with brief biographies of the candidates to the membership. If the nominee for president is selected then there will be an opening for vice president. This vacancy would be filled by the new board at the first meeting in 2021.

It was agreed that there is no way to hold an in person holiday party this year. The next meeting of the BOD will be on November 15. That will also be the annual meeting.

New Business

None was brought up.

Next Meeting: .September 15 – 10 AM via Virtual/Zoom

NB: This will be both a BOD meeting and the Annual Meeting

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Strawn, NERRC Secretary

Additional First Reads:

Danielle Lamoureux & Jason Doura Family Membership

Southwick, MA

Sponsor: Julie Paul

Mark & Ines Merolli Family Membership

Jamaica Plain, MA

Sponsor: Nikki Newton

Dan & Andrea Zuniga Associate Membership

Winchester, MA

Sponsor: Nikki Newton

On Line Motions

On September 28 Evelyn moved and Helen seconded that the following applicants be approved for membership in the New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club:

Erin Capone & Dylan Todd, Newmarket, NH Family Voting
Sponsor: Evelyn Strawn

Sally Carpenter, Woodstock, VT Single Voting
Sponsor: Meghan Terwilliger

William Cormier, Ashburham, MA Single Voting
Sponsor: Julie Paul

Rhonda & Nathan Lapham, Douglas, MA Family Voting
Sponsor: Julie Paul

Jeremiah & Dawn Walsh, Mashpee, MA Voting Family
Sponsor: Nikki Newton

Peter & Sharon Faust, Taunton, MA Voting Family
Sponsor: Nikki Newton

The vote was unanimous in favor. The motion passed.

On September 28 Evelyn moved and Helen seconded that the minutes of the September 13 BOD meeting be approved. Six having voted in the affirmative (Alan, Barbara, Bonnie, Helen, Meagan and Evelyn) and no vote by Nikki, the motion passed.

On October 9 Evelyn moved and Barbara seconded the approval of the invoice from ABC designs and agree to the pricing of \$15 for tee shirts and \$40 for sweat shirts. The vote in favor was unanimous. The motion carries.



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

November 15, 2020— Virtual Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 10:05 AM by Bonnie Johnson

Attendees: Board Members: Bonnie Johnson, Alan Fraser, Helen McCune, Nikki Newton, Meghan Terwilliger, Barbara Ferguson, Evelyn Strawn

Guests: Chris Greeley, Bill Gamble, Jean Gamble

Secretary's Report: Evelyn Strawn

Membership applicants:

Prem & Lisa Thomas, Hamden, CT Voting Family
Sponsor: Bonnie Johnson

Lauren Swartzbaugh, Owls Head, ME Voting Single
Sponsor: Evelyn Strawn

Treasurer's Report: Alan Fraser

Club treasury continues to be in a strong position. There has been fiscal activity due to the lure coursing event held in October and the expenditure of funds on Ways and Means items. Sales at the lure coursing event offset some of these expenditures.

Rescue Funds	\$2,122.87
General Funds	\$9,051.27
Show Funds	\$2,305.55
Current Balance	\$14,781.85

Details available upon request.

Seventy-eight renewal notices have gone out. As of the date of this meeting 21 members have renewed. With the new members, who do not have to pay for 2021, there is a total of 84 members.

Alan is working on a transition document to assist Nikki as the new treasurer. He is also writing up an expanded job description for policy and procedures manual.

Regional Specialty Show - Barbara Ferguson:

Barbara reminded the membership that the dates for 2021 are Thursday, Sept. 16 through Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021. The location will remain at the Fairgrounds in Barnstable County. There is no change in the judges from 2020.

The committee will need to meet in January to begin work on ribbons, silent auction items and raffle items for 2021.

Mass Fed – Chris Greeley

Chris updated the BOD about legislative issues as detailed in the information provided below.

On Thursday, November 12 the MA House of Representatives adopted 1



amendment impacting Working Dogs; Amendment #19 to HB 5150 provides that not less than \$50,000 will be expended for the NEADS, Inc. service dogs for veterans program. Unfortunately, Amendment #18 "Nero's Bill" which allows emergency care and transportation for a police dog injured in the line of duty, was not adopted. Rep. Crocker, who sponsored the bill, will continue to advocate for it's passage. If you would like to voice your support, please visit: <https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/update-ma-house-representatives-adopts-one-amendment-impacting-working-dogs/>

On October 19 The Town of Marshfield is considering legislation on dog/cat retail sales, kennel licensing and breeder licensing. Item 3 was removed from the meeting and will be brought up again in the spring after further research. Please visit: <https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/update-marshfield-ma-town-vote-breeder-licenses-postponed-vote-no-article-1-support-healthy-dogs-protect-consumers/>

The following <https://www.akc.org/legislative-alerts/us-congress-problematic-breeder-mandates-bill-introduced-senate/> is something all of our membership should be paying attention to and responding to. It proposes to enact some seemingly unreasonable requirements on breeders. Please get informed by following the link sited above. If a letter should be written on behalf of the club to Senator Durbin (IL) please let me know.

There was discussion about the proposed by-law in Marshfield since it placed numerous limitations on potential breeders and has the potential for being a model for other towns. Chris urged everyone to follow the link above in order to read the details. This is something that NERRC should be following and may want to respond to officially when it is re-introduced.

Historian – Cathy Ford No report.

Membership Care – Jack and Trish Hamilton No report..

The secretary has sent the committee chairs the contact information for the new members voted in after the last Ridgeline.

Rescue – Cheryl Fraser

Murphy - A 2 year old male named Murphy is newly into rescue. A family with 3 boys discovered their youngest son has severe allergies to dogs. Reluctantly they reached out to surrender Murphy. Murphy is an exuberant Ridgeback. So far, we feel he is friendly towards adults and children. He is food motivated and will work for treats. He is in need of basic leash manners to make walks more enjoyable. He appears to be house trained, crate trained and sleeps through the night. We are told he has high prey drive, so cats are probably not an option. He was a single dog, and he will need to be exposed to other dogs for evaluation.

Lucy adopted by Cassidy Albert, an CPDT-KA who was fostering and rehabbing due to reactivity and fear issues. Lucy has made HUGE strides and is very attentive and attached to Cassidy.

SALES of the 2021 Ridgeback-a-Day Calendar are underway. Calendars can be purchased at this link https://forms.ridgebackrescue.org/calendar/order_calendars.php

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED - Rhodesian Ridgeback Rescue, Inc. (RRRI) remains in great need for **foster homes**. We continue to scramble when a dog is in need to find a foster home willing to provide foster care. Please consider giving back to our beloved breed by volunteering to be a foster home.

HOME CHECKS – With the ongoing pandemic, we have reverted to performing **virtual homechecks**. The use of Zoom and FaceTime and other virtual means are being used. If you would be able to perform home checks for potential adoption applicants, please let us know. We have a checklist of questions to ask applicants while virtually visiting them in their home. Help is always needed to vet adoption applicants.

There was a discussion of the effects pandemic has had and may have on rescue. Home assessments and

placements have had to include COVID precautions. Those present agreed that it was important to work with new Ridgeback owners, however the dogs may have been acquired, on the necessity of preparing dogs to be left alone. This could be particularly challenging in situations where the family has all been quarantined at home.

NERRC Website – Meghan Terwilliger & Cheryl Fraser

The Website is up to date.

It was agreed that photographs of the Ways and Means items should be placed on the Website and offered for sale.

NERRC Policy & Procedures – Cheryl Fraser

Alan will update the job description and responsibilities of the Treasurer's position.

Ridgeline – Helen McCune

The 4th issue of The Ridgeline will be sent out once the minutes of this meeting have been approved. Helen asked that anyone with articles for possible inclusion be sent to her. It was suggested that Nikki create a "Dear Santa" letter with a wish list of lure coursing related items including volunteers for specific jobs. A flyer for Ways & Means should also be included.

Ways and Means – Cheryl Fraser

New merchandise was ordered and available for sale at the October Lure Coursing event. The items were well received. Sales were \$547 for Ways & Means. Items sold included:

- Many new T-shirts and a few sweatshirts.
- LC magnets
- A number of dog theme fleece blankets donated by Helen's sister (we split the money 50-50 with her)
- Most of the older ways and means stuff (t-shirts, sweatshirts, mouse pads)

In November, an additional \$90 in merchandise sales was completed.

Members requested that long-sleeve T-shirts be included in the items offered. Cheryl said that she also needed to order more short-sleeve T-shirts. Ways of continuing sales were discussed under the Website, the Ridgeline and Social Media.

Bylaws – Alan Fraser

The NERRC bylaws reference the RRCUS bylaws, particularly in reference to ethics. The national club's bylaws are currently under review. Once that review has been completed this club will need to look at the changes.

Social Media – Meghan Terwilliger

Cheryl will work with Meghan to create an album of items for sale on the club's Facebook page.

Regional News (for The Ridgeback Magazine) – Bonnie Johnson

Nothing to report.

Lure Coursing – Nikki Newton and Chris Greeley

The club held a lure coursing event on October 24 and 25 which was very successful. Not only did the club raise some money but participants had a good time. The LC events are getting better each time as club members gain experience and there are more people helping. Nikki particularly thanked Chris Greeley for all of her work including assuring that the event complied with COVID safety requirements.

Nikki did say that more experienced help is needed prior to the events themselves. Also, she is specifically looking for people who are willing to be trained in the roles of secretary and hunt masters. She reminded the board that they had agreed to sponsor an event that would provide this training as well as training for potential AKC judges.

The goal of the club is to have two trials a year. A spring location needs to be found. Due to COVID restrictions Vermont cannot be considered at this time. The challenge is to find a field that is mowed. The field in Waterford, CT that has been used in the past was suggested. Nikki will look into that.

One of the lessons learned from the October event is that at least one member needs to know how to maintain the club's equipment. This is the first time that an event was run with all NERRC equipment. It needs to be maintained annually and the backup battery equipment needs to be tested. There is an immediate need for some miscellaneous items such as pulleys and string as well as a specialized ladder. Long range, a trailer will be needed to transport the equipment. The estimated cost is approximately \$2000.

It was moved by Evelyn and seconded by Barb that up to \$350 be authorized for the purchase of a specialized ladder. The motion passed unanimously.

The board agreed to sponsor a practice day to test out the back up equipment. This should be a low-key affair open only to club members. An insurance rider will be required.

Unfinished Business

There were no additional nominations to the slate of officers proposed by the nominating committee, therefore according to the NERRC bylaws that slate has been elected. The new officers are:

President Barbara Ferguson

Treasurer Nikki Newton

Directors Meghan Terwilliger, Christiane Greeley

New Business

The board recognized that this would be Bonnie and Alan's last meeting as a members of the board. They were both thanked for their dedication and service. Bonnie will continue as an ex-officio member. And Alan continues to chair the bylaw committee.

Agenda items for the January meeting:

Appointment of Vice President
Set calendar for 2021

Next Meeting: .January 17 – 5 PM Virtual/Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Strawn, NERRC Secretary

Online Motions

On November 16 Evelyn moved and Barbara seconded that the minutes of the BOD/Annual meeting be approved. The motion passed unanimously.

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 17, 2021 – Virtual Meeting

Meeting was called to order at 4:05 PM by Barbara Ferguson

Attendees: Board Members: Barbara Ferguson, Bonnie Johnson, Chris Greeley, Helen McCune, Nikki Newton, Meghan Terwilliger, Evelyn Strawn

President's Report: Barbara Ferguson

In her new role as president Barbara discussed her goals for the club during this coming year. She said that she hoped to involve more of the membership in active participation. Towards that end there had been concerns expressed to her that too many of the events in recent years have been held in Southeastern Massachusetts and that these have not been easily accessible for some members. She talked about the need to try to find venues in more central locations.

Secretary's Report: Evelyn Strawn

Membership applicants:

Katherine & Kenneth Taylor, No. Kingston, RI, Family
Sponsor: Nikki Newton

There are six additional applications that need to be voted on as soon as they have been published in the next Ridgeline (see minutes of September 13 and November 15 BOD meetings).

The board had voted to grant Honorary Membership to Anita Craven for her 36 years of dedication to the breed and to the club. There are four additional members who were founding members of NERRC and continue to be a part of the club. The Board agreed that this recognition should be extended to all of them.

It was moved by Evelyn and seconded by Barb that Honorary Memberships be granted to Linda Hothan, Rosann Sexton, Mary Travers and Mary Wickwire for their support of the club since its founding and their dedication to the breed. The motion passed unanimously.

Evelyn with Helen's support will send certificates to these four members.

Treasurer's Report: Nikki Newton

Alan submitted this report:

Income:	(Total \$713.05)
Membership	200.00 8 renewals
LC Practice	403.00
Ways & Means	110.05

Expenses:	(Total \$115.05)
LC Practice	100.00
Ways & Means	15.05

Details available upon request.



Charles River Bank account to be transferred to Nikki.

Membership Renewals

64 renewals received, Eleven (11) 2020 memberships remain to be renewed.

Regional Specialty Show - Barbara Ferguson:

Barbara reminded the membership that the dates for 2021 are Thursday, Sept. 16 through Sunday, Sept. 19, 2021. The location will remain at the Fairgrounds in Barnstable County. There is no change in the judges from 2020. Barbara will contact RRCUS about approval status.

The committee will need to meet to begin work on ribbons, silent auction items and raffle items for 2021.

Mass Fed – Chris Greeley—Nothing to report

Historian – Vacant

Cathy Ford has resigned from this position. She commented that the new designee should be “someone with space to house & to work scanning and uploading (historical) items....if the info is to benefit the membership. It would be a fun project for someone new who wants to learn and has good technology skills.”

Since Stephanie D’Agostino had worked with Cathy on digitizing some of the old records Barbara will contact her and ask her if she would be willing to serve the club in this capacity.

Membership Care – Jack and Trish Hamilton—No report.

Rescue – Cheryl Fraser

SALES of the 2021 Ridgeback-a-Day Calendar are still available. Calendars can be purchased at this link <https://store.ridgebackrescue.org/shop/ridgeback-a-day-calendar/5>

FOSTER HOMES NEEDED - Rhodesian Ridgeback Rescue, Inc. (RRRI) remains in great need for **foster homes**. We continue to scramble when a dog is in need to find a foster home willing to provide foster care. Please consider giving back to our beloved breed by volunteering to be a foster home.

HOME CHECKS – With the ongoing pandemic, we have reverted to performing **virtual homechecks**. The use of Zoom and FaceTime and other virtual means are being used. If you would be able to perform home checks for potential adoption applicants, please let us know. We have a checklist of questions to ask applicants while virtually visiting them in their home. Help is always needed to vet adoption applicants.

NERRC Website – Meghan Terwilliger & Cheryl Fraser

The Website will be updated with calendar information for 2021. Board membership and committee chairs has been updated.

Cheryl and Meghan will add the new Ways and Means items to the Website. Nikki will explore options for accepting direct payments on line.

NERRC Policy & Procedures – Cheryl Fraser

Updated job description and responsibilities are needed for the Treasurer’s position. Evelyn will follow up with Alan and Cheryl

Ridgeline – Helen McCune

Helen will send out the first edition for 2021 once the minutes of this meeting have been approved. It will include the minutes of the last two BOD meetings in 2020 as well. It was agreed that the Ridgeline should again start publishing new titles that members have put on their dogs as well as other milestones or accomplishments.

The flyer from Ways and Means will be included in the mailing.

Ways and Means – Cheryl Fraser

In January there were an additional \$95 in merchandise sales.

Meaghan will work with Cheryl to put together a flyer that can be sent out to the membership and included in social media postings and on the website. As stated above, Nikki will explore options such as Venmo and Pay Pal so that the club can accept direct payments for merchandise as well as memberships and registration for events.

Bylaws – Alan Fraser—Nothing to report.

Social Media – Meghan Terwilliger

Meghan will invite new people to apply for membership. It will be made clear that you do not need to own a Ridgeback to be a member of NERRC. Anyone who might be interested in club sponsored events will be encouraged to join.

Regional News (for The Ridgeback Magazine) – Bonnie Johnson

Nothing to report.

Lure Coursing – Nikki Newton and Chris Greeley

The club held a successful and fun practice event in January for the first time. As a follow up to that event Nikki submitted the following report which framed the discussion:

Practice day

- Learned that NERRC members need notification first (I had NO idea the slots would fill up at all, let alone within an hour!)
- We need a method to collect payments virtually (for other things too)
 - I suggest we investigate a platform for this, would also work for Ways & Means
- The event made a profit
 - \$403 revenue
 - \$100 field plus \$44 lunch and gas (for machine)
 - \$262 profit
- Learned that our backup machine runs for 1.5 hours on batteries- we need a generator

I propose we have another practice day before Spring

- Needs to be short notice because of weather
- Would like to run it like a CAT with paperwork, helpers, judges, etc. to do a dry run for running a CAT in the Spring ourselves.

- Hope to borrow a generator to try it out so we can see if it will meet our needs before we try to purchase one

CAT

- Would like to host one in Dartmouth April 10-11 (We have run CAT in April in previous years)
- Would Like to host another one in June like previous years, but don't know if we have a field—much harder to run an event that's a longer drive if we do not have a club member nearby to do setup on Friday
- We can recruit judges from within the club (do not need ACK training)
- I can operate the lure for the event
- We do need reliable backup machine (AKC rules)
- WE need club members to come help!!
- We should consider a FAST CAT (need timer)

Urgent wish list

- Generator (so we can run backup machine)
- Trailer

The board was supportive of holding another practice day before May with the understanding that this will be weather dependent and so will have a very short lead time. NERRC members will be given the opportunity to register before the event is opened up to non-members.

The club will plan to sponsor the CAT trial proposed above. Finding locations continues to be a challenge. In order to broaden the geographic distribution of trials/events, additional members will be needed to help with set up on the day before it/they are scheduled and help with closing the field.

As stated in Nikki's report there is an urgent need for a generator and a trailer as well as a ladder that was approved in November. The cost of the ladder which might more appropriately be termed a platform needs to be revisited. Nikki will attempt to borrow a back-up generator for the next event so that the club will know what kind would be appropriate to purchase. Once that is determined, the size of the trailer can be ascertained. A wish list including requesting donations of these items will be sent out to the membership before anything is purchased.

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

New Business

As a means of operationalizing the goal Barbara articulated in her opening remarks the BOD discussed sponsoring events that would attract more participation on the part of members and their dogs. The BOD agreed to explore holding the following:

Barn Hunt in New Salem, MA – This would be a two part event. The morning would be an introduction to this sport and the afternoon would be an actual hunt. This could take place after April.

Nose Work in Franklin, MA – This was an event planned for 2020 before COVID changed what was possible. The club has paid for this and should follow up to determine a date.

Farm Dog in Duxbury, MA – This could lead to an AKC recognized certification that would test how well a dog behaves in proximity to livestock, walking on unusual terrain, jumping on haybales and jumping over logs among other tasks. Date TBD.

The calendar for the board meetings for the remainder of 2021 was established:

- February 28th, 9 AM, Virtual BOD Meeting
- May 2nd, 5 PM, Virtual BOD Meeting
- August 8th, 10 AM BOD Meeting, 11 AM Annual Meeting, In conjunction with summer pot luck, Washburn Park, Marion, MA
- September 19th, TBD (dependent on ring time) BOD Meeting, In conjunction with Cranberry Cluster Dog Show, Cape Cod Fairgrounds, East Falmouth, MA
- November – TBD, In conjunction with Holiday Party

Next Meeting: February 28 – 9 AM— Virtual/Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Evelyn Strawn, NERRC Secretary

Online Motions

On December 4, 2020 Barbara moved and Alan seconded that NERRC grant Anita Craven an Honorary Membership in recognition of her 36 years of dedication and support of the club and the breed. The motion passed unanimously.

On January 2 Barb moved and Meghan seconded that the BOD authorize an expenditure of up to \$175 for a gift to thank Alan Fraser for his many years of service as the treasurer and his other efforts on behalf of NERRC. The motion passed unanimously.

Additional First Read

Christopher Currier, Orrinton, ME Single Voting
Sponsor: Terra Lynn Joy

Erik Balunls, Boston, MA Single Voting
Sponsor: Julie Paul

If anyone would like to submit photos of their RRs for possible use in future newsletters feel free to email them to me at
kanzih@comcast.net
~ Helen