



The Ridgeline

A Publication of the New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club, Inc. est
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Presidents Message

I didn't think summer was ever coming this year, nothing but rain and mud for spring around here and then summer arrived with a vengeance! The RRs were happy to be sunning themselves on the deck but are now seeking shade and I am too.

We have a ton of stuff going on this summer for RR entertainment but we also need some new blood to continue offering fun stuff for you and your dogs, these events don't run themselves and we really need volunteers. We also need a new Secretary, a Ways and Means Committee Chair and a By-Laws Committee Chair to help things continue running smoothly.

On the positive side of things, we have completed our revisions to the By-Laws which includes a provision for holding remote Board meetings. So some of you who have expressed interest in

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joining the Board but haven't due to the travel requirements will, assuming we pass the changes, now be able to attend some of the Board meetings via conference call. This should make it easier for folks who don't live close to Boston to participate in running the club. I know in the past when I've worked on the nominating committee the big hesitation in offering to take a Board position is the travel to meetings and I completely understand, so hopefully things will get easier going forward.

We have sent out the By-Law changes so you can all review prior to our summer meeting. **These must be voted on at our Annual Meeting on August 4, 2019** in Marion, MA at Washburn Park so we really need everyone to come this year! Washburn Park is a beautiful property where there are walking trails, an OFF LEASH dog play area where last year we set up our cookout/picnic stuff and even a little pond to get your feet wet should it be hot. Last year the dogs had a blast playing in the sunken horse show ring where they can run off lead. Of course some common sense rules need to apply, no bitches in season, intact males must be puppies and they need to behave with many other dogs. Look for the flyer within for event details.

Hope to see everyone over the summer but if not, enjoy!

Bonnie Johnson
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Vice President: Barbara Ferguson	sahibu@comcast.net
Secretary: Helen McCune (interim)	kanzih@comcast.net
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Director: Meghan Terwilliger	mterwill@gmail.com
Director: Nikki Newton	nikknewton@gmail.com

Meeting Minutes

New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club - Board of Directors Meeting February 17, 2019 - Sirius Fun Dog Training - Plymouth MA

Meeting was called to order at 10:13 am by V.P. Barbara Ferguson

Attendees: Barbara Ferguson, Alan Fraser, Meghan Terwilliger, Helen McCune

Absent: Bonnie Johnson and Nikki Newton

It was moved by Barbara and seconded by Meghan to waive the reading of the minutes from the January BOD meeting. Motion was unanimously approved.

Secretary's Report:

We have one new first read:

Jennifer Bernier & Christopher Cameron, Wakefield MA, Associate

Sponsor: Cathy Ford

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Treasurer's Report:

Available Upon Request

Alan discussed the issue of a club-owned credit card. He is opposed to one unless it is a prepaid card with a set amount of money in it. But then, who holds onto it and how many do we buy? This discussion was tabled until the next meeting

Supported Show: Barbara

Jean Gamble will donate some pottery while she is downsizing in preparation for moving. It was decided that those trophies can be used for the Stud Dog and Brood Bitch prizes at this year's Regional.

The Rosettes and ribbons were discussed and it was decided that Barb would add (4) Rosettes sponsorships @ \$50/ea and (4) Rosette sponsorships at \$25/ea to help offset the costs of having to purchase all of our own Ribbons now that NERRC is recognized as a points-awarding, stand alone, Regional Specialty show.

We need a Sweeps judge for this year's show.

Lure Coursing – Nikki – Scheduled CAT 6/22-23, working on practice/training day for late April or early May

Mass Fed – no report

Historian – Cathy Ford

Stephanie D'Agostino and I have been identifying, sorting and organizing NERRC's collection of the Fanning memorabilia. I have a few items that will probably be discussed at the next NERRC BOD meeting, but I would appreciate a motion for item #1 so that I can move forward with it.

1. We have filled a fairly large file folder with RRCUS minutes, officer and director letters, lawsuits and charges against a few RRCUS members, early club rosters, early copies of the RR Standard that no longer apply. I feel strongly that RRCUS should have these files. Some are labeled "confidential". Once they are transferred to RRCUS, I can go through RRCUS files and deep six copies or supply information that may be missing from the RRCUS archives. Kay had served as RRCUS president in the early 70s.
2. Steph, Jen Elliott and I have scanned many clippings and photos so far. Once organized they will be made available for access by NERRC members, as soon as it's decided the best way to do so.
3. As I mentioned a year ago, there are prints of a few black and white RR drawings done by the late Marilyn Marschat-Rhodes. Marilyn's first ridgebacks came from Kay and were the models for the drawings. They do no one any good just sitting in a trunk or box and could provide funds for NERRC if auctioned. Perhaps we could auction one at a Regional Specialty each year until they are gone (3 of them). I would also like the BOD to consider allowing one per individual if we do so. I've attached pictures of each.

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Descriptions as follows:

“JOY” #105/190 1990 Marilyn hand wrote on this copy for Kay that the 2 dogs are "Ridgerunner Raider Tawny Ridge Riva Roo" She also hand signed it. size 16 x 20

“On Line” #105/90 1990 Marilyn wrote "Tawny Ridge Riva Roo" "Kay - I am eternally grateful for my beautiful girls!" Hand signed as well. This one includes a certificate of authenticity. size 16 x 20

“PUPPY LOVE” #21/90 1985 Marilyn hand wrote "Tawny Ridge Brandy B. Goode" "Kay - Thank you so much for my beautiful girls!" size 11 x 14

4. Lastly, is a drawing by Marilyn before marriage when she was Marilyn Farmer. This one is an original from 1965 and I strongly believe should be treated differently. A nice gesture would be for NERRC to donate this one to the RRCF for auction (or to RRCUS to keep in the RRCUS archives or auction) on behalf of the late Dr. and Mrs. James Fanning, Tawnyridge. It includes a tissue overlay. – submitted by Cathy Ford

A board discussion ensued and it was agreed upon that all RRCUS-related files should be sent to RRCUS. Any NERRC-related files older than 7 years should be scanned and originals destroyed – with the exception of old copies of the Standard – those we want to keep in NERRC's historical files.

Helen moved to keep all 4 of Marilyn's prints property of NERRC to be auctioned off individually to the highest bidder in conjunction with future Regional Specialty shows and proceeds will benefit NERRC. Meghan seconded. This motion was unanimously approved.

Membership Care – no report, Hamilton's report they haven't received anything from Board to act on since last request for reports.

The board discussed adding member's birthdays to the application and renewal forms so that the Membership Care committee can send cards.

Rescue – Cheryl -

Mara would love a home to call her own - Mara has been in foster care for 2 years.

She came into rescue with her Mom Ariel, but her Mom developed nasal cancer. Mara and Ariel were from a BYB here in Massachusetts. Mara has a very nice foster Dad Joe, and Joe sent an update on Mara.

Mara has improved in some areas. She used to bolt anytime I opened up the back sliders and run up stairs. She has recently decided that, that isn't so dangerous any more...Still can't get use to the electric heater in my office, will often leave the room and pace around in the hallway upstairs. Her health seems to be excellent.

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Joe works from home, which is the best for Mara. She is very reactive to other animals. Joe makes sure her walks are early in the day, so no other instances with other dogs are likely. She is a very sweet dog, but she has needs. She does soil in the house even though she is taken out numerous times to potty. We believe it is due to her anxiety levels, Mara does take Fluoxetine for anxiety.

Mara would not work in a home with kids, too much noise and activity. She does best with routine. Mara does well with the occasional dog walker trips. Joe does have a dog walker come and take her out occasionally. Mara is fine being placed in boarding for short periods of time.

We think would be a great home is a home where someone is home. A fully fenced yard to keep her secure, no other animals, no kids but some could visit. Stick to a routine, and let her be.

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.

Rhodesian Ridgeback Rescue, Inc. will be hosting a booth at the 19th Annual Paws in the Park on Sunday, May 5, 2019 from 10 am – 3 pm at the Longfellow's Wayside Inn in Sudbury, MA. All club members are welcome to stop by and join the fun. We are also in need of members to bring their Ridgeback to be the Booth Ambassador. If you can spare an hour or so, to allow visitors to meet your Ridgeback, please contact Cheryl Fraser – chaza@pobox.com 508-393-6966.

HOME CHECKS – 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 visiting them in their home. Help is always needed to vet adoption applicants.

A Tisket-A-Tasket – Time to call for a Basket! There is plenty of planning time for any club members, breeders, and the club itself to organize a Silent Auction Basket(s) to benefit RRRI at the upcoming RRCUS National Specialty being held in Huron, Ohio the week of October 6 - 12, 2019. NERRC has enthusiastically supported this endeavor in the past, having submitted fabulous themed baskets. Transportation of basket donations to Ohio is available. If anyone is interested in leading a basket drive this year, please contact Cheryl Fraser – chaza@pobox.com 508-393-6966.

NERRC Website – Meghan Terwilliger & Cheryl Fraser

The club domain name was renewed for 2 years at a cost of \$62.32.

NERRC Policy & Procedures – Cheryl Fraser

Investigating appropriate content for the club Policy & Procedures document/manual and will send to the NERRC Board for review once generated.

Ridgeline – Evelyn is on vacation but sent most recent Ridgeline out on January 31st before leaving

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Ways and Means – Rachel Reams

My suggestion as made previously was that the club should have its own accounts with an online payment processor that can accept credit cards. Something like a PayPal account, or maybe Square. PayPal can be set up to deposit directly to the club bank account, and would not have to pass through my accounts at all, which would make all of us happier. I haven't looked into it, but Square will give you a physical thing that plugs into your phone for people to swipe credit cards, instead of trying to walk them through setting up an account to send me mobile payments (again, a solution that would make all of us happier).

Whatever the club decides to do, I think we all agree it needs to be directly under club control through a board member — maybe through the Treasurer? — so that when this position is passed on to someone else in the future, the account information is held by the board and is controlled by them.

At the last event (the match show), I stood next to Alan and showed him that I was forwarding the receipts directly to him from my bank account when I left.

Bonnie received an email from Rachel on 2/17 tendering her resignation. So we tabled the above topic while we look for someone new to chair W&M.

By Laws – The changes have been made and they will be mailed out a few weeks before the summer picnic where they will be voted on by the membership.

Social Media – Meghan Nothing to report.

Regional News (for The Ridgeback Magazine) – Position is open; we need a liaison.

Unfinished business

RRCUS Bootcamp education seminar

Ways and Means inventory – we need to purchase more new inventory this year.

Open board position – **Secretary** - Steph D'Agostino may be interested in a Board position

Regional News person needed

The Summer Picnic needs a Chairperson and we need to reserve Washburn Park in Marion.

Barbara moved to adjourn the meeting at 11:45 am.

Seconded by Meghan. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen McCune

NERRC Secretary (interim)

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New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club - Board of Directors Meeting

June 9, 2019 - Helen's cottage – Wareham MA

Meeting was called to order at 1:14 pm by V.P. Barbara Ferguson

Attendees: Barbara Ferguson, Alan Fraser, Helen McCune, Nikki Newton

Absent: Bonnie Johnson and Meghan Terwilliger

Secretary's Report:

We have five first reads:

TerraLyn Joy (aka Linda Clark), North Sandwich NH,
voting Single, sponsor Helen McCune

Christiane Greeley, Peabody MA,
voting Single, sponsor Bonnie Johnson

Adrianna & Tessa Podolak, Millbury MA,
Associate, Sponsor Julie Paul

Amber Herdade, Auburn ME,
voting Single, sponsor Julie Paul

Toni & Ash Salter, Taunton MA,
voting Family, sponsor Helen McCune

Treasurer's Report:

Available Upon Request

Alan moved to pay the Director's Insurance renewal for the year in the amount of \$829. Nikki seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Supported Show: Barbara

After much confusion from RRCUS and AKC it is confirmed that we are officially approved to hold Specialty shows! Barb has been in touch with the show chair and has requested a specialty ring for our event, she will be following up with him to confirm that.

Barb would also like to do another booze basket for a raffle item since it always a big seller! If you want to contribute feel free to bring your wine/booze to the ridgeback picnic in August and we can add it to the basket for September!

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Lure Coursing – Nikki – She has already received approximately 30 entries for the June CAT tests so that's on track to be another successful event. She still needs to secure the field in Lakeville for our fall trials.

Historian – Cathy Ford

Jen Elliott has gotten most newspaper clippings from Kay Fanning's archives scanned onto her computer. Steph D'Agostino has been scanning all early printed issues of The Ridgeline scanned as well. We now all need to decide how it should be made shareable, & who should receive copies - of course the Historian & Secretary should, but from there, what are BOD thoughts? Webmaster to put clippings of interest on the website? Ridgeline editor to add articles of interest to the newsletter?

Also, in what form: disk? stick? We can purchase them & copy to whatever is selected, but will need reimbursement.

Artwork for auction at the regional: My thought is to choose one of the larger pieces(I sent photos to the BOD in an email last year) have it nicely framed at a reasonable cost for protection & attractiveness, and feature it as either a special silent auction item with starting bid the cost of framing or special raffle with tickets costing significantly more than usual.

Submitted by Cathy Ford, Historian

A brief discussion ensued and it was agreed that, at the very least, we need to set minimum bids on our special raffle items. Although custom framing can get expensive, we could always opt to mat some of the prints to allow them to be viewed instead of being rolled up in a tube.

By Laws – The by laws changes are complete.

Barbara moved to accept all the changes made to the by laws. Nikki seconded the motion. It passed unanimously.

Alan will print off the bylaws and, along with a flyer for the August 4th potluck/annual meeting announcement, will mail them out to the membership by mid-June.

Website – no report

It was noted by Barbara at the meeting that the website needs to be updated as our Regional Specialty Show is not even listed in the upcoming events

Social Media – Meghan - no report

Membership Care – no report

Rescue – Cheryl – no report

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Policy & Procedures – no report

Ridgeline – no report

Ways and Means – need a new chair

Mass Fed – no report

Regional News (for The Ridgeback Magazine) – Position is open; we need a liaison.

Unfinished business

Need to appoint a nominating committee by July 1st.

Ways and Means inventory – we need to get the current inventory back from Rachel Reams and plan to order some new articles.

Barbara moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:23 pm.

Seconded by Nikki. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Helen McCune

NERRC Secretary (interim)

Online Motions passed via email:

On Saturday, February 23, 2019 Helen moved to approve the minutes from the Board meeting held on January 13, 2019. Barbara seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

On Friday 3/8/19 Barbara moved to amend the Judges Sweepstakes Contract to read “not to exceed \$150 for travel expenses” for the 2019 Regional Specialty. Helen Seconded the motion

The motion passed unanimously.

On Monday, April 1, 2019 Helen moved that NERRC donate \$100 to RRCUS to be put toward sponsoring the CGC event at the National Specialty in Ohio. Barbara seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

On Thursday, April 11th, Helen Moved to approve the minutes from the February 17th meeting at Sirius Fun in Plymouth. Meghan seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

On Tuesday, June 11th, 2019, Helen moved to approve the following for NERRC membership:

Eddie Aldort, Belmont MA, Associate, sponsor: Bonnie Johnson.

Seconded by Barbara. The motion passed unanimously.

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On Friday, June 14th, Helen moved to accept the minutes for the meeting on June 9th as final.
Bonnie seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Additional First Reads:

Lisa & Michael Gizzi, Melrose MA
Associate, Sponsor: Helen McCune

Deborah Higgins, Cornish NH
Single, Sponsor Meghan Terwilliger

Emir & Courtney Sehic, Dennis MA
Family, Sponsor: Nikki Newton

Karen & Shayne Trimbell, New Bedford MA
Family, Sponsor: Bonnie Johnson

Welcome New Member!!

Edie Aldort, Belmont MA

Memorial Note: Ulla-Britt Ekengren



Written by Eric Clough , DVM
“Tidbits” about my friend

When an acquaintanceship matures into a friendship over 50 years it takes on BIG meaning. My wonderful friend, Ulla-Britt, is unlike anyone known to me. She was a mentor, listener, animal professional and matriarch. Ulla-Britt was proud, smart, and sharing. Often I think of her, for example, when I open our rear slider and a breeze has set an aluminum ridgeback wind chime tinkling. It makes the nicest sound and was a gift that she carried back from a ridgeback congress or show at which she had a rewarding / winning experience, and she wanted me to have a sense of her enjoyment and the people who shared in it.

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Some of the things that we accomplished together go far beyond our breeding my first ridgeback Omba. That occurred in the days when Ulla-Britt and Don had babies Leif and Lisa and lived in Billerica. Then they turned Groton Road, Dunstable into a homestead and an internationally recognized ridgeback kennel with their all consuming labor of love for the dogs, their children, the land (and pond), their friends and assorted other animals and four legged friends. They made the world a better place. This past summer Jane and I visited a Connemara pony stable because we were in western Ireland and remembered Ulla-Britt and Lisa's love of pony club activities. Lisa and Leif have long been among my favorite young people. With parents like Ulla-Britt and Don what else could one think?

During my yearly veterinary visits to Shadyridge, there always seemed to be new animals and activities that made life interesting and enjoyable. There was a time when Ulla-Britt enjoyed her llamas because they were so highly trainable, that I thought the dogs might fall into second place. The heat stroke episode, which happened at a time when I was far away, remains one of the saddest events of my life. I would give anything to have been in town to help with those seriously ill dogs. I dream of having the pond be a glacial pool and that we floated the animals in icy water and saved them. Not being there to help is an awful feeling, but nothing compared to the anxiety that the Ekengren family went through. Ulla-Britt eventually replaced every lost dog.

When I visited there was a lunch of something Swedish and sometimes a dessert from Crown Bakery in Worcester. I have stopped at Crown many times, especially when my son Kyle attended Clark University. There was another draw to Worcester after Don turned me on to Spaags "bargain center."

There were, of course, things over which we disagreed. Dog food comes to mind. I learned that when she decided to make a change it was a big decision because it not only affected the muscle tone and coat quality, so important for the ring, it could also have significant effects on reproductive soundness. Speaking of reproduction, I lost track of the exact number of litters that I vetted for Ulla-Britt, but it was about 150 and yes that was litters... a lot of puppies, and just about all of them sold by the time they were born. What a track record! By the time those pups left Shadyridge, they were well on their way to having very physically and mentally sound lives and sometimes show careers. Ulla had the skills to match dog personalities to the needs of the families to whom each individual pup was going. I know that she occasionally told people that she did not have a pup for them simply because the personalities were not a match. Ulla was aware of the reputation of RRs to be protective, as in guarding the kraal on South African farms. She took no chances that her dogs might injure someone. Always, I felt safe with her dogs. That is not always the case in the greater world of dogs.

A small digression, Ulla-Britt was driving in Boston. She was alone except for Mogogo who was sleeping on the back seat. As the story goes, at an intersection, a man opened the passenger door (Ulla never locked anything) and got into the car. Mogogo was having none of that and immediately clamped on to the man's shoulder. Can you imagine his surprise? Some of us would have panicked; some would have driven to a police station. Ulla-Britt pried open the

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dog's mouth and let the man run off. I have wondered for thirty-five years if that guy ever entered another car uninvited.

Ulla's show ring experience and her willingness to share it were impressive. Her confident professionalism made us proud. Not that she agreed with the opinions of everyone, but when she disagreed, she had reasons, often-strong ones, to do so. I have seen her in tears when we made decisions to part company with certain dogs or puppies, and I recall how hurt she was at the time when the internet was new and people used it as a weapon to attack Ulla-Britt, who managed her dogs differently. The proof in the pudding comes from the joy expressed by hundreds of people who have proudly owned Shadyridge dogs, often several generations of them.

Ulla-Britt's dogs were physically as sound as a dollar. She dutifully bred only champions and had all her dogs OFA certified. When the Penn Hip Procedure came along we compressed, distracted and x-rayed her dogs and very happily learned that ridgebacks have hips which ranked second to greyhounds on the PH list of sound, tight hips. At the time we were doing Penn Hip films, one of the radiologists processing films at Penn Hip owned a RR so we celebrated together as we had enough RR's to make their hip quality statistically significant. Together we pioneered Dermoid Sinus surgery on newborn puppies. Although correcting "bad" ridges was never an option, we did successfully remove dermoids on many pups during their first week of life. Most of these pups had almost no visible scar by the time they went to homes at eight weeks of age. Both of us were very proud of our successful collaboration and the placement of healthy dogs in great homes. We worked together and mastered problems with whipworms, heartworm and fleas. Ulla-Britt had the confidence and I had the imagination to apply cost effective, up to date medicines and procedures to help produce fine ridgebacks. My pride in Ulla-Britt's dedication to ridgebacks at Shadyridge gives me the most pride of anything that I accomplished in a 34 year veterinary career.

My family's most favorite cat was "Spooky," a Shadyridge Russian Blue. That great personality made two lads very happy for many years by faithfully meeting them at the door each day after school.

With tears in my eyes, I say "Good bye my friend. I will always remember you."

Love, Eric

Upcoming Events

[August 4th - Annual Meeting and Ridgeback Picnic at Washburn Park in Marion MA](#)

[September 12th -15th - Cranberry Cluster & NERRC's Annual Regional Specialty Show](#)

[October 26th & 27th - Lure Coursing at Betty's Neck in Lakeville](#)

[November 17th - Holiday Party at Fireside Grille in Middleboro](#)

We hope to see you all on August 4th - It's a really fun day for humans and Ridgebacks!!

Join Us for NERRC's Annual Meeting, Pot Luck Picnic and RR Romp!!



Once again we will be back at
Washburn Park in Marion MA
Washburn Lane, Marion MA



Sunday, August 4th from 12:00 to 4:00



Cost is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members; children under 12 free
BOD Meeting starts at 11:00 - all are welcome



Annual Meeting Begins at 12:00 sharp so that we will have time to review the new bylaws and allow the membership to vote on them while we have lunch and then the dogs can play.

Ways & Means will be set up so plan to shop! There will also be a 50/50 Raffle!!

Well socialized dogs will be allowed off leash to run and play in a safely fenced arena. If you have an insecure or reactive dog please leave them at home or keep them on leash and under your control at all times. Dogs will be crated or leashed during the annual meeting to alleviate distractions.

NERRC will provide the paper goods and water. To help spread the workload so that everyone can partake in a fun afternoon we are asking that you bring something to share. If your last name begins with the following please bring:

A-K—Appetizer; L-P—Entrée; Q-Z—Dessert.

This is a great park with both trails and fields where dogs are able to go off lead. Trails are cool, cutting through pine woodlands and cranberry bogs with lots of water for cooling off hot dogs. There is a playground for kids, real bathrooms and there are also ball games and horse events held here at other times so be respectful with your dogs so this will remain open to everyone.

Please RSVP to Helen by July 17th via email - kanzih@comcast.net or via text - 774-766-1331—we need a quorum to pass the by-laws update so please support your club and participate in this very fun event with your Ridgebacks!!

