



# *The Ridgeline*

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## **Presidents Message**

We have successfully completed another Regional Specialty with this years entries much higher than last year and we were able to raise a decent amount of money with the auction and raffle in the afternoon for rescue and the club. There are changes in the wind though. RRCUS has decided that they won't approve us next year, we currently meet the requirements for approval but RRCUS is discussing changing them in the future and so doesn't want to approve us until we are licensed by AKC to hold independent specialties. The whole issue has got me thinking about how we, as the protectors and promoters of our breed, present ourselves and the culture of dog shows to the public and to newcomers. Our clubs have the opportunity to either promote activities for our RRs and try to expand participation or not. I guess that's the real question, what do we, as members, want from our clubs? More opportunities for growth and inclusion of new people and events or should we limit events and participation? We have a plan in place for

getting the club licensed but I would love some feedback as to what you think we should expect from our National RR club.

I look forward to another fun and productive year as your president. And congratulations to the other board members who have been elected for another year: Alan, Niki and Meaghan. Thank you for your willingness to continue to help Ridgebacks in general and NERRC in particular.

Hope to see you at the Holiday Party on November 11!

Bonnie Johnson  
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## Meeting Minutes

New England Rhodesian Ridgeback Club  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Washburn Park, Marion, MA  
August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018

NERRC President Bonnie Johnson convened the meeting at 11:10am.

The Secretary took attendance:

Bonnie Johnson	Present
Barbara Ferguson	Present
Alan Fraser	Absent
Linda Hothan	Present
Helen McCune	Present

Niki Newton            Absent  
Meaghan Terwilliger Present

Quorum present

Guests: Cathy Ford; Rachel Reams and her husband Nathan King

**Minutes:**

- Minutes of the last Board meeting, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, were unanimously approved by the Board via email vote.
- Barbara Ferguson moved to waive the reading of the June 3, 2018 minutes; approved unanimously.

**Secretary's Report Linda Hothan**

Mail:

- AKC closeouts of the 4 Coursing Agility Tests June 23+24
- MASS Fed BOD Nominations

Motions made since 6/3/2018:

- To purchase 10 new slip leads for sale at coursing events (6 Yes, One abstain)
- To rent Washburn Park at a cost of \$150 for our Annual Meeting Sunday August 5<sup>th</sup> (5 yes, 2 abstain)
- To approve for membership Gregg Dionne and Barbara Glynn, Levi Kline, and Rebecca and Marie Fitzpatrick (7 yes)

Missing Files: Linda contacted Marie LaPointe, former Secretary, and asked Marie to review her computer files; secretarial files for 2012 and most of 2013 were obtained. In these files was a job description for the Secretary; it is hoped that other job descriptions for Officers and Committee Chairs may similarly be found.

Barbara Ferguson moved, Helen McCune seconded: to make a formal request to the past Officer and Newsletter Editor, Cheryl Fraser, for copies of all NERRC-related business, motions, ways and means documents, photos, minutes, newsletters, policies and procedures, job descriptions, and any other NERRC-related files/documents (digital and/or printed materials) so that NERRC may complete and update its secretarial files and archives. Unanimously approved.

**Treasurer's Report Alan Fraser**

In Alan's absence, Linda distributed the 2 pages of financial reports: 5/31/2018-7/31/2018 page shows a \$250 check paid to Charles Washburn Trust for the rental fee (\$150) and a \$100 refundable deposit if no damage is done; it would be preferable if the Report contained the explanation of the \$100.

There was much discussion about the category of Show Funds of \$137.75 and that we need a category dedicated as Trophy Funds. Barbara Ferguson explained the purpose of the Trophy Funds and its history, and that the raffle proceeds is divided 50-50 between Trophies and Rescue. She will draft an email to the Treasurer.

No question raised about the 1/01/2017-12/31/2017 fiscal report.

Bonnie Johnson noted that NERRC should have a debit card with a limit so that we could get our Website in NERRC's name; Bonnie will check with Jack Hamilton about the debit card. There was much discussion about 501(c)(3) non-profit status, who can sign checks, and the lack of a fiscal audit of the Treasury.

## COMMITTEES

### **Supported Show     Barbara Ferguson**

Written report submitted. Barbara reported that many companies are being contacted for donations for the September 15<sup>th</sup> Regional Specialty (eg, Lupine, Honest Kitchen, Spinal Technology, Blue Rock Resort, Hearthbread, Meeting House, package stores). Consensus of the Board was to purchase 100 Welcome Bags for \$46.32 + \$5.99 shipping. She noted that Dock Diving will be offered all 4 days of the Cluster (September 13-16); Best Puppy on Thursday and Friday; AKC National Owner-Handler Saturday and Sunday; Wicket and Scales Demonstration on Saturday and Sunday; New Exhibitor Briefing on Saturday; Semen collection and freezing on Saturday; and Eye Clinic on Sunday.

Rachel Reams suggested that we contact Royal Canine to get free puppy packets. It was also suggested that NERRC could put informative materials in the Welcome Bags such as a flier listing poisonous foods, and a thermometer for a hot car.

### **Lure Coursing     Nikki Newton**

Written report submitted. In Nikki's absence, Linda read Nikki's report, and noted that AKC had sent the closeout notices for NERRC's 4 lure coursing events of June 23 and 24.

### **MassFed     Jean Gamble**

Written report submitted. In Jean's absence Linda read the MassFed Nominating Committee report.

### **Historian     Cathy Ford**

Written report submitted. Cathy reported that little progress had been made on scanning the Fanning archives. And that she had not received a response/direction about a possible auction of some Marilyn Marschat-Rhodes drawings (eg, should NERRC auction them or should RRCUS auction them).

### **Membership Care     Trish Hamilton**

Written report submitted. In Trish's absence, Linda read the report that estimated the number of Welcome Packets sent out since January 1<sup>st</sup> to approximate 10, and one condolence card had been sent.

**Rescue Cheryl Fraser**

Written report submitted. In Cheryl's absence, Linda read the report that there is a great need for foster homes, RRRI will be hosting a booth at the Woofstock Dog Festival Saturday September 22, 11am-3pm at the Hudson-Concord Elks Pavilion in Hudson, MA. RRRI is again producing a 365-day desktop-style Ridgeback-a-day calendar for 2019, and the 2018 Rescue Quilt will be raffled off in Loveland, CO in October; this quilt was made by 15 quilters to represent the National Specialty theme 'Loving Life in Colorado'.

**The Ridgeline Suzanne Cooney and Evelyn Strawn**

Written Report submitted. Evelyn Strawn raised the issue of sending The Ridgeline via USPS to the membership. There are about 75 members in NERRC and about 33 want their newsletter delivered USPS, which is expensive and is a drain on manpower. It was suggested that NERRC only send hardcopies of The Ridgeline to those membership who do not have internet access.

**Ways and Means Rachel Reams**

No written report. Rachel noted that the slip leads had come in.

**ByLaws Anita Craven**

Written report submitted. In Anita's absence, Linda noted that Alan Fraser had tendered his written resignation from the Committee. She explained that she would produce a mock-up of draft ByLaws of comments from Anita, Alan and others for Anita to review then for the Board to review. There were no 'job descriptions' in the ByLaws.

**Policy and Procedure Linda Hothan**

No report submitted. There was discussion about what should go into the binder.

**Social Media Meghan Terwilliger**

Written report submitted - nothing to report.

**Website Cheryl Fraser and Meghan Terwilliger**

Written report submitted. NERRC needs a debit card in its name in order to get ownership of our domain to be NERRC.

**Regional Columnist Suzanne Cooney and Evelyn Strawn**

No report submitted. Nothing reported.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

RRCUS Bootcamp and Education Seminar  
Special Meeting of the ByLaws

**NEW BUSINESS**

Nominating Committee Cathy Ford, Chair, reported that everyone had been contacted about the upcoming election to ascertain if they were interested in running for a position (President, Treasurer, and 2 Director positions are up for election).

Meeting adjourned 12:27pm.

There was no General Membership Meeting due to lack of quorum.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda G. Hothan  
NERRC Secretary

### **Cranberry Cluster -- NERRC Sponsored Regional Show**



NERRC's 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Regional specialty was approaching quickly and all of us on the BOD were working diligently on last minute details to ensure that all exhibitors and spectators enjoyed another successful event! For the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row we were planning 3 days of supported entries surrounding the Regional and we were eagerly awaiting the entry breakdowns after they closed. We were thrilled

when we saw that for all four days of the Cranberry Cluster we drew majors with the largest entry and 5-point majors in dogs and bitches up for grabs at our regional on Saturday!

The day started in a thick fog but that burned off quickly and the sun brought plenty of spectators to Ring 1 to watch all the excitement. Our sweeps judge, Concetta Jez, was delayed but the nine puppies entered were ready for her when she arrived! Ms. Jez was patient and thorough with each entry and the puppies put on a good show for everyone! Her Best in Sweeps went to Adili's Reigning Spirit owned by Melloni Turpin-Harrell, Tammy Lynch and Kiki Courtelis and bred by Tammy and Kiki. Best of Opposite was Dry Pond's Jasiri of Jendaya owned by Amy Mullin & Helen McCune and bred by Gail MacLean.

The veterans were next and they didn't disappoint! The applause was wonderful and the old dogs responded by giving it their all! There was hardly a dry eye ringside watching these beauties go around the ring in celebration of their life's accomplishments! It was especially nice to watch Anita Craven handle her veteran girl, Shadyridge Lingana's Cachi. Cachi is bred and owned by two of NERRC's founding members, Anita and Ulla Brit Ekengren. It's no small accomplishment knowing that Anita represents over 34 years of dedication and devotion to the breed and to NERRC! Well done, Anita!!

Best in Veteran Sweeps went to the bitch, GCh Shabani's Ripple Effect CGC owned by Cheryl Cote & Bonnie Johnson and Bred by Bonnie Johnson and Daniel Wood. Best of Opposite was awarded to Ch Jendaya's Aduke Shombay owned by Rich Brown and Helen McCune and bred by Helen. He is the grandsire of the BOSSW winner too!

Soon after sweeps concluded Judge Barbara Pepper took the ring to begin her assignment. With an entry of 39 Ridgebacks she ran her ring efficiently and knew what she wanted. Her Winners Dog and Best of Winners was Shabani's Wing Man owned by Jeremiah Walsh and bred by Bonnie Johnson & Cheryl Cote. RWD was Dry Pond's Jasiri of Jendaya. Winners Bitch was Excaliber's Summer Splendor owned by Alicia Michnowicz & Marsa Hatfield and bred by Alicia and Danielle Sand. RWB was Assegai A Day in the Life owned by Brett Horton & Melissa Carlin and bred by Melissa Carlin, Gregg Dione & Barbara Glynn.

When the large group of Specials entered the ring, it was obvious that she would have to split them into groups. She moved quickly and efficiently to pull out her choices and the top honors went to the following:

Best in Specialty Show was the Veteran Dog - GCh Shabani's Johnny Walker Blue! Owned by Robin & Kent MacFarlane and bred by Bonnie Johnson. Johnny can still strut his stuff!!

Best of Opposite Sex in Specialty was GCh Cynara's Going Back to Jendaya SC CGC owned by Helen McCune and Elaine Hudson and bred by Elaine & Mark Hudson and Kate Payne. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> year in a row that Kylie was awarded BOSS at this show!

Select Dog was GCh Shabani's Master of Illusion owned by Heidi Dommers and Bonnie Johnson, bred by Cheryl Cote & Bonnie Johnson. Lusion and Heidi also won BOBOH and went on to win a BOB/OH Group 3 in a very strong Owner Handler Competition!

Select Bitch was Ch Shabani's Halo 'N Horns owned by Kathy Dineen and Bonnie Johnson and bred by Bonnie. Lila was a move up as this young girl finished her championship in fine style at the supported entry just the day before!

AOM was the veteran bitch, Ch Shabani's Princess Nala owned by Ashley Jensen and bred by Bonnie Johnson & David Masse.

AOM was Ch Kimani's Sweet Samantha owned by Susan Ramsey and bred by A Hanna, E Demopoulos and J Wilkinson.

Brood Bitch was Adili's Unstoppable Reign owned by Kiki Courtelis & Tammy Lynch and bred by Kiki, Tammy and Joyce Wilkinson

It was late morning by the time judging concluded and participants and spectators were invited to a nearby tent where NERRC sponsored a delicious buffet luncheon set up in the shade. Several tables were decorated with some beautiful raffle items and a silent auction was also held. It was a lovely, late summer day and that helped to keep the crowds lingering which brought the final raffle/auction tally to over \$1300! The proceeds were split between RR Rescue and the NERRC Specialty Fund that will go towards putting on another spectacular show at our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Specialty in 2019!

We have lots of ideas in the works and can't wait to see everyone next year!

## **HOLIDAY PARTY**

Our fun-filled Annual Holiday Party is just around the corner!

**Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**Boxboro Regency**  
**242 Adams Place**  
**Boxboro, MA**  
**11am - 3pm**

There will be a delicious Sunday brunch from 12noon – 2pm.

Ways and Means will have a table set up so you can get some bargain gifts for your family and friends, not to mention the ever exciting Raffle!

And don't forget a wrapped dog-themed gift (\$25 maximum) for the fun-filled Yankee Swap.

The NERRC Board meeting begins at 11am - all members are welcomed to attend.

Cost is \$26pp. **Please RSVP to Don Melchior at [hanoverian@erols.com](mailto:hanoverian@erols.com) or 617-803-8176 by November 6<sup>th</sup>** - We need to let the hotel know how many will be in attendance for the food count at least 5 days before the party, which is November 6th.

## First Reads

Bernadette Douzanis  
Weare, NH 03281  
Single voting  
Sponsor: Cathy Ford

Amy Mullin  
Randolph, MA 02368  
Single voting  
Sponsor: Helen McCune

Brenton and Whitney Pulsifer  
Norwell, MA 02061  
Family Voting  
Sponsor: Bonnie Johnson

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## Transitions

BEST WISHES to Marsa Hatfield and Eric Belt who have relocated to Colorado.

## **In Memoriam**

**Peter Brosnan**, son of long time NERRC supporters and board member, Linda and Richard Brosnan, passed away in February.

**William Lindstrom**, NERRC member since 2003, passed away in February.

**Joyce Myers** her late husband, Mort, were long time NERRC members who were supporters of the breed through conformation. She passed away in April.

The club would like to offer condolences to their families and friends.