Northeast Border Terrier Club
Meeting Minutes, Carmel NY, July 21, 2018

Rebecca Gurley, filling in for President Linda Parker called the meeting to order at 12:20 PM.

Motion to accept the minutes from the last meeting as published on the website was made by Ruth Ann Naun and seconded by Elizabeth Gilbert. Motion passed.

President’s Report: Two greeting cards are being distributed for signatures. Theo Congdon is unable to be here today due to an injury.

Secretary; Nothing to Report.

Treasurer; A hard copy of the report was distributed. The club balance is 12,408.37 as of 7/10/18.

Committee Reports:

Trophy; No report as Jane Stephenson is not present.

Supported Entries; No report as Theo Congdon is not present.

Old Business:

The 2018 Specialty Committee has requested a donation from us. At our last meeting, we passed a motion to spend up to $250 on a donation to them should they request it. Eileen Zaldonis volunteers to contact Liz Faber about the lobster dinner basket we have donated previously, as it has been a successful raffle item.

Advertising our supported entries either in the host show catalog or on Infodog website was discussed at our last meeting. Tim Acker and Theo Congdon were to gather more information, as neither one of them is present, topic tabled.

New Business:

Motion to approve New Member Applicant Marge O’Neil of Wells, Maine published in the May BorderTimes made by Eileen Zaldonis, seconded by Barbara Wood. Motion passed.

Sweepstake Judge for Windham 2019. Lisa Sauer volunteers as when she judged this sweeps previously it conflicted with BTCA Specialty and her total entry was 3 dogs. Seconded by Rebecca Gurley.

Holly Woodward brought up the fact that we have not updated our preferred judges list in several years. John Parker made a motion that we update our preferred judges list, seconded by Ruth Ann Naun. Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn made at 12:45 PM, motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Holly Woodward

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NBTC Treasurer’s Report  July 10, 2018

Balance as of 4-30-18 $12,414.42

Deposits
Membership 2017=$8.00 + 2018=$12 20.00
$12434.42

Expenses
Check order 26.05
$12,408.37

Balance as of 7-10-18 $12,408.37

Respectfully Submitted,
Rebecca C. Gurley, NBTC Treasurer
BTs Getting Down & Dirty in the Earthdog Tunnels

Are you looking to have some fun with your Border Terrier? Well, why not give Earthdog a try. Ask any BT owner why they like working in Earthdog with their dog and the first thing they say is that they love to watch their dog doing what it was bred to do...go to ground! And the second thing they say, is that it's not a competitive sport but more the handler and the dog working together as a team and against the clock. As I progress through the classes, this working relationship incorporates trusting my dog off lead, a good recall and good manners around other dogs while in a prey driven frame of mind.

Not sure where to start? Well just go to an Earthdog practice to check it out. The Greater Boston Area Earthdog Club holds once-a-month training sessions from May through August that anyone is welcome to attend. The year’s training dates are posted on the Club's website www.gbaec.net. The Club has a Facebook page as well (Greater Boston Area Earthdog Club) where you can find announcements of tests and training. The training site is at the Gardner Fish and Gun Club in Gardner, MA and the only thing you need is water, treats, a crate and a 6’ lead with a quick release collar. And please notify the contact person to get on the training list. There is no charge for training, they welcome everyone! There are four classes in Earthdog, Introduction to Quarry (IQ), Junior (JE), Senior (SE) and Master (ME). IQ is a non-qualifying class with no credit towards a title but is widely considered the most important class to get your dog “turned on” and get him/her used to a going to ground situation. This class basically demonstrates your BT’s interest in finding the quarry as well as the confidence to go to ground. The intro class is always held inside a fenced-in area, so no need to worry about your BT taking a walkabout on you!

In Intro to Quarry, you release your dog 10 feet from the entrance to the tunnel. A scent line is laid from the start line all the way through to the rat den. The tunnels are 3 sided 9 x 9 “wooden liners that are placed into trenches so that the “floor” is actually the earth. The liners can be quickly lifted out of the ground if need be to get your dog out if it decides to take a siesta in the tunnel on a hot day rather than chase after the rats!!

The tunnel is 10 feet long with one 90 degree corner that your dog must navigate and get to the rats within 2 minutes time. Once at the rats, your dog should start working the rats by continuously barking, digging, growling, lunging, etc at the rats for 30 seconds. After the 30 seconds of work, the trainer or judge will call you over to your dog where you will praise it profusely as you lift it from the trap door of the den area. The other three levels require the dog to navigate longer and more complex tunnels, work increasingly longer times and respond to a recall from the quarry.

Personally, whether I’m at a trial or training day, I like to volunteer at different levels so I can watch how differently each dog works their quarry. I also pick up tidbits of training information from other handlers and judges.

When I asked a few BT owners at a recent training day why they “do” Earthdog with their dogs, their responses mirrored my own in that we love to see our dogs doing what they were bred to do. The laughter and good times we all share with one another and the strong sense of community where everyone is willing to help everyone else, makes the experience well worthwhile.

(continued on p. 3)
A great source of information is Jo Ann Frier-Murza’s book “Earthdog Ins & Outs” easily found on Amazon or from Jo Ann herself.

If I’ve piqued your interest about Earthdog but you still have more questions about it, please feel free to email me at kitraska@comcast.net

Come out and play in the dirt with your dog and join the fun!

by Louise Traska and contributing editors Nancy Goldman and Hannah Gregorio

Come out and play in the dirt with your dog and join the fun!

Louise Traska photos, at a GBAEC training day

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**From the Editor**

This has been a fun issue to put together and I hope everyone enjoys it. The contributions from various members have made it what it is. **You can contribute, too!** Stories, photos, etc. are always welcome.

Louise Traska does a lot with her Borders (I should have so much drive!) and has kindly started sharing some of her experiences. As you read through her article, the story about Moz and the other tidbits you’ll see you don’t have to be a pro or an expert to enjoy doing things with your dogs. All of us started with zero experience but our curiosity and the realization that some of the sports can be a lot of fun for us and our dogs were enough to get us hooked. On the other hand, some folks don’t go in for organized sports. We’d love to hear about how Borders share others’ lives as companions around the house, yard and wherever else your dogs go with you.

**Jean Clark Editor.**

Send stories, photos to borderbrae@gmail.com

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**Lark, a well-rounded Border Terrier**

Bandersnatch A Fine Romance (aka Lark) earned her NACSW K9 Nose work NW1 title on 5/19. Out of the four elements she received a third place in two and also received a First Place Overall. This is awarded to the dog who finds the four hides (containers, interior, exterior and vehicles) in the shortest amount of time. She did this in 1:14.

I would like to thank Nancy for her help and encouragement in making this happen. She also talked me into entering this trial.

Lark is now 10 years old and has titles in obedience, rally, agility, earthdog, barn hunt, trick dog, lure coursing and weight pulling. She is also a breed champion and has raised one litter of puppies.

Kerry

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NBTC offers prizes to Border Terriers that qualify in certain AKC Earthdog Tests. FLKC earthdogs tests held in July were well attended by Borders and their owners.

29 Borders in regular classes, 17 in IQ,

12 legs earned

**NBTC Website, www.nbtc.info**

Visit it regularly to find out about club events, such as meetings, etc.
Pipit, not just another pretty face!

Pipit finished her Beginner Novice obedience title at the Genesee Valley KC on June 22nd. Her first two legs were at the Salt City Cluster in Syracuse the end of April. She earned placements in each trial, 2nd, 4th, (scores 188.5) and her final leg was a 2nd with a score of 192.0.

At Genesee Valley I asked to go out of order in the class as the OH Groups were starting. I was told I qualified, and gave my number to my friend Anne, changed collar and lead and headed to the other building. We came out of OH with a Gr 3! And Anne presented me with my Q ribbon, a 2nd place rosette, and a Title Completion rosette.

Pipit is now GCh Bandersnatch Defying Gravity BN, CA, TKN, CGC - she is now 7 yrs old

I forgot to mention that the same weekend she was BOB and BOBOH under Ruth Ann Naun at the Tonawanda Valley KC shows. Marg Pough

Hi Louise,
Imagine my delight when I opened the package from the NBTC. It was like Christmas! Thank you to you and your club for all the wonderful Border goodies! Wonder logo items and love the otter! Thanks again for supporting the little brown dogs in performance events! Well done!

Best,
Tibbie Dell
Elsa Bear

Meadowlake Frozen In Time, CGC, TKC, FDC
BN, RN, RI, RNTP
MOZ

MOZ, short for Mozart, proved to be a prodigy of the same caliber as his namesake. At 4 months he wowed the earthdog group with his fierce drive to “get the rat”. As soon as he turned 6 months, he entered his first barn hunt placing in every hunt up to his second leg of senior (except his first novice when he had a little accident in the ring and DQd). Then he discovered the REAL THING…we “auditioned” for Richard Reynolds rat hunt group in NYC.

MOZ was 7 months old the day we arrived for his evaluation. It took me 4 hours to drive into Manhattan during rush hour traffic (cursing my stupidity the whole way). Having arrived about an hour early, I decided to take MOZ for a walk. Lower Manhattan is very cold and very windy in the winter, and poor MOZ, being a prissy little show boy, didn’t have too many hairs to rub together to keep him warm (I, on the other hand, had 5 layers of turtles, sweats, sweaters, and coats). I took little shivering mMZ to the first tree to practice his newly acquired skill of leg lifting, when a plastic bag blew past him, and sent him tugging me back to the car. Great, this fearless little beast who thought nothing of riding in an excavator bucket 9 foot in the air was afraid of a plastic bag… I could see this evening would prove to be one of those embarrassments of my life.

Pack mentality is an awesome invisible power. It is an energy that charges the air with electricity. It heightens the dogs’ senses and sets them on high alert. Like soldiers going into battle, every nerve and muscle is ready for action. Hearing dogs barking down the street, I reluctantly leashed MOZ and locked up the car. But his whole demeanor had changed. MOZ dragged me down the street, drawn like a magnet towards the sound of the gathering pack… plastic bags be damned. Myriad thoughts ran thru my head; what if he only wants to play, or worse, hump the other dogs? what if i take off his leash and he hightails it back to the car? I got my answer soon enough. I reached the group and introductions were made. MOZ strode boldly into the middle of the pack aware of the electric energy but unsure of the action. The hunt was on, the game was afoot. MOZ attached himself to a Patterdale named Mighty who became his rat hunt mentor. We entered the park and those with recalls released our dogs. As Hudson caught his first rat, MOZ suddenly understood the rules of this new and exciting game…he was hooked. And there ended his career in earthdog, and there ended his career in barn hunt… he became a Border terrier obsessed. No rats in cages, no rats in tubes, just me against you as nature intended.

And as a postscript, MOZ overcame his fear of plastic bags when he attended his first lure course…another passion.

Nancy

William Reyna, photo
Judging earthdog tests and den trials can be a bit of a drag. There’s a routine that varies but little and dogs that are extremely proficient at working the test, but there is little variation and even less excitement. The Earthdog Tests sponsored by the Finger Lakes Kennel Club in Newark Valley, New York have long been a crown jewel of the earthdog program. I always try to get there as an exhibitor or as a judge. This year I was honored to judge once again. At the invitation of the test chairperson Marg Pough I went up a couple of days early for a bit of live hunting. On Friday we hunted along the edge of the property and found dozens of woodchuck holes, both big and small, but all showing promise. Because we had no diggers along, we explored and left them. Imagine my joy when Marg agreed to let me use this route as the hunt-up for the Master Test on Saturday. There were four braces entered and a wider range of breeds I may never see. To make a long story short, when confronted with this wonderful hunt country, each of the entered dogs performed at a level worthy of the title Master Earthdog and each of them is a dog with which I would be honored to hunt. All of the dogs found and marked multiple holes. Alice Carter’s Dachshund "Chance" got the chance and located a previously unfound super burrow and entered and marked it. Cindy Schroder’s Rat Terrier "Blue" worked hard outside the den and at one point signaled he had seen the quarry. Of great note was John Powell’s Border "Hamish" who used his correct size and form to enter a large earth, disappear from view and could be heard working quarry at a depth of three feet or more. (Just about the time we were starting to sweat Hamish reappeared looking for reinforcements. He was tailed on his way back to the job.) One dog did not qualify as a result of a technical foul at the liners, but all of them, without exception, proved themselves worthy as Working Terriers. It was a class I shall never forget.

Richard Reynolds

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**Barn Hunt**

You may have heard a bit about the sport called Barn Hunt? Contributing writer Louise Traska recent took her Border to a Barn Hunt event and will be writing an article about it for the next issue of the Border Times, with some photos. If you’ve taken part in Barn Hunt please feel free to contribut your own experiences, photos, etc. Deadline will be Sept. 30, 2018 but I’ll gladly accept articles and photos well before then.

Please send to borderbrae@gmail.com, Thanks, Jean