



## COLLIE CLUB OF MAINE, INC.

A non-Profit Organization  
Incorporated 1950

SEPTEMBER, 2019  
NEWSLETTER

THE SEPTEMBER MEETING WILL BE  
A PROGRAM ON THE SOLON  
COLLIE RESCUE EFFORT

### OFFICERS

President: Kathie Bangs  
PO Box 603  
Belgrade Lakes, ME 04918  
207-495-2487  
[flatlander52@aol.com](mailto:flatlander52@aol.com)

Vice-President: Deborah Valenti  
41 Jackson Avenue  
Poland Spring, ME 04274  
207-998-2647  
[debv61@aol.com](mailto:debv61@aol.com)

Secretary: Jeanette Wheeler  
PO Box 603  
Waldoboro, ME 04572  
207-529-2570  
[mahlon@tidewater.net](mailto:mahlon@tidewater.net)

Treasurer: Barbara Halloran  
59 Gross Neck Road  
Waldoboro, ME 04572  
207-832-6203  
[mailto:haulorn@gmail.com](mailto:mailto:haulorn@gmail.com)

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dick Halloran  
Susan Martin  
Joan Scialdone  
Arlene Towle (Alt)

Date: September 14, 2019

Time: 12:00 Noon

Place: The Hallorans' Home  
59 Gross Neck Road  
Waldoboro, ME  
207-832-6203

Directions: From Rte 1 in Waldoboro, take Rte 32 South in front of Hannaford's Grocery Store. Continue on Rte 32 to Dutch Neck Road where you will turn left. Make your first right onto Gross Neck Road. Barb and Dick's home will be on your left.

RSVP to Barbara and let her know if you are planning to attend and what you wish to bring.

## President's Message



*Emmie*

With September finally here, I'm happy to report that the rescue efforts of the Solon Collies, is winding down. It's been a truly emotional journey for those of us volunteering to assist the state in the care of these Collies and a thank you all for your support, whether you were able to volunteer physically or through your generous donations. CCME...this was your finest moment!

Thanks to our reaching out to our Collie friends across the country people have generously donated to this cause. Collie Rescue has so far received over \$5,000.00 in donations earmarked specifically for the Solon Collies. Offers have also come in from various Collie Rescue organizations advising they would gladly take some of these dogs.

After the seizure, the Collies were housed in Dixfield, Maine in a DOT building earmarked for destruction. When they heard of the plight of these Collies and Doberman Pinschers, the DOT reached out to Animal Welfare, offering the building and grounds to them. The dogs had running water, electricity and even AC! Offices were turned into kennels housing several dogs and the common area was set up with chain link kennels. Several volunteers from area animal shelters assisted in the daily care of the dogs, as well as Deb Valenti, me, Sherry and Wayne Giles, Cathy Vellucci and Stuart Hemming from CRLNE and Dan, a member from CCNE. We were also joined by a friend of mine, Gayle Maroon and her husband Derek.

Most of the dogs were transported to various shelters, along with 2 Massachusetts shelters, MSPCA of Cape Cod and Nevins Farm in Methuen. Collie Rescue was only able to secure a few of the Collies, which we found to be very unfortunate. Since their relocation, there have been 4 dogs who have gotten away from new owners. Thankfully, all but one has been recovered thanks to the efforts of Maine Lost Dog Recovery.

These Collies are experiencing various stages of emotional damage. For some, the transition into the life they should have been born into may come easy and for others, that transition may never come full circle. The damage that has been done by this one person to not only these wonderful animals but to the reputations of responsible breeders as well, is criminal. Unfortunately, the state has allowed her to receive 3 of the Dobermans and 2 cats back. She surrendered all of the collies; however, we already know she has made attempts to get some of them back. She will still be brought up on animal cruelty charges.

On behalf of CCME and CRLNE, we put together packets of materials for the animal shelters and new owners of these Collies. The packet includes breed information, grooming and health information, contact numbers for both organizations and an article specifically written by Marianne Sullivan of Millknock Collies and who judged conformation classes for us this year, on caring for a rescue collie. She contacted me asking what she could do to help. Barbara Corriveau also contributed towards the information provided. Deb and I made the rounds to most of the shelters with this information, along with assistance from Jeanette Wheeler, Kathryn Weare, Cheryl Martel and Jody Arsenault.



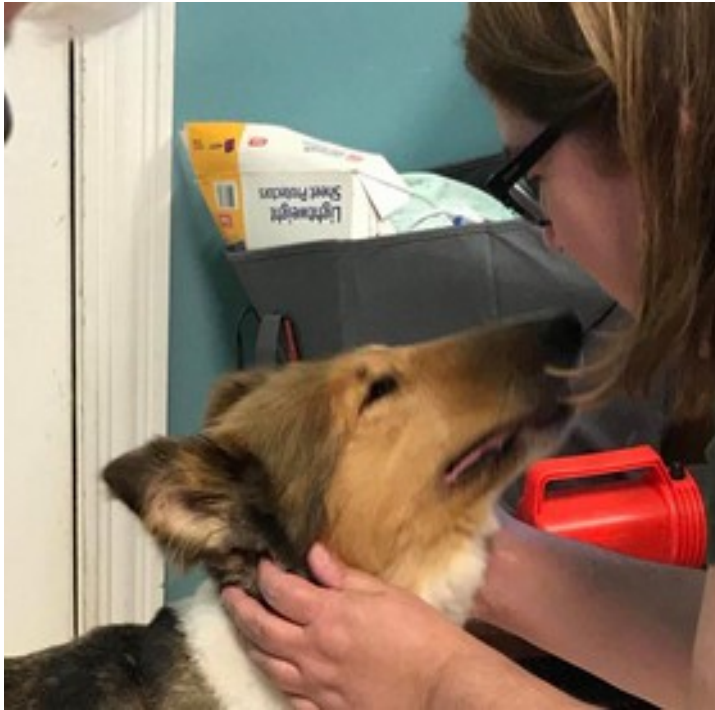
*Barb O'Halloran with her foster Collie, Gracie.*





*Two of the Solon Collies at the ARL in Westbrook before their adoptions*

On a happy note, Wayne and Sherry Giles fell in love with one of these collies and through trials and tribulations finally were able to adopt her. Her name will be Ellie (Cinderella)! Cathy Vellucci and Stuart Hemming also took in collies to foster, as did Barbara and Jim O'Halloran. Gracie, a tri-headed white is presently living with them and their collie, Brody. And yes, there's one here as well, a sable merle headed white, who I've named Emmie. Unfortunately, Emmie was one of the more severely damaged ones. She's a total sweetheart, however, frightened of anyone she's not familiar with and aggressive towards Quinn. I think Deb nailed it, in calling it a defensive mechanism towards intact males. The hard decision will be to send her on to another foster home better equipped to deal with her issues.



Would we go through this again? In a heartbeat “yes”. But hopefully, another situation such as this will never rear its ugly head again.

Kathie

*Ellie and Sherry Giles*

## **COLLIE CLUB OF MAINE, INC. MINUTES FROM GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING JULY 27, 2019**

The July 27, 2019 meeting of the Collie club of Maine was held at the home of Mahlon and Jeanette Wheeler, in Waldoboro. Those in attendance were: Kathie Bangs, Cheryl Lang, Dick and Barbara Halloran, Susan Martin, Joan Scialdone, Augie and Deb Valenti and Mahlon and Jeanette Wheeler. Guests attending were: Susan Hopkins, Gordon Lang, Carl Scialdone and Barbara and Jim O’Halloran. Our collies joining in the festivities were: Lila, Jazzy, Brody, Tawny, Sky and Langs’ litter of ten tri puppies.

The Board met briefly to discuss finances from the June Agility Trials and to discuss changes in the venue for next year.

After the annual Lobster Feast, the meeting commenced at 2:45P.M. Both the minutes from the May meeting and the current Treasurer’s report were approved.

Joan Scialdone, Chair for the Agility Trials, reported that the set-up crew, arriving the day before the trials, braved the pouring rains. Due to illness the scheduled judge had to be replaced. Roger O’Sullivan agreed to fill in and did an excellent job. Entries were: 345 runs on Friday, 290 runs on Saturday and 250 runs on Sunday. There were absolutely no complaints from the exhibitors, however, there were complaints about the rude treatment to our vendors, Max 200 and our Course Builder by one of Wassamki Springs Campground staff. The daily \$5.00 parking fee collected by the campground also brought in some complaints from exhibitors. Due to these complaints, the Board discussed exploring other venues for the 2020 trials. Penobscot Valley KC President Nancy Daniels spoke with Kathie about our coming back to the Cumberland Fairground shows, as an “All under one location” show

weekend. The events would include conformation judging, obedience, rally and CCME would complete this with Agility. Pineland Farms has come up numerous times in previous discussions. Joan will check to see if it is financially feasible for us to have the trials at Pineland and if the dates will be available. Although convenient to exhibitors competing with their dogs in various events, there was concern over the safety conditions of the fields that would be available for the club to use. John DePhillipi will be our judge for 2020.

Regarding the 2020 Specialty Show, Liz Klein, Judges Committee Chair reported that Conformation judges will be: Joe Reno, Robin Reed and Bob Kelly. The club is still in need of a Rally/Obedience judge to fill the slate. Contracts have already been signed with the Doubletree and there was discussion on the possibility of replacing the Champagne Reception with the Buffet Dinner, and perhaps requesting our judges to critique their selections.

Chery Martel has turned in her renewal application, Susan Hopkins has turned in her membership application and Barbara O'Halloran has expressed an interest in joining our club.

Kathie lead a discussion on the search warrant and subsequent seizure of the collies from a breeder in Solon, Maine. She has already been in contact with the Department of Animal Welfare to see how the club could assist them. Presently, they have not reached out to us. The Board has decided to contribute \$500.00 towards the care of these collies which will be sent to Collie Rescue League of New England and New York. A separate letter will be sent out to the membership advising that they would be able to make private donations in addition to the club's. Cheryl Lang suggested offering a free year's membership to anyone interested in fostering or adopting one of these Collies. Deb Valenti, Federation Delegate, will reach out to the Federation of Maine Dog Clubs for additional support.

Barbara Halloran mentioned that she had received a brochure from Orevit Pet Care, in Hartford, CT, regarding the various health testing services they are able to provide purebred breeders and owners with. This would include genetic testing and a detailed profile of each dog.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on motion made by Cheryl Lang, at 3:45P.M.

An educational program followed, where Cheryl Lang presented a critique of her litter which all enjoyed.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanette Wheeler/Secretary

## Missing Dog Found Safe After a Week in the Wilderness

By Jayna Smith

The Calais Advertiser does not report on every lost or found pet notice we see. Thankfully, in most cases, lost dogs or cats are typically found very soon, or return home on their own, not long after taking off on an adventure.

On Monday, August 26, however, Kelli Toole took to social media to ask for assistance in finding a lost collie named Farrah. According to her post, Toole had been fostering the dog only since the previous Friday.

"My goats scared her and she ran into the woods here...near the Alexander School," Toole's post read. "We have looked for hours."

Toole's plea for help was shared numerous times on Facebook, as were the posts by Animal Control Officer (ACO) Stephen Seavey. He also continued to post regularly in the days the dog was missing. Additionally, Maine Lost Dog Recovery shared the information to ensure even more people saw the notice of the lost dog.

Toole and Seavey never gave up hope that Farrah would be found. Seavey searched for Farrah throughout the week, in wooded areas and

along Route 9.

"I spent all week tracking animal tracks and setting live traps. I never thought Farrah would go far," Seavey said.

"I contacted other local ACOs and vets to see if they had a call or collie come in. As a great community, we looked, and with the help of Facebook, we spread the word everywhere."

But a full week had passed and there was still no signs of Farrah. Late in the day on Monday, September 2nd, Seavey got the call he had been hoping for. Farrah had been located in Alexander.

Unfortunately, the dog was in a swamp and would not go to her foster mom Toole.

"I figured I'd come from the back and try to get Farrah to go to Kelli," Seavey said. From there, a great recovery effort took place.

Seavey explained, "Farrah started towards Kelli and then headed for the woodline again. I ran through a small brook and ran up to the treeline to try to push Farrah back to Kelli. Farrah was so close to Kelli, but then decided to go into the swamp. She swam to a log, where she struggled to climb on."

Seavey took to the swamp and

headed toward Farrah to assist her. "Once I reached Farrah, she nipped me twice out of fear," but he continued to help the scared, struggling dog.

When Toole was able to get to Seavey and Farrah through the swamp, "Farrah would not leave her side," Seavey said. "Farrah was exhausted and scared, but she reached out with her nose and gave Kelli a kiss on the hand. She knew she was safe."

According to Seavey, Farrah, who is believed to be 5 or 6 years old, was rescued from a puppy mill seizure. He believes Toole was ensuring the dog would be a good fit with her other animals and family, and with some acclimating, planned to adopt Farrah for good.

Stephen Seavey is the Animal Control Officer for Alexander, Crawford, Cooper, and Wesley, and has been so for four years. Of being an ACO, Seavey said, "This is the best feeling and it makes the job worth it to see the animals get reunited with their families. I don't make much as an ACO, and sometimes it seems to be a thankless job, but it's worth the love you see when animals are loved and reunited."



ACO Stephen Seavey and Kelli Toole, reunited with Farrah. (Stephen Seavey photo)

### Raising Awareness

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The Wabanaki Confederacy

and songs of the Wabanaki people to the rest of the world. Each time the group plays they share a part of their culture

and depending on the situation, there are specific songs they sing for competitions and others they sing for specific

### Pirate Festival

(continued from page 1)





The following from Marianne Sullivan, of Millknock Collies, was prepared by her especially for those of you who have adopted one of the Solon Collies. Marianne has extensive experience in working with rescue Collies. She worked directly with the Montana Collie Rescue effort as a trainer/consultant and behaviorist during the time the dogs were held and with the adopters afterwards. This particular rescue involved 170 Collies. She is a past president and board member of the Collie Rescue Foundation. Marianne has done personal rescue and worked with many dogs to rehome them successfully. She has taught family and competition obedience and was a behavior consultant for 16 years, as well as having her own business for 8+ years.

Marianne lives in Virginia and contacted me directly to offer her assistance. This was the best way she felt she could lend support to this effort to re-home these very deserving Collies.

## **Tips for Caring for Your Rescue Collie**

It's always rewarding to provide a home for a dog in need. The dog you have brought into your life is special and here are a few tips to help make the transition easier.

Your dog came from a situation that did not give him/her the tools to cope with new situations. That's called socialization, and dogs that are not provided socialization early in life can still be wonderful companions but have a tougher and longer time adjusting. This lack of socialization can come in many forms and in varying degrees. Fear, stress and anxiety are the typical responses of dogs who are in situations they feel they can't cope with and especially new or unfamiliar things. With time, patience, love and some behavior tools the adjustment can go much more smoothly.

**First Rule:** Use equipment the dog cannot escape from: a martingale collar fitted so that it can't slip over the neck, or a harness that fits snugly. The better made harnesses are safer than the cheap ones. Nylon leashes can slip right out of your hands, so use a cotton web leash, six feet in length. **DO NOT** use a flexi lead. Slip leads or collars also work well.

**Make it SAFE:** Traveling, at home, in new surroundings should always take extra precautions that the dog cannot get away. Open doors at home, car doors when getting the dog out, going in and out of different places all need extra vigilance, possibly for months. Interactions with people and new situations need to be managed in a relaxed and safe way.

Don't trap your dog in an aversive situation: such as fear of strangers, other dogs/animals/cars/traffic/loud noises. If your dog becomes fearful or anxious, try to move away from the source of the fear until the dog relaxes. Let your dog approach new people and things, don't force him.

**ON LEAD:** If your dog suddenly reacts to a fearful situation, instead of you pulling in the reverse direction of the dog, give the lead some slack and hold on, taking steps towards the dog rather than the dog pulling away from you. This way the dog can't pull out of a collar or harness or yank the lead out of your hands.

Identify things that make your dog fearful, make a list and you want to avoid those things that elicit a fearful response. All introductions should be on a very low level and extremely slowly.

Find a treat that your dog LOVES. Treats in early stages should be very high-level treats: chicken,



steak, or packaged treats that smell delicious to your dog and can be broken into small pieces easily. If your dog rejects one treat keep trying until you find something the dog loves.

Your dog lived in a familiar structured world with other dogs in a pack environment. Regardless of the circumstances, your dog lacks exposure to new people and places that give him the means to cope. It may seem strange to you, but it's all new and foreign to your dog. Now your dog has anxiety because things are unfamiliar and unpredictable, and you are a stranger. It takes time to learn, to trust and bond. Go slow. Once your dog starts to trust you it will go easier, but it can take time and there is no predicting how long that might be.

Do not force your dog to be touched or petted, better if the dog chooses to approach you.

Many of these dogs feel safer outside and resist coming inside. It's all strange to them. Use treats to lure them in, or if they are difficult to catch, let them drag a long line so you can easily catch them without causing a fear reaction.

These dogs are used to a predictable and structured life. Rather than give them free run of the house (which increases risk of getting out), give them a small space to start, an x-pen, an enclosed pen area, a baby gated area, and if they are OK with it, an open crate they can retreat to. They need to feel that they have a safe space to relax. If crating causes too much stress, introduce it gradually. Slowly increase their freedom as they adjust.

Do not use physical corrections or harsh methods but also don't be afraid to let them know they are wrong with a simple, conversational tone; "no", "att" or "uh, ut". Then when they do something right verbally praise them. Even small accomplishments should be praised. Don't take their achievements for granted!

Finally, use SIT as the default behavior for everything. Teach your dog to sit. Sit before coming in, sit before going out, sit for treats, sit for meals, sit for pets/affection. Sit becomes a coping mechanism for when the dog becomes afraid. If you see your dog beginning to react fearfully, tell it to sit, move away from the stressor and use treats, make sure your dog knows sit.





**August 26, 2019**

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Patti Strand, NAIA President

503-761-8962

[naiia@naiiaonline.org](mailto:naiia@naiiaonline.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**USDA RELEASES KEY REPORT ON CANINE IMPORTS**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has released a key report finding that over 1 million dogs are imported into the U.S. each year. And, of those one million, less than one percent are subject to thorough health screenings that ensure they are healthy and free of disease before entering the country.

The 2018 Farm Bill provision, which was strongly supported by the National Animal Interest Alliance, directed USDA to coordinate with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to estimate the number of dogs entering into the U.S. each year. All three agencies share some jurisdiction over canine imports; however, the data released today demonstrates little to no oversight exists for 99% of these imports.

With the increase of unscreened dog imports, the U.S. has seen diseases from rabies, to canine influenza, to leptospirosis brought into the country. The publication of this report represents a critical first step in the process to update the current statutory and regulatory framework for dog imports to ensure animal and public health is protected.

NAIA applauds Secretary Sonny Perdue, Under Secretary Greg Ibach, Administrator Kevin Shea, and others at the Department of Agriculture for releasing this critical data to the House and Senate Agriculture Committees. And we are grateful to Representatives David Rouzer of North Carolina, Jim Costa of California, Kurt Schrader of Oregon, Ted Yoho of Florida, Ralph Abraham of Louisiana and Senators David Perdue of Georgia and Bob Casey of Pennsylvania for their efforts on this important issue.

We look forward to working with Congress and the Department of Agriculture to advance federal policies that enhance our import laws and regulations in order to adequately protect our country from foreign disease introduction.

*The USDA report on dog importation this press release was based on is available in the [NAIA White Papers](#) online.*

## Braggs and Chuckles



Anne Lively reports that Vita and Nina earned their Rally Intermediate titles at the Merrimack KC shows.









## From Your Humble Editor...

Don't forget to save brags, photos, and other fun Collie stuff for the newsletter! You can send me anything at [my3seadogs@yahoo.com](mailto:my3seadogs@yahoo.com).

### Photo and Image Credits:

Solon Collies: Kathie Bangs

Vita and Nina: Anne Lively

Cartoons: Dana Rodman

