



New England Border Collie Rescue, Inc. Newsletter & Journal

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Please send your content and pictures to us at
carole@woolgather.org.

Deadline for next issue: May 2nd, 2022

THE PAT SIDES SENIOR-TO-SENIOR PROGRAM

Pat Sides was a dear friend and a long-time Border Collie rescue advocate and volunteer. She lived in New York City with her friend Viv Ramos, and Border Collie Katie. When she died, NEBCR decided to inaugurate the Senior-to-Senior Program in her honor.

Through this program, adopters 60-years-old or older can adopt a senior dog, 10-years-old or older, and NEBCR absorbs the cost of ALL necessary vet care and adoption fees prior to adoption.

Many senior dogs who come into rescue have been living with senior citizens. Sometimes the owners have passed away or have gone into assisted living, and frequently their families will not or cannot keep their dog.

Border Collies live well into their teens and can often continue to enjoy all the activities they enjoyed in their youth, like playing ball, going for long walks or hiking, and leading a full life, perhaps just at a slower pace. Some of them are great characters.

Many senior citizens would like to have a dog, but feel they can't afford one, or won't be able to keep up with an energetic young dog. This program gives them the opportunity to fulfill that desire. If you are a senior citizen, or know of one who wants a Border Collie, we hope you will take advantage of this wonderful program and open your heart to one of our lovely older dogs. Visit our website NEBCR.org and learn the reasons to adopt a senior dog.

HOW TO GET INVOLVED WITH NEBCR AND WAYS YOU CAN HELP

NEBCR has many ways to get involved and help. There is fostering, our biggest need; but this may not be your cup of tea. We need people to drive, do home visits, dog evaluations, and so on.

NEBCR is a network of volunteers spread across the Northeast, and much of our work is done on the internet. Anyone who is computer savvy can help in some way right from your home. There is always a project of some type going on, that you can get involved in. You can contribute stories and photos for our Facebook pages, our website, or our *Newsletter & Journal*. Proofreading and thank-you cards are also one of the things you can do at home. We have fundraisers, reunions, and other ways to donate your talents.

So, don't be shy. Volunteer with us today. You won't be sorry and you will be doing a great service to the breed we all have come to love. Visit our website and sign up today!

www.NEBCR.org



A [video](#) featuring the many amazing Border Collies that have graced their way in and out of NEBCR this past year, dedicated to Meesha who sadly passed from [Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency](#)

TRUE OR FALSE?: Do the blue eyes in some Border Collies come from crossing with Huskies?

Answer: FALSE
Blue eyes are in the breed's genetics, just as other color eyes are.



ON THE ROAD WITH ROOSEVELT

My first glimpse of Roosevelt was a photo of the back of his head, and shoulders, as he sat in his puppy cart looking out over the sun swept fields of Sugarbush farm. He instantly took my breath away as my eyes filled with tears. I knew in that moment he was perfect, and incredibly special. Yup, I saw the wheels, but my only thought was "I know I'm not good enough for him, but if I am ever given a chance to be in his life, I'll give him everything I've got, every single day."

Never in a million years did I believe my application would ever be considered, but somehow the stars aligned in 2004 when I was granted the opportunity to adopt Coalby from NEBCR. So, I hoped for both Coalby and me that the stars would align once more with Roosevelt.

Very soon after I saw Roosevelt, Coalby became gravely ill, and I needed to focus all my attention on his intensive medical care. Finally, Coalby had turned the corner, and I began to hope once more, as miraculously, Roosevelt was still available. I submitted my application, and it was approved. Our very first road trip was November 8, 2009 when we drove home with a skeptical Roosevelt sitting in the back seat.

I don't know how it happened so fast, but I was lucky enough to have this incredible miracle in my life for just over 4,360 days. We covered over 200,000 miles traveling together—50,000 miles on his own tires—as he met thousands of new friends, went on trail walks, attended his Therapy Dog Inc. sessions working with children and seniors, went skiing, boating, and so many beach trips I couldn't begin to count them.

On October 4, 2021 we took our last road trip together. It was then that I suddenly realized I was never the one leading the way on all of these 12 years of incredible adventures. I was merely following—the one still behind him, looking at the back of his adorable head, while he looked out into the sun planning, and achieving his wildest dreams.

In my desperate attempt to find a way to channel my grief, I focus on all of the lessons he taught me:

1. See everyone you meet through your heart, not your eyes.

2. Always be yourself.

3. Know we are all here to live, experience, learn and teach each other—so make sure the first experiences you share with others is in love, happiness, compassion, perseverance, and forgiveness

4. We are all perfect exactly the way we are. Our differences are our opportunities to do better for all and be more for everyone.

5. Roosevelt's favorite: never be afraid to blaze your own trail.

Please help me continue Roosie's Legacy by remembering him whenever you have an adventure with your pet. Remember him whenever you have the opportunity to try something new and face it with strength.

Roosevelt Bainard Fox
3/10/09-10/4/21

Until we meet again, my beautiful boy. I feel incredibly humbled, blessed, and forever grateful you allowed me to be beside you in this lifetime.

—Stephanie Fox

View more Roosie photos [here](#) proving he was a dog with only one disability but many abilities.



[So often we concentrate on the difference we make in a dog's life that we miss the change in the adopter's life. Dice's story shows the difference adopting a dog can make in both the life of the dog and the life of the adopter. Being young and a bit reactive, Dice had four homes before coming into NEBCR.]

by Joy Kenney

In February of 2014, following a heavy snowstorm, my mother and I embarked on a journey of love and healing. After the loss of our beloved Border Collie, Candy, it was clear that there was an emptiness in our home. We had no prior experience rescuing, but it just felt right for us to make a positive change for an animal in need. While viewing Dice's profile on the NEBCR site, it became clear right away that she was a perfect fit. Minutes after entering her new home, Dice was on her back with paws up, fast asleep on the couch (in my favorite spot).

Dice is a sweet, goofy, loving, and empathetic girl. She is very much in tune with the emotions of others. She enjoys participating in many fun activities including agility, nose work, frisbee, heelwork, trail walks and tricks, but her all-time favorite is the Chuckit! She loves to run, and lives for rides in the car and Jeep! Dice has been with us for eight years now and remains our faithful and true companion. She was the inspiration in deciding to pursue a career in dog training, and now I share stories of our life together with my students. Thanks to the experiences we have had together, a whole new world of possibilities has been opened. Dice continues to teach us new ways to live and love each day, and I will forever be grateful to her for all of her life lessons.



PET BEHAVIOR CONSULTING

Positively Effective

**by Elise Gouge
Behavior Consultant**

As dog lovers, we love greeting dogs! But not all dogs love to be greeted.

It's important to understand dog etiquette when saying hello to a dog you don't know.

Avoid hovering, leaning, or putting pressure on the dog. Instead, squat down and invite the dog into your space.



Pet under the chin or on the chest and be brief. Allow the dog to ask for more pets and interacting instead of not giving the dog a choice.



Use play or a toy as a buffer with dogs that aren't ready for direct petting. Dogs have so much to say and it's up to us to listen!