

BCSDA Members,

I hope you all wintered well and yes, I think spring has finally come. I thought I would touch base with you to let you know what the Board of Directors has been up to over the past months since my last letter.

Rose McLeod informed me the Calendar project is going well and we have pre-sold 52 calendars to date. Stirling Acres trial in April made \$66.00 on the toonie toss . We also sold BCSDA items for a total of \$90. If members want a 2018 BCSDA Calendar please contact Rose. mcleodbm@telus.net Ph. # 604 856-6356.

Some of our members have sent me pictures that are potential pictures for the calendar. Keep them coming! Remember the calendar is not just a date reminder - members live far apart and it brings us a little bit closer together as members of our organization. The calendar highlights BCSDA members and their canine doing a sport that we all love. If members want a special event posted on the 2018 calendar please forward the dates to me. It is not a problem to enter special dates on our calendar. The plan is to get the first addition out for late summer or early fall.

BCSDA now has a Face Book page. Thanks to Jennifer L'Arrivee for doing a great job on it. She informed me that we currently have a following of 198 people and most pictures received get about 400 likes. Members can express their thoughts, articles, dogs for sale, etc. now through blogs, social media and cell phones. Results from trials are posted almost instantly and trial organizers are sending out the results to the competitors and website quickly.

Bill Crawford, our web page manager, has been keeping the BCSDA web page informative and positive. Watch some of the trial videos he has posted. Check it out! He also informed me that our Face Book page compliments our web page site and he has noticed a marked increase in the number of hits to our site. <http://www.stockdog.bc.ca/>

I had a conversation with Sandra Hurst, our Look Back editor, this past week. She informed me our Spring "Look Back" edition will be sent out the first week of June. If members had articles to send to Sandra I'm sure it would be greatly appreciated. Thanks Sandra!

Saying that, the directors have had conversations this past two weeks whether our Look Back has come redundant and old news. In today's world people now have the availability for information by social media. The pending decision is to no longer offer the Look Back in the printed form and direct members to the web page. The board voted 90% in favour of eliminating the paper version of LB. The money we bring in from advertisers could still be collected but their ads put on the website. The ads would reach more people. The thoughts are: we could save our money and spare the LB editor the many hours of their personal time. The concern is: about those members that don't have an email address. One suggestion is to phone them and advise them of the change to accessing the web site for information/entry forms/ etc. If they don't have Internet access we could print off relevant information and mail it to them. We suspect the numbers of people needing this service would be very low. Members if you feel this needs to be voted on at our next AGM meeting - please advise. I'm sure the board would have no problem putting this item on the agenda

Gord Lazzarotto
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News

Live Streaming of the 2017 USBCHA National Sheepdog Final

They are happy to announce that they will be live streaming the 2017 National Finals. The live stream will be for the Semi-Final and Final runs on Saturday and Sunday. Sept. 30th and October 1 2017