

## **Stirling Acres Trial – 2017**

By Jennifer L'Arrivee

Handlers from as far away as Utah, descended upon Lee Lumb's and Brian Revel's beautiful farm in Coldstream, British Columbia this past April. As usual, Lee and her crew were extremely organized and all three days' events ran like clockwork. Our judge this year was Maggi McClure from Vashon Island, Washington. Maggi did an exceptional job sorting out the many runs and all with a smile on her face!

Bill Crawford, the course director, made sure no one missed their run and that we were out on the field in a timely manner. Julie Carter and her team of dogs, set sheep the entire weekend and never missed a beat! Her outstanding effort was truly appreciated by the handlers. Lynne Schweb handled all the scores and has the ability to walk everywhere while computing numbers in her mind. She is amazing. Gord Lazzoratto was sheep boss and tended to the 100 head of hair sheep. The 4-H kids manned the sheep pens and concession and Kathleen Williams took many wonderful pictures.

While the scores have been posted for some time now, I would just like to add that the competition is fierce in the west with scores in the 80's not in sight of the placings! There are so many talented handler-dog teams. Especially when considering that many aren't able to train much in the winter.

A huge thank you to Lee and Brian. Both have strongly supported sheepdog trials and activities for many years and both the handlers and working dogs throughout the west have benefited from their dedication and generosity.