



First Stop: THE COLLIE CLUB of AMERICA

Welcome to
the wonderful
world of the
purebred Collie!

A 'family affair': CCA-sponsored events include Obedience ...



... Conformation



... Herding trials



... and Agility

The decision to add a new dog to your home, especially a new breed for which the owner is unfamiliar, is not easy. Thankfully for the new Collie owner, your Collie is actually part of a larger, well-established community of breeders and enthusiasts who come together as **The Collie Club of America**.

Though individual member goals may vary, the one collective goal of this community is to further the best interests of the breed through education, distribution of information, shared

breedings, furthering of competition and performance events, mentoring, health initiatives, publications and communications.

A lot has been written about the Collie, and these books, too, both fact and fiction, will be a wonderful introduction to the breed (click here for *Resources*). They will help prepare you for Collie ownership—and for your first meeting with a prospective breeder. Breeders appreciate those who invest the time in education and possess a desire to learn more about this most wonderful of all dog breeds—The Collie.

Fun and Fraternity

The American Collie Community is like a small town. We all know each



Photo courtesy of Barbara Cudzynowski



other and each other's families of dogs, and we all come together in local Collie Clubs and at show events, seminars and social gatherings.

In some breeds, there are very different types of dogs developed for the show ring, work in the field, and canine performance sports. This is not true of the Collie. With Collies, dogs from the same kennels, often the same dogs or their littermates, are family dogs *and* are also active in show rings, herding courses, and the obedience and agility rings.

The dogs and their owners and breeders see each other at the CCA's National Specialty show each year

which acts as the family reunion for the breed ([click here to learn more](#)). At Nationals we network, study, share information and plan litters as well as participate in competitions and social events. Online and print journals, dog events, and our passion for Collies keep us in constant touch with each other through the rest of the year. Though we live in different parts of the country, and raise dogs with definite individual personalities, we are very focused on the betterment of our breed. This focus is reflected in the excellent quality and consistency of the Collies you will find anywhere in the country.

The "official" responsibility for the continued welfare and quality of these wonderful dogs, plus the combined wisdom of over a century are centered in the Collie Club of America and its members across the country and around the world. The CCA is very well organized with multiple communications channels which are available to assist you in your search for a family dog. We can very quickly move you from our national website to direct contact with an "advisor"—a CCA District Director—who is knowledgeable and close to where you live.



... Next Stop: YOUR CCA DISTRICT DIRECTOR...

A Collie is not a difficult dog to find, though well-bred, purebred Collies are not often advertised in the newspaper and are never sold in pet shops. Well-bred dogs are found by networking. There are many small quality breeders across the country, connected by the **Collie Club of America's** network through our **District Directors** and local Collie Clubs. Each state or part of a state in the U.S. has an elected District Director whose job it is to assist people who are looking for Collies. The District Director for your area will be able to answer specific questions about what dogs are available from breeders or **Collie Rescue** ([click here for more on Rescue](#)), or whether litters are planned for the near future. He or she can also give you specific information about the breeders and Collie kennels in your part of the country and answer additional questions you may have about the breed. To find your area representatives, click here: www.collieclubofamerica.org/cca_district_directors.html for the District Directors Directory listing names and contact information. Local Collie Clubs across the country are also knowledgeable about the breed and host Collie events such as Collie Specialty Shows, Performance Trials and Collie educational and social events. Your District Director will also have information on local clubs and events that might be of interest to you and your family as well as information to help further your interest in the Collie.

CHAPTER 7: Final Stop: The Breeder

