



THE Bernerblatt

The Newsletter of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Nashoba Valley



Inside this issue

Calendar of Events	2	Annual Meeting Highlights.....	7
Versatility Showcase.....	2	Draft Workshop.....	8-9
New Members	3	Celebrating Our Berners.....	10-13
Regional Specialty Results.....	4-5	Health	14
2022 Annual Meeting Titles.....	6	BERNER, Inc. Rescuing Olaf.....	15

March Specialty Versatility Showcase

Saturday
May 27, 2023
AKC Obedience Trials
Warner Brook
Training Center
Pittsford, VT

Saturday
June 10, 2023
Draft Workshop (Full)
Timberlost Farm
Ashburnham, MA

Saturday
September 23, 2023
Fall Fun Day
4-H Fairgrounds
Westford, MA

Saturday
September 30, 2023
Draft Workshop
Timberlost Farm
Ashburnham, MA

Saturday
October 7, 2023
Berners & Brews
The Mystic Meadows,
Trolley 27 and Tavern 27
Laconia, NH

Saturday & Sunday
October 21 & 22, 2023
BMDCA Draft Tests
The Hall
Sterling, MA

The Versatility Award was created by the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America (BMDCA) to recognize those Bernese Mountain Dogs who show a great breadth of achievement. One of the primary goals of this award is to encourage all Bernese breeders and owners to preserve the Berner as an “all around” dog with a long tradition as a multi-use farm dog as well as a beautiful show dog.

To qualify for this award, a dog needs to have earned an AKC conformation championship, a BMDCA Novice Draft Dog title, and one other working title from the following: obedience, tracking, agility, or herding. Being able to enter a Versatility Showcase is an honor and a celebration of the Berner’s working ability as well as their conformational soundness. They are more than “just a pretty face.” These dogs and their people have put in long hours of training and competing. A Versatility Showcase and award are wonderful ways to recognize all that hard work.

For more information see the BMDCA website.



These dedicated club members provide essential services to our membership.

Please feel free to contact them with your questions, concerns, suggestions, requests for help, or offers of help.

Our mission is to provide the best for Berners and their families.

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On the Cover:

Having fun at the Draft Workshop!

Lucchese's Bear Hug From Cypress "Kenai" BG# 211625 (left pup) owned by Sue McEvoy. ♦ Timberlost Lancy's Dumpling "Lancy" BG# 211408 (right pup) owned by Candace Wright. ♦ OHBIS MOHBISS BISS GCH Riverwood's The Fennel Countdown FDC NDD CD CGC ATT "Fennel" BG# 155358 owned by Sam & Tina Sirico, Laurel Wood.

The masthead & newsletter design is by Nancy Hoyt.

President's Message

Dear BMDCNV Members,

We have just had a terrific Annual Meeting—I hope you were able to join us. The video of Pat Long's talk "Health and Testing 101" has been posted on our website so you can enjoy it again, along with the full Annual Report, and meeting highlights can be found elsewhere in this Bernerblatt.

We are so blessed to have been brought together by these wonderful, extraordinary creatures. They go along with whatever we think is fun. Never mind that it may make no sense to them. Halloween costumes? Climbing a seesaw? Oh sure, whatever! Bring it on!

It has been such an honor to serve as your president over this past year. In fact, I'm dizzy thinking of all the fun things that we've done. We've worked hard to try to improve communication with you—it's still a work in progress and we love to hear from you with ideas and suggestions. We've asked for folks to do many things, and you have stepped up! (We are still looking for a Virtual Response mass email sender and a historian.) Our Bernerblatt has been re-invented with enormous new energy. And we introduced a new thing—BMDCNV WAGinars. I hope you've had a chance to either attend a live Zoom session or play the recordings that we made. We have more WAGinars being planned.

I'd like to remember two members who left us last year: Libby Kesner and Ed McHale. Ed and his wife Joann lived in Albany, New York before retiring to Tennessee. Despite the distance from Albany, they frequently hopped in the car to join us for many in-person events, and were just so much fun. Libby also lived in New York for many years, after living in and naming her kennel after the state of Maine (simply called "Maine's"). She was an esteemed breeder and judge and was beloved by many of our club members. We will miss them. On a positive note, I recently had the great pleasure of chatting with our founding president, Bev Barney. She now lives in Arizona and was happily surprised to hear me on the other end of the line. She wishes us well.

Please remember that I'm here for you and we are all here for the dogs we so love. My overriding goal is to treasure, protect, and celebrate the Bernese Mountain Dog. I know you'll join me in this.

All the best,
Mary Durham



Are you a New Member?

Tell us about yourself in our
New Member Showcase.

Click or copy this link, complete the summary,
upload a pic, click submit, and that's it!

[bmdcnv.org/new-member-showcase](https://www.bmdcnv.org/new-member-showcase)



Welcome New Members!

We invite all to join the members-only bmdcnv.org group. Follow the instructions at <https://www.bmdcnv.org/become-a-site-member>

John Polanowicz
Wellington, FL

Patty McPherson
Pembroke, MA

Caleigh Brown
Attleboro, MA

Jennifer & Catherine Lynds
N. Falmouth, MA

Carolyn Cwalinski
Swampscott, MA

Frank & Gail Cheverie
Plymouth, MA

Daniel Gacetta
Fairfield, CT

Kathleen Webb
Brewster, ME

Patrick & Lindsey Pollifrone
Marlborough, MA

Show Results – March 4, 2023
BMDCNV Regional Specialty at
Connecticut River Working Group Association



Sweepstakes Judged by Ms. Susan K. Morrill

BEST IN SWEEPSTAKES

Bayraktar Pride of Justin “Strike”

Owner: Joanne Gerow
 Breeder: Olena Yermilova

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX SWEEPSTAKES

Anastasia Summer Island Dreams “Tessa”

Owner: Diana Deyette & Natalie Ellis
 Breeder: Natalie Ellis

BEST VETERAN IN SWEEPSTAKES
CH Ursli Firm AXP AJP NFP CGC NDD “Firn”

Owner: Paul Emerson & Mary Durham
 Breeder: Paul Emerson & Mary Durham



Regular Classes Judged by Ms. Dawn Hitchcock

BEST OF BREED

GCH Carma Que N Tristevan’s Fearless Redneck “Jimmy”

Owner: Hunter Calvelage & Bobbi Parker
 Breeder: Brenda Calvelage & Marsha Schaublin

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX, BEST OF WINNERS, WINNERS BITCH & BEST PUPPY
Snowpaw’s Jania Von Edelweiss “Janey”

Owner: Ann Davis
 Breeder: Heidi Henderson & Angela Evans



SELECT DOG

GCHS Trevi’s Winter Bliss “Bliss”

Owner: Barbara Ann Bych
 Breeder: Carri Ehrich

SELECT BITCH & BEST VETERAN

GCHS Alpenspirit Private Screening “Scarlett”

Owner: Sheila Galizzo, Mylene Turbide & Lisa Galizzo
 Breeder: Mylene Turbide

AWARD OF MERIT

GCHG Greenway’s Timeless Legend V Oleka CGC TKN “Oliver”

Owner: Renee Gallizzo & Dede Laveran & Lisa Gallizzo
 Breeder: Angela Evans & Nancy Daly

AWARD OF MERIT

GCHS Alpenspirit I’m A Soul Man FDC “Otis”

Owner: Pamela Eldredge & Mylene Turbide
 Breeder: Mylene Turbide

BEST OF BREED OWNER HANDLED

GCH Riverwood’s The Fennel Countdown NDD FDC CD CGC ATT “Fennel”

Owner: Samantha & Christina Sirico & Laurel Wood
 Breeder: Laurel Wood

WINNERS DOG

Bayraktar Pride of Justin “Strike”

Owner: Joanne Gerow
 Breeder: Olena Yermilova

RESERVE WINNERS DOG

Timberlost Homer’s Odyssey “Homer”

Owner: Seth, Allison, & Candace Wright
 Breeder: Candace Wright

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH

Cedar Creek’s Black Rose “Spirit”

Owner: Brenda Bernard
 Breeder: Brenda Bernard & Natalie Ellis

BEST BRED BY EXHIBITOR

Spellbound’s Sassy Biscuit “Dover”

Owner: Dayna & Scott Merrow
 Breeder: Dayna & Scott Merrow

Versatility Showcase Judged by Ms. Abby Patrizio

BEST IN VERSATILITY

GCH Riverwood’s The Fennel Countdown NDD FDC CD CGC ATT “Fennel”

Owner: Samantha & Christina Sirico & Laurel Wood
 Breeder: Laurel Wood

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX IN VERSATILITY

CH Ursli Firm AXP AJP NFP CGC NDD “Firn”

Owner: Paul Emerson & Mary Durham
 Breeder: Paul Emerson & Mary Durham

Show Results – March 5, 2023
BMDCNV Supported Entry at
Connecticut River Working Group Association

Sweepstakes Judged by Ms. Angela Ebbs

BEST IN SWEEPSTAKES

Anastasia Summer Island Dreams “Tessa”

Owner: Diana Deyette & Natalie Ellis
 Breeder: Natalie Ellis

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX SWEEPSTAKES

Timberlost Homer’s Odyssey “Homer”

Owner: Seth, Allison, & Candace Wright
 Breeder: Candace Wright

BEST VETERAN IN SWEEPSTAKES

GCHS CH Alpenspirit Private Screening “Scarlett”

Owner: Sheila Galizzo, Mylene Turbide & Lisa Galizzo
 Breeder: Mylene Turbide

Regular Classes Judged by Mr. Robert L. Vandiver

BEST OF BREED & BEST OF BREED OWNER HANDLED

GCHS Malicloy Hear Me Roar V Bjorns
RI FDC CGC TKN “Roary”

Owner: Sheri Wright & Ben & Holly Taylor
 Breeder: Barbara Pattison

BEST OF WINNERS, WINNERS BITCH

Twinhearts Working The Case “Prentiss”

Owner: Lynn, Danielle & Rachel Meyers
 Breeder: Lynn, Danielle & Rachel Meyers

BEST OF OPPOSITE SEX

GCH Tennescott White Mtns Abenaki Brook
CD RE CGC “Abi”

Owner: Barbara Beck-Wilczek
 Breeder: Barbara Beck-Wilczek



SELECT DOG

GCHG CH Greenway’s Timeless Legend V
Oleka CGC TKN “Oliver”

Owner: Renee Gallizzo, Dede Laveran & Lisa Gallizzo
 Breeder: Angela Evans & Nancy Daly

SELECT BITCH

CH Bahnhof’s The Last Mango In Paris “Paris”

Owner: Michael & Janice Bann
 Breeder: Janice Bann & Michelle Keck

AWARD OF MERIT

GCH Carma Que N Tristevan’s Fearless Redneck
“Jimmy”

Owner: Hunter Calvelage & Bobbi Parker
 Breeder: Brenda Calvelage & Marsha Schaublin

AWARD OF MERIT

GCHS Trevi’s Winter Bliss “Bliss”

Owner: Barbara Ann Bych
 Breeder: Carri Ehrich

WINNERS DOG

Alpenspirit Wynn Wager “Wager”

Owner: Jack & Maureen Wilson & Mylene Turbide
 Breeder: Jack & Maureen Wilson & Mylene Turbide

RESERVE WINNERS DOG

Oleka’s Xtra Need For Speed CGC TKN “Maverick”

Owner: Christine Hoffman & Angela Evans
 Breeder: Angela Evans

RESERVE WINNERS BITCH

Blackrock Zermatt’s Z-One “Hygge”

Owner: Erin O’Malley
 Breeder: Dawn Cox

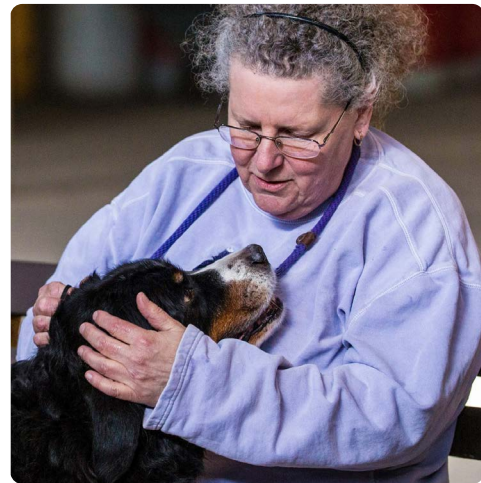


Photo credit: Lisa Freed

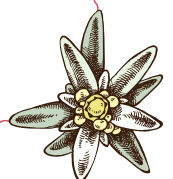
The Bernese Mountain Dog Club
 of Nashoba Valley

*Regional Specialty Show 2023 was
 Dedicated to the Bright Memory of*

Libby E. Kesner

1 February 1952 – 8 June 2022

Maine’s Bernese Mountain Dogs
 Preservation Breeder, Compassionate Mentor
 Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America
 Bernese Mountain Dog Club
 of Nashoba Valley, 33 years
 AKC Breed Judge



BMDCNV REGIONAL SPECIALTY & SUPPORTED ENTRY IN REVIEW

The Regional Specialty weekend started off with nerves on high alert, not from the upcoming two days of dog shows, but from the large snowstorm that was blanketing the northeast. But nothing holds back a determined owner with a Bernese to show! We had a beautiful turnout of dogs, 70 entries from baby puppies on up to our beloved veterans. This year, for the first time, we added the Versatility Showcase classes as an opportunity for BMDCA Versatility-titled dogs to show off. Dogs in these classes have both beauty and brains, as they have already achieved a high level of performance titles as well as conformation championships.

The show this year was dedicated to the memory of Libby Kesner, a long-time breeder, mentor, judge, and BMDCNV member. Many of our entrants had either shown under Libby, owned a dog with her pedigree, or been a close friend. A lovely tribute to her was posted at the ring entrance. We all felt her presence that day as she watched over us strutting our stuff.

A heartfelt thank you to our judges: BMDCNV member Susan Morrill, who judged the Sweepstakes classes; Dawn Hitchcock, for judging Regular classes and Best of Breed; and BMDCNV member Abby Patrizio, for judging the Versatility Showcase. For our supported entry on Sunday, we thank judges Angela Ebbs for Sweeps and Robert Vandiver for Regular classes. Lastly, thanks to the Connecticut River Working Group for inviting us to host our Regional Specialty at their show.

Many competitors went home with amazing trophies, all sponsored by our club members, and beautiful ribbons handcrafted by long-time BMD breeder/handler/and now conformation judge, Sindi Leo.

Winter can always be a tough time of year to go to a show, but as evidenced by our fantastic turnout ... the show must go on and it did!

Congratulations to all the winners of the weekend!



- Heidi Henderson, Regional Specialty Chair

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: RECOGNITION OF 2022 TITLES

GALA

CH Trailbounds Grand Gala CD RN NDD
Allison Harding, Ray Harding, & Michelle Keck
AKC Trick Dog Novice
AKC Canine Good Citizen

VIOLET

Oleka's Zingy Beautiful Violet
Jessica Moore & Jordan Fortier
AKC Canine Good Citizen
AKC Trick Dog Novice
AKC Trick Dog Intermediate
AKC Trick Dog Advanced
AKC Rally Novice
AKC Rally Intermediate

LEROY

Barc's Leroy
Amy Mathieu
NACSW NW3 Elite
NACSW ELT1
NACSW L1C
NACSW NW3-V
NACSW NW3-E

LIZA

Ledgewood's Leading Lady
Abby Patrizio
AKC Trick Dog Novice
AKC Canine Good Citizen

FIRN

Urslie Firn AXP AJP NFP CGC NDD
Paul J. Emerson & Mary J. Durham
AKC Champion
BMDCA Versatility Dog

ERAGON

Dream of Eragon's Swiss Kiss NDD CGCA
Cathy Sullivan-Neves & Christopher Neves
AKC Temperament Test

NELLIE

Ledgewood's Up In Lights NW1 L1C L1E CGC TKN NW2
NW3 SCN SEN NW3-E NW3-C NW3-V NW3-1
Ellen J. Barnaby
NACSW NW3 Elite

LYRA

Trailbound's More Than Words TKN
Linda Bates & Nancy Bates
NACSW ORT Title
NACSW NW1
AKC Trick Dog Intermediate
AKC Trick Dog Advanced

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The BMDCNV met via Zoom on April 16 to conduct our Annual Meeting. Here are the highlights.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Elizabeth Malcolmson, Membership Chair

Total Members	2023	2022	2021
Active Members	461	460	421
Active Households	339	339	296
Lapsed Members	61	36	45
Lapsed Households	43	21	36

The membership renewal process started early this year with lots of opportunities to renew online before we sent out the paper renewals to only those who had not renewed already. This saved quite a bit in postage. There were 209 households that renewed online. In addition, there are another ten new households working their way through the new membership process.

The Board of Directors considers each application, looking at how our club can meet the needs of these new people—education at future events, consideration of possible new events, and/or personal contact to address specific concerns. I have always been proud of how our club is about helping every BMD in the greater New England area to meet their potential to be a fabulous dog who is loved, understood, and enriched by supporting and encouraging their human families.

Therefore, encourage every Berner family you encounter to consider joining our club. It's for the good of the dogs, their people, and the club as more members can potentially lend their skills to the future efforts of the club. All that goodness goes round and round!

TREASURER'S REPORT

Bruce Hallden, Treasurer

Cash on hand 01/01/2022	\$ 38,486
Cash on hand 12/31/2022	\$ 42,190
Dues collected for 2022	\$ 11,863

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Julie Mott, Secretary

In 2022, your Board of Directors:

- Held one annual meeting.
- Held ten regular board meetings.
- Accepted 12 monthly financial reports from our Treasurer.
- Welcomed a new President, three new Board Members, a new Membership Chair, a brand new Bernerblatt team, and a Nominating Committee; established two new Committees: Working Events, and Therapy Dogs; and established our new Health Correspondent position.
- Conducted/supported 12 events in four New England states, including a Regional Specialty, two Supported Entries, two Fun Days, two BMDCA Draft Tests, an AKC Obedience Trial, an AKC Temperament Test, the Howl-o-ween meet-up at Portland Head Light, the Berners and Brews meet-up, and two draft workshops.
- Developed two episodes of our very own BMDCNV WAGinars, the new informational video series we created and produced on Zoom; and set up a YouTube channel to showcase them.
- Sent out 25 broadcast emails to our members to update all on club happenings.

SECRETARY'S REPORT (CONTINUED)

Regular meetings of the Board of Directors are open to all club members, and fluffy Berner puppies have been known to join us! The Board typically meets via Zoom on the second Tuesday of the month. Anyone who would like to attend the next Board meeting or add an item to the agenda should contact the club secretary at secretary@bmdcnv.org.

Full minutes for all meetings, financial reports, and a copy of the 2022 Annual Report are filed in the FILES section on our website and are accessible to any member who has created a login and signs into the Members area on our website, at bmdcnv.org.

20-YEAR MEMBERSHIP PINS

We are pleased to recognize our 20-year members:



Ellie and Tom Kittler

VOLUNTEERS

Martha Phelps, Volunteer Chair

Throughout the last year, there were 16 different volunteer opportunities within our club including workshops, trials, WAGinars, committees, Fun Days, and fun gatherings. Ultimately, it took over 115 volunteers to make this all happen. We thank you. Your efforts allowed this club and its members to enjoy the many wonderful opportunities and delights of owning a Berner. They are greatly appreciated.

2022 SHELLEY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Linda Bates and Nancy Bates

Congratulations and thank you for all that you have done.

BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOGS HEALTH AND TESTING 101

Our Health Correspondent, Pat Long, gave a presentation on the health testing that can be done in support of breeders' efforts to make informed breeding choices. Sharing all health testing in the open Berner-Garde database, as well as all health issues, and most importantly, date and cause of death, allows all of us to better the future of the breed as a whole.

There are many of Pat's wonderful photos throughout the presentation. Is there one of your dog? Read through the presentation to find out.

A PDF of the presentation is available in the FILES section on our website and by clicking [here](#). The video is available [here](#) and on YouTube (search for BMDCNV).

April 22 Draft Workshop

Watch for notices about more draft workshops coming this fall!

What a fabulous time we had at the draft workshop on April 22. The site (Candy Wright's Timberlost Farm in Ashburnham, Massachusetts) was beyond gorgeous with beautiful green fields, a beckoning pond, and trees and shrubs just beginning to leaf out in reds, yellows, and greens. Thank you, Candy, for letting us use the site for our workshops.

We had a fantastic crew of volunteers, some of whom came long distances to share their knowledge and to work with each team. Huge thanks to Mary Durham, Paul Emerson, Jeff and Sue Nowak, Alison and Tom Jaskiewicz, Sam and Tina Sirico, Buffy Bell, Allison Harding, and Elizabeth Malcolmson. Thanks also to Cindy Buhner and Sue McEvoy for the masses of great photos. Check them out on Facebook.

Most of our attendees were rookies to draft, though a couple of their humans had experience in draft with prior dogs. A few teams either already have a draft title on their dogs or are pretty much ready for our fall tests. We spent a couple of hours fitting dogs with harnesses, getting them used to dragging a block of wood behind them over varied surfaces, and then letting them get used to shafts touching them along their sides as they moved. Some

dogs took these things in stride, while others were a bit troubled by the sensation. The dogs started to work on the basic task of setting up between the shafts.

After two hours, the dogs were ready for a nap, so we retired to Candy's barn for the terrific lunch Sue Mahan and Candy prepared. During lunch, Alison Jaskiewicz described what is required at a draft test and answered a few questions. She reminded us to read the section of the draft regulations that apply specifically to the exhibitors.

Refreshed, we went back outside to watch the more advanced teams do the maneuvering course, then some rookies joined them in the group exercise and the freight haul. We had 13 teams attending. All enjoyed the day and felt they made real progress. It was especially gratifying to watch 11-year-old Maisie Notte, who has already put an RN title on her dog Destiny. They did a great job. Here's to the younger generation!

Oh, and did I mention there were puppies? What more could you ask for?

- Anya Wittenborg, Draft Workshop Chair





Participating teams:

Tricia Sullivan & Prancer

Lee Isdell & Hudson

Terri Laney & Billie

Rita Trojanoski & Marcepan

Abby Patrizio & Liza

Ivy Billard & Kiera

Ivy Billard & Sitka

Becky McPherson & Delmont

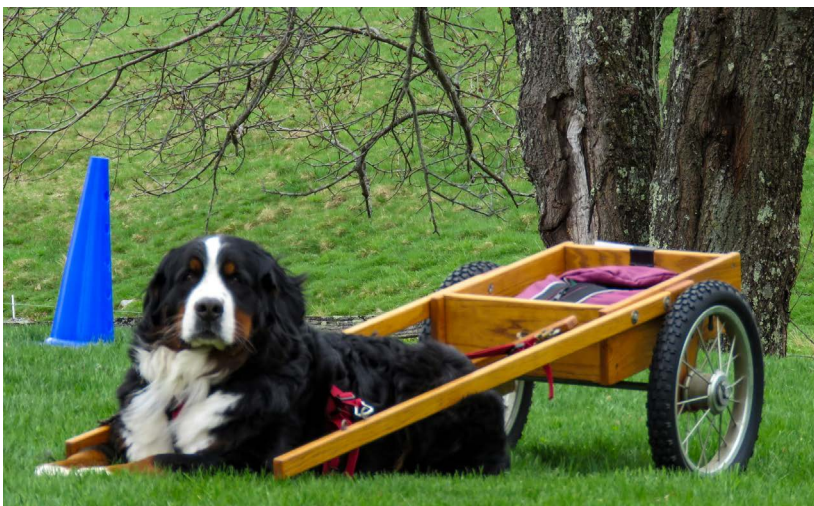
Patty McPherson & Holden

John Finnerty & Julian

Dorri Poppe & Cinder

Maisie Notte & Destiny

Michelle Larson & Heather



♥ Celebrating Our Berners!



Agnes
Tennescott Green Mountains Agnes

04/20/16 BG# 131931

Agnes has just become a veteran but thinks she is still a puppy. We adore our funny, affectionate, and playful girl and are grateful to Buffy and Dan Bell for this wonderful addition to our family.

- Andre & Christine Navez,
Hopkinton, MA



Callie
Brandywine's Gentle Spirit

04/21/13

Callie is 10! Happy birthday to my sweet, silly, special girl! We've had many adventures over the years and hope to have many more. Love you, Cal!

- Barbara Morss, Rochester, MA



Ari
Helvetia's Random Harvest

03/24/13

Helvetia celebrates our Gran'pa Ari's 10th B'day!

- Margaret DePasquale,
Greenwood, ME

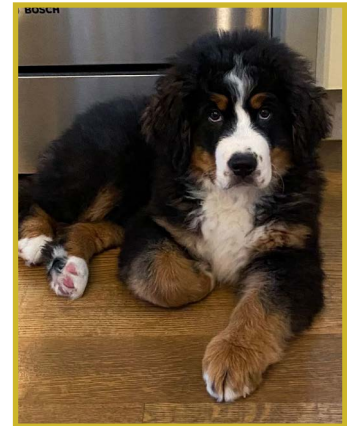


Eragon
Dream of Eragon's Swiss Kiss

05/16/17

Eragon is celebrating his 6th BIRTHDAY with mate Miss Lizzie, daughter Sephira, and Newfie girl Treasure. HAPPY BIRTHDAY to the BEST BERNER BOY EVER!

- Cathy M. Sullivan-Neves &
Christopher J. Neves,
Corinna, ME

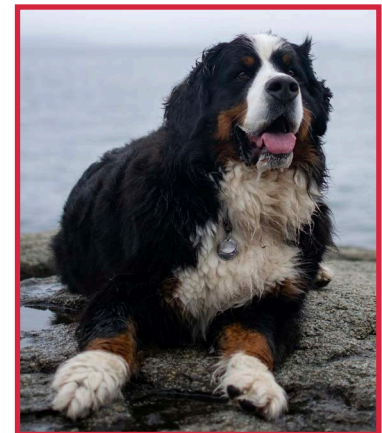


Tober
Steadfast Over the Moon

10/23/22

Please welcome Tober! I just love this pic of him at 3 months. He's just over 6 months old now and we are about to start classes for CGC ... we've been working hard and having fun together. He's excited to meet you all!

- Wendy Higgins,
Lakeville, MA



Hans

04/07/20 BG# 197711

Happy 3rd birthday to our sweetest, most lovable boy Hans. We love you so much!!!

- Jessica Moore & Jordan Fortier,
Waterbury, VT

The **Bernerblatt** is your newsletter, and we love your submissions! Sharing birthdays, remembrances, brags, and anything you think is interesting to the members is easy, highly recommended and encouraged! Find a great high-resolution jpeg photo of your pup and click on www.bmdcnv.org/celebrating-berners to create your submission. *That's it! We'll do the rest.*

Celebrating Our Berners!



Homer
Timberlost Homer's Odyssey
06/17/22 BG# 207033
Happy first birthday, Homer!
I love my dad!
- Seth & Alli Wright,
Warwick, MA

Loki
Lionhearts All the Love
06/11/21 BG# 198015
Happy 2nd birthday to my fluffy-headed fur ball!
- Cindy Buhner,
Harvard, MA

Trinity
Betruf Celtic Trinity
06/21/14 BG# 111947
Holy birthday, Batman! Trinity is fighting crime and turning 9! Our Super pet is the best! Love, Mommy, Auntie, and Lyra (the girl wonder).
- Nancy Bates,
Old Orchard Beach, ME



Tonka
Misu Tatonka Locota
02/27/16
Happy 7th Birthday Tonka.
- Audra Lacey Ehrlich,
Millis, MA



Abi
GCHB Tennescott White Mtns
Abenaki Brook
CD RE NDD CGC
07/16/20 BG# 187994
Abi received her BMDCA Versatility Dog Plaque at the recent National Specialty. She completed the requirements for this award by completing her Novice Draft Dog last October.
- Barbie Beck-Wilczek & Bill Wilczek,
Littleton, NH



Atticus
CH Marben's Southern
State of Mind
09/03/21 BG# 197008
Atticus finished his AKC championship having just turned 19 months old at the Trap Falls KC on April 9th! We are so proud of this fun, young boy! Bred, owned, and loved by us.
- Kim Dekker-Collins & Tiggi Gerli,
Danbury, CT



Celebrating Our Berners!



Baschi

09/28/21

Baschi pulled his cart in the Krewe of Barkus Mardi Gras parade in New Orleans. This is a parade just for dogs, and the theme was Top Dogs. His cart was decorated like an airplane.

He did a great job!

- Beth Benson & Chuck Goslin,
Chatham, MA



Boomer

11/28/17

Celebrating Amy Matthieu, a BERNER, Inc. volunteer who rescued Boomer from a substandard environment, fostered him, sorted out medical issues, and in coordination with Linda DeCelles, arranged for our eventual adoption of Boomer.

- Barry Berthaume,
Hampden, MA



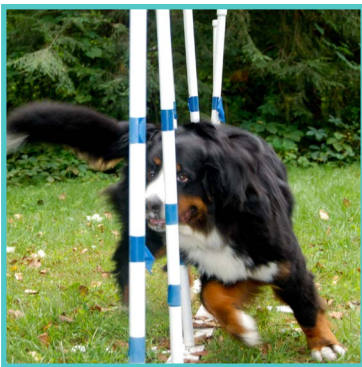
Fennel

**OHBIS MOHBISS BISS GCH
Riverwood's
The Fennel Countdown
NDD FDC CD CGC ATT**

11/08/18 BG#155358

Fennel picked up back-to-back Best in Versatility Showcase and Best in Specialty Owner Handled wins, along with one Award of Merit at the Nashoba Valley & Mason-Dixon Specialties. Thank you to BMDCNV for hosting a Versatility Showcase at our Specialty!

- Sam & Tina Sirico,
Old Saybrook, CT



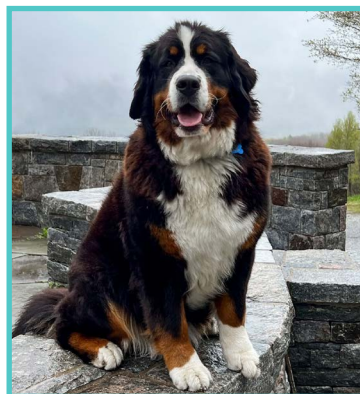
Firn

**CH Ursli Firn
AXP AJP NFP CGC NDD**

02/16/13 BG# 97891

Our first-ever Versatility Dog, Firn is up for anything and loves Agility. She wants everyone to understand that cheeses and Berners do improve with age. She earned her NDD at 8 and her CH at 9 to complete her Versatility. We love you baby Rosebud!

- Paul Emerson & Mary Durham,
Groton, MA



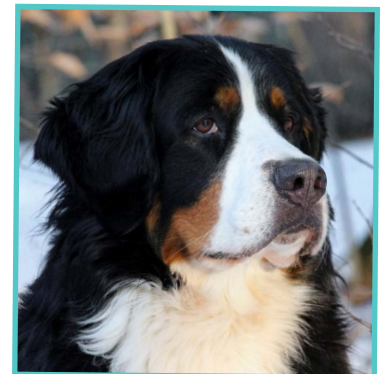
Janey

CH Jania Von Edelweiss

03/21/22

Janey finished her championship in four short weekends to celebrate her first birthday! Now on to Tracking, Rally, and Obedience. Working the hardest on curing the worst counter surfer habits ever!

- Annie Davis,
Danby, VT



Kiri

**GCHB PACH Kaibab's
Jigsaw Puzzle
CDX MXP3 MJP3 PAX**

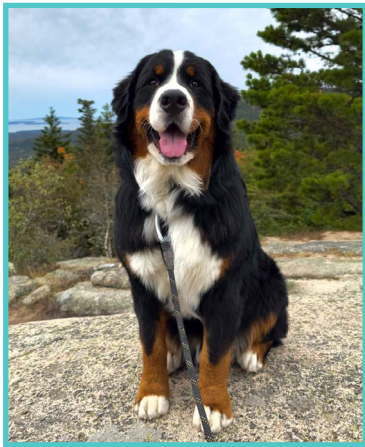
12/20/16 BG# 136972

So proud of Kiri for completing her PACH (Preferred Agility Champion) on February 26. Now back to the obedience ring!

- Alison Jaskiewicz,
Mason, NH



Celebrating **Our** Berners! ★



Piccolo Orso
Brunauge Hans Von
Hockenheimring

12/23/21 BG# 201865

We would like to take a moment to celebrate our time with Orso so far. He's growing up to be a fine gentleman, always eager for a new adventure. He particularly enjoys hiking in the mountains and morning walks at the beach. We love you bubba!

- Iris & Alexander Guerra,
Providence, RI



Quin

SeaWind Farm's Quintessential

10/31/20 BG# 189553

We are so proud of our girl, Quin! Reserve Winners Bitch (5-point major), First Company Governor's Foot Guard, 03/04/23. Winners Bitch (5 points!), First Company Governor's Foot Guard, 03/05/23. She is maturing so nicely, shown beautifully by Michelle Scott!

- Alise & Richard Burbridge,
Hingham, MA



Willow

Avi's Willow Rayne

09/26/15-02/18/23 BG# 128472

Willow ... beautiful, sweet, smart, determined, stubborn, sassy, loyal to a fault, and a fighter until the end. With her infamous pink goggles on, she never stopped wiggling her butt and wagging her tail. Gone from our sight but never from our hearts ...

- Sue & Randy McEvoy,
Bellingham, MA



Kenai

Lucchese's Bear Hug
from Cypress

01/17/23 BG# 211625

Kenai came into our life at a time when we just had lost our two Berners within five months of each other. Sam and Tina Sirico, Kelley Neill, and everyone in between brought this amazing boy into our life when we needed him most. We are forever grateful!

- Sue & Randy McEvoy,
Bellingham, MA



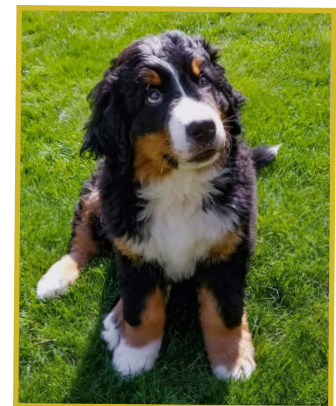
Lancy

Timberlost Lancy's Dumpling

01/30/23 BG# 211408

Welcome, Lancy! You are a BIG joyous dumpling!

- Candace Wright,
Ashburnham, MA



Remy

SeaWind Farm's Sunny Day
Chasing the Clouds Away
Remington

02/07/23

We can't help but think our Berner angel Kodi led us to this sweet boy who came into our lives so unexpectedly and is healing hearts we once doubted would ever be whole again. This precious puppy put the smiles back on our faces. We love you, Remy!

- Fran & Phil LaFlamme,
Salem, CT

Note: The photo for Barb Gibson's veteran Nessa was incorrect in the Winter Bernerblatt. We apologize for the error.



Heatstroke in Dogs Adapted from the BMDCA Bulletin, July 2022

Heatstroke is a valid concern with our breed and something we need to keep an eye on in the ever-increasing high temperatures. John Berry, DVM, states that “the combination of high temperature, high humidity, and poor ventilation can be fatal to dogs and cats. They do not sweat as we do. Thus, the cooling benefits of water evaporation from the skin are not available to them. Panting and radiation of heat from the skin’s surface are their main means of controlling body temperature. If the air temperature and humidity are high and air circulation is reduced, these protective mechanisms are reduced. Body temperature can increase dramatically, resulting in collapse and shock. If not treated promptly, they may die.”

Here are some general signs and symptoms to be aware of. Your dog may present differently; please be mindful of that and know your dog’s tolerances:

- Elevated breathing rates
- Dry or sticky gums
- Abnormal gum color
- May appear lethargic or disoriented
- Can lead to seizures
- Drool is thicker in consistency
- Fever (greater than 103°F)
- Vomiting, diarrhea, and/or muscle tremors
- Dehydration and/or lack of urine

Emergency First Aid for dogs prior to getting to the vet:

Dogs suffering from heatstroke urgently need to have their body temperature lowered gradually for the best chance of survival. Here are some things that can help:

- Move the dog to a shaded and cool area.
- Immediately pour cool, not cold, water over the dog. Cold water can lead to shock. Tap water (59-60.8°F) has been found to be the most effective at cooling dogs with heat-related illnesses. In a true emergency, any water is better than nothing.
- Wet towels placed over the dog can worsen the condition, trapping heat. In mild cases, towels can be placed under the dog, but never over, and in a true emergency, immersion or pouring water with air movement is ideal.
- Allow the dog to drink small amounts of cool water.
- Continue to pour cool water over the dog until their breathing starts to settle, but not so much that they start shivering.
- Dogs that have lost consciousness will stop panting, despite still having a very high temperature, these dogs require urgent aggressive cooling as a priority.
- Throughout the treatment of heatstroke, try to avoid pouring water on or near your dog’s head, as there is a risk of them inhaling water which could lead to drowning, especially for flat-faced and unconscious dogs.

Once the dog is cool, take them to the closest veterinarian as a matter of urgency.

Some types of dogs are more prone to heatstroke, like very old or young dogs, dogs with thick, heavy coats, or dogs with shorter, flatter faces like pugs and bulldog types. Dogs with certain diseases or on some types of medication are also more at risk. Know your dog!

You can find more information here: <https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/heatstroke-in-dogs/>

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Dear Friends,

Our club is full of wonderful, fun, talented people ... YOU! From time to time, we need to ask for help with specific things. Here are a few ways that you could join in the fun up-close. Please contact me or any Board member with your questions and your interest.

Mass Emailing Support - We need someone to be the sender of mass-mailings that go out to club members using a tool called Vertical Response. You will be provided content and follow a set of steps to create the email and send it to a recipient list provided by our Membership Chair. It requires basic - but not extreme - computer skills, and Webmaster Mimi Englander will train you.

Historian - If you are a history lover and you have a Berner sleeping at your feet, this could be the perfect role for you. Our club has a long and wonderful history, and we want to be sure it is captured and available for everyone to know about.

Thank you!!

Mary Durham, BMDCNV President

BERNER, Inc. RESCUING OLAF

By Sandra Chadwick

BERNER INC



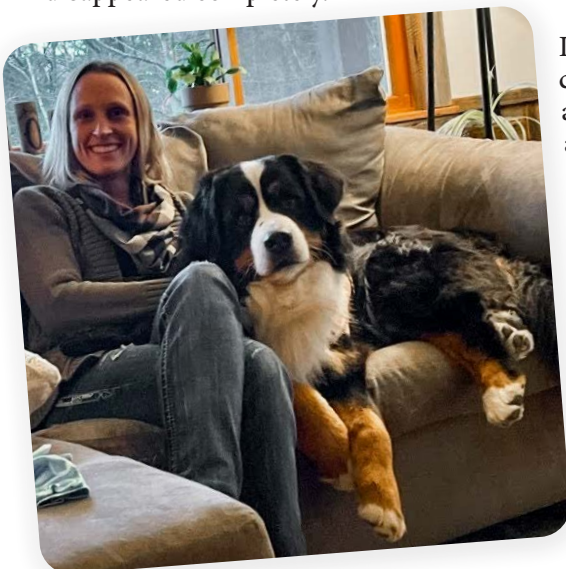
EDUCATION & RESCUE
Dedicated to the Well-being and Safety
of New England Berners

I submitted my application to BERNER, Inc. in December 2020 expecting the review process to take months. I was surprised when I was contacted two weeks later. A two-year-old intact male had been surrendered to BERNER, Inc. in dire need of a forever home. He had been purchased at a pet store by an older couple with their own health issues who were unable to train a growing Berner puppy or treat his medical needs. I was given a general summary of his medical history and behavior. Overall, he had challenging orthopedic conditions, including severe bilateral hip and elbow dysplasia, osteoarthritis, poor conformation, and a history of ear infections and pyoderma/skin infections. Bred in a Pennsylvania puppy mill, Olaf had the common physical defects of poorly bred Berners. On top of that, his owners cited behavioral challenges, including having to be muzzled at 18 months during veterinary care, and concerns of misconstrued “aggression” at 23 months.

Olaf remained in foster care for about a month, undergoing neutering surgery, and evaluations of his medical condition and behavior. His fosters did not see any of the “aggression” reported by his original owners. I met him for the first time at his foster home and was amazed to see a happy, friendly pup with big, bright, engaging eyes. I was smitten and as soon as he was released from his post-surgery recovery, I welcomed him to his new forever home and re-named him, Olaf.

Olaf was well underweight for his age, at only 87 lbs, and it was clear that his physical condition was serious. He struggled when getting up, using predominantly his front legs as his hind legs were too weak. Short walks were a struggle as were stairs. BERNER, Inc. arranged an orthopedic evaluation. A hip replacement was considered but there was an alternative strategy of limited exercise, anti-inflammatories, and joint supplements. I was encouraged to work with Olaf on gradual strength and conditioning before jumping to surgery.

We started with multiple daily short, slow walks, gradually increasing to longer distances. He was put on anti-inflammatories as well as joint and skin supplements. For the first six months, he had skin infections, gastrointestinal distress, and ear infections. As he got healthier and stronger, these issues disappeared completely.



In addition to his physical improvements, we worked on Olaf’s confidence through socialization, training, and playing. He was timid around other dogs but loved meeting people and would sit on their feet and bask in the attention he received. He became the neighborhood greeter, and is still known as “The Mayor”. I sent him to an in-home, kennel-free doggie daycare three times a week to learn how to play and become more comfortable with other dogs. The most positive response I noticed was from training when he learned and executed a cue such as “sit”, “wait” or “home”. He was so excited and proud when he succeeded at even the simplest commands! Olaf didn’t take long to gain confidence and trust in himself. Now it’s been just over two years since I adopted Olaf as a rescue with significant health issues and behavioral concerns. He is a healthy, happy, energetic woolly bugger, who always wants to be where the party is, and it really didn’t take that much effort to get him there.

THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS!

BERNER, Inc. depends on donations to care for our rescues. Please go to our website to donate: www.bernerinc.org. You can make donations on purchases at iGive by registering on their website. You need to use the legal name for our non-profit: Bernese Education and Rescue – Northeast Region, Inc.

Members-only Access to our Website

Did you know that by becoming a member of our website:

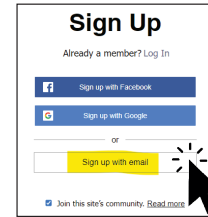
- You'll have access to all sorts of great information such as the current and back issues of the Bernerblatt (even if you didn't get an email notice), our By-Laws, Board meeting minutes, and more. These are all available in the FILES section.
- You'll also be added to the BMDCNV Members Group, which serves as a message board and forum where you can exchange posts, and upload photos and videos to share with other members.

Get access to the members-only features by creating a login ID on bmdcnv.org.

1. Go to bmdcnv.org. At the top of the home page, click "Sign Up or Log In."



2. Click "Sign up with Email."



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