

Winter 2023

THE Bernerblatt

The Newsletter of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Nashoba Valley



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bmdcnv.org/events

Have you checked out the club website lately? If so, you may have noticed a change to the Events page. We redesigned it to allow for more streamlined content updates and direct access to Google Maps from each event. We think it looks better too. It's also easier to maintain, which helps the people working behind the scenes keep the event content current. If you haven't seen it, give it a look it at <https://www.bmdcnv.org/events>.

—Mimi Englander & Sue Nowak

March 4, 2023
Regional Specialty
&
March 5, 2023
Supported Entry

Both events will be held at
Eastern States Exposition
West Springfield, MA

★ SAVE THESE DATES ★

April 16, 2023
Annual Meeting
Via Zoom
(link to be forthcoming)

May 20, 2023
Spring Fun Day
4-H Fairground
Westford, MA

April 22, 2023
Draft Workshop
Timberlost Farm
Ashburnham, MA

June 10, 2023
Draft Workshop
Timberlost Farm
Ashburnham, MA

BMDCNV WAGINAR

In July we introduced our new BMDCNV WAGinar series. We have conducted two WAGinars, one introducing Berner-Garde and the other featuring Lost-Then-Found Dog stories (with happy endings), and more to come. Members can enjoy these again and again as we have recorded them for anytime viewing. You can find them at these links:

Berner-Garde: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0G5aC-Xvpks> and **Lost... Then Found Dogs:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uKARw5ED8J8>

*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:

Odin (Odin's Freki Von Asgard)
04/09/14 (BG# 114877)

Owned by: Jane & Dennis Boas, Leominster, MA

The masthead & newsletter design is by Nancy Hoyt.

President's Message

Dear BMDCNV Members,

It's Berner weather! Or is that brrrrrner weather? Anyway, the dogs are delighted and that's all we care about. Did you get to our **Winter Walk**? What an incredibly fun time! And a great turn-out! Many thanks to Dawn and Jerry Flaherty, Kathy Kerwin, Jean Michael, and Linda and Nancy Bates for arranging for perfect weather and putting it all together!

Online renewal is great! In October, we opened the new-and-improved online membership renewal link. (Thank you, Mimi Englander, for making all these updates!) This was about two months in advance of mailing out the hard copy membership renewal reminder letters that we've always done. I'm thrilled to see that so many of us (182 households!) took advantage of the online renewal opportunity! Not only do you save yourself the bother of writing the check, finding the stamp, mailing the letter, and all, but you save your club the cost of sending out so many of the hard copy renewal reminders. Thank you, Elizabeth Malcolmson, for updating our membership database so that it only generates the necessary hard copy letters and lets us achieve these savings and efficiencies. I hope you all continue to find BMDCNV membership a worthwhile investment. And feel free to tell me how we can improve. I love to hear from you!

<https://www.bmdcnv.org/events> - Have you checked out the terrific new look of our Upcoming Events page? Thank you to Sue Nowak and Mimi Englander for this. Plus, the photos there are a bonus.

Speaking of those photos, scroll down a little on the Upcoming Events page and you'll see a photo of a smiling woman with black curly hair and two Berners. This is **Shelley Tyre**. Shelley left us in 1999 and many of you won't have had the joy of knowing her. But this picture captures her beautifully - she was just as much fun as you would think from looking at her picture, and she loved Berners that much too. Our **Shelley Tyre Outstanding Service Award** is named for her because we always want to remember her and her joyous spirit. Turn to page eight for more information.

With this Bernerblatt issue celebrating our **Veterans**, we have a chance to highlight our older dogs. Old Berners are incredibly special. Paul and I have been blessed with four 10+ Berners over the years: Buck, our first, at 12 years 11 months, Daria was 11 1/2, Dorielle 12, Aria 14 years 3 months 4 days. Old dogs know you so well, they breathe right along with you. Your fingers know every nook and cranny of their face and tummy. And they bring their own special joys ... watching them sleep, listening to them snore, they may get more vocal, and some of their hearing may go (those latter two things are probably related). Growing older brings out their special personality while we cherish the grey that starts to sneak onto their faces.

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)

Title Certificate Recognition

By tradition, every year at the Annual Meeting the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Nashoba Valley recognizes those Bernese Mountain Dogs who have earned AKC or BMDCA (or other) titles in the previous year. If your Berner earned a title in 2022 and you would like to honor this achievement by receiving a Title Award Certificate from the BMDCNV, please email a copy of your 2022 title documentation (a photo/image) to secretary@bmdcnv.org. Deadline for submissions is April 1. Titleholders will be recognized at the Annual Meeting which will be held on Sunday, April 16 via Zoom. Certificates will be mailed the following week. Please contact the club secretary with any questions.

Welcome New Members!

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

Allison Bosworth
Hopkinton, MA

Brian Klein
Sudbury, MA

Michael Griggs & Heidy Lopez
Atkinson, NH



AKC Obedience Trials

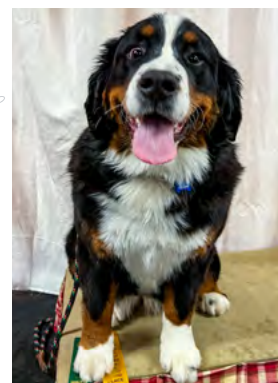
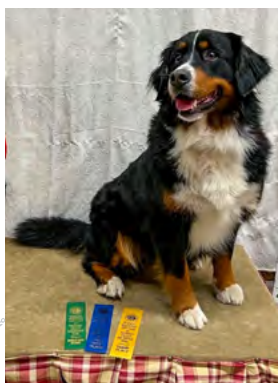
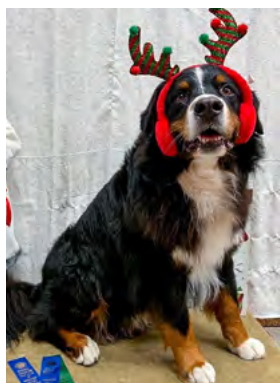
On Saturday, December 3, the BMDCNV hosted two AKC Obedience Trials at Warner Brook Training Center in Pittsford, VT. The events were chaired by Pam Eldredge and were ably stewarded by several club members including Heidi Henderson, Tressy Manning, and Jessica Moore. Mie Kingsley piloted the event as secretary extraordinaire. As a club we are so lucky to have these people.

The judge for the day was the ever-patient Elizabeth (Tibby) Chase, who adjudicated classes ranging from Utility to Beginner Novice. Six Berner teams were entered, with the rest of the entries filled by all breeds. After a tough Trial 1 in which no Bernese qualified, Trial 2 was more successful. Beth Atkinson and GCH CT Backcountry's Xcelsior CDX RN earned their first Utility leg while going Bernese High in Trial and Kate Elders and Oleka's Zycie Flora at Rosier

earned their 2nd Novice (CD) leg. A variety of legs and titles were earned by the non-Bernese exhibitors. All breed High in Trial for Trial 1 was Joan Bradley and English Cocker Spaniel Danby Pond Whitfield Lady Sophie BN RN TDX CGCA out of Novice B and High in Trial in Trial 2 was Charlene Swainamer and Golden Retriever RACH Mardovar's The Purrfect Run to My Heart CD PCD BN RM2 RAE3 AXP AJP NFP CGCA out of Open B.

Also, of note at the rally trials hosted the next day at the same site, Junior Handler Maisie Notte finished her Rally Novice title with placements with her 1.5-year-old Berner Stick House Angel's Destiny. Ann Davis and 9-month-old Snowpaw's Jania von Edelweiss earned their first Rally Novice leg as well.

- Heidi Henderson



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.

Wix website manager - Our website is a busy place and pivotal to the smooth running of our club. This role manages the team responsible for updating BMDCNV Events listings, approving club members' requests to join the website, maintaining the club files section, administering the group message forum, fielding general requests from the public, and much more. Previous Wix experience is helpful.

Email "blast" 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



Events: Draft Workshop

Come to the BMDCNV Draft Workshops!

Saturday April 22, 2023 (Rain date April 23)

Saturday June 10, 2023 (Rain date June 11)

Saturday, September TBD, 2023

9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Timberlost Farm, 327 Ashby Road, Route 101

Ashburnham, MA 01430

These workshops will benefit those whose dogs have never seen a cart as well as those who have not yet entered a Draft Test with their current dog. There will be an opportunity for more advanced teams to practice and to do a freight haul after 2:30 pm. Equipment will be available for loan. Lunch may be provided on-site for a modest fee. More info will be available as we get closer to the workshop dates. <https://bmdcnv.bigcartel.com/product/draft-workshop>

Cost: \$25 BMDCNV members/\$30 non-members

Payment due in advance

Online: <https://bmdcnv.bigcartel.com/product/draft-workshop>

Or by check payable to: BMDCNV

(Please put date of workshop in the memo line)

Mail to: Bruce Hallden, P.O. Box 293, Cromwell, CT 06416



★ A Rising Star ★

Caleigh Brown, 17, of Attleboro, Massachusetts, has been awarded the 2022 American Kennel Club's Canine and Me Influential Junior Award, which honors children and young adults who are making a positive impact on the world with their dogs. Caleigh is a Junior Member of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America, and daughter of BMDCNV member George Brown. In recognition of her accomplishment, the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America has awarded Caleigh a \$500 Scholarship.

2022 American Kennel Club's Canine and Me Influential Junior Award

Caleigh began her journey with dogs at the age of eight and has certified three Berners as Therapy Dogs over the years. They have all done advanced Canine Assisted Trauma Response. We featured her Berner, Teddy, and his 2021 AKC Award for Canine Excellence in last year's winter edition of the Bernerblatt; and Caleigh was one of the panelists at our 2022 Annual Meeting presentation, *Therapy Dogs 101*.

In addition to showing in the Conformation ring, she has titled her dogs in Obedience, Agility, Rally, Farm Dog, Advanced Tricks, and Therapy Work. Caleigh and her Bernese Mountain Dogs have contributed countless hours of community service. She is the president of her local dog club, a leader at the 4-H National Convention and Conference and heads her school's stress-relief therapy dog club. She looks to promote responsible dog ownership, effective dog training, and to share the impact of the canine-human bond with others.



CONGRATULATIONS CALEIGH!



Health

It seems like a good idea to talk about the health of our aging Berners in this Veterans issue. This article comes from Toby Erlichman and Carol Lundquist, both veterinarians and longtime Berner owners. Toby has been the chair of the BMDCA Health Committee, and both have written articles about health for The Alpenhorn.

- Pat Long, Health Correspondent

Common Health Problems of Aging Bernese Mountain Dogs

Toby Erlichman, VMD & Carol Lundquist, DVM

When we are blessed with a Bernese Mountain Dog that lives beyond its 7-9 year predicted lifespan, we may be confronted with a multitude of other chronic health-related problems. Below we discuss Degenerative Myelopathy, Urinary Incontinence, Hypothyroidism, Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome, and Dental Disease from the perspectives of traditional, western medicine, holistic and alternative therapies.

Degenerative Myelopathy (DM) is an immune-mediated condition that we are seeing in increasing frequency in our Berners as they live longer. DM is characterized by weakness and in coordination in the hind end that may wax and wane or be steadily progressive. There is no cure. Hind end muscle atrophy, and fecal or urinary incontinence may be present. While the diagnosis of DM may be suspected based on clinical signs, definitive diagnosis comes, unfortunately, only with necropsy. There are tests available that will help identify carriers, at risk, as well as affected dogs. The management of DM is multi-faceted, combining exercise, diet, traditional medications, as well as vitamins and supplements. Lifestyle and management changes such as using area rugs, keeping nails short and hair between the toes trimmed and using harnesses such as a Help 'Em Up Harness for support, all help to make things more comfortable for dogs with DM.

Exercise is critical to keeping muscle tone and improving circulation. Walking and swimming are very beneficial. Swimming takes the stress off joints and improves muscle tone. Underwater treadmills offer the most

effective form of water exercise. Start an exercise program gradually, as these patients may need time to allow stressed muscles to repair. Chiropractic and acupuncture are also very beneficial.

Urinary incontinence may be seen alone or in conjunction with other diseases such as DM. Senior dogs should be checked often for urinary tract infections. This is best done with your veterinarian performing a cystocentesis, to obtain a sterile urine sample directly from the bladder. Bacteria, as well as bladder stones may be found and need to be treated as soon as possible. Urinary incontinence may also be the result of diminished innervation to the bladder, urethral sphincter incompetence, bladder, or urethral tumors or simply difficulty posturing to urinate. Antibiotics, dietary changes to dissolve crystals, urethral toning drugs such as Phenylpropanolamine or non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDS) to treat bladder tumors may be prescribed. Chiropractic and acupuncture, with or without electrical stimulation are very effective for urinary incontinence. Herbs, such as wild yam are also beneficial. There are several other herbal preparations available to help maintain healthy urinary tract health.

Hypothyroidism, or under active thyroid function, is common in middle age to older dogs, and seen with relative frequency in Berners. Common signs include weight gain despite normal appetite, lethargy, poor hair coat +/- skin infections and cold intolerance. It is diagnosed with a blood test. The most comprehensive one is done at Michigan State University. Holistic treatment includes

a healthy, balanced diet, help as a source of iodine, Thyroid and Adrenal Glandulars and removing cruciferous vegetables and soy from the diet. The traditional approach would involve the use of synthetic thyroid hormone replacement with a drug such as Soloxine.

Cognitive Dysfunction Syndrome (CDS)

has been likened to Alzheimer's disease. Common findings are changes in sleep/wake cycles, house soiling, withdrawing from family interaction, not greeting owners when returning home and even forgetfulness. A healthy diet, fish oil, B vitamins, antioxidants and Choline may help. There are several herbal preparations that may also be useful such as Memoractiv and Neurochondria. It is very important to make lifestyle and environment changes to ensure the safety of these pets. Selegiline or Anipryl may be prescribed.

Dental Disease, including gingivitis and periodontitis are extremely common in aging pets, and can cause tooth loss, as well as chronic pain. Infections may start in the mouth and travel via the blood stream to the heart, liver, and the kidneys causing significant disease in these organs. The most notable sign of dental disease may be halitosis, or bad breath, but a look inside the mouth will reveal red inflamed gums, plaque, and tartar. Frequent brushing at home, as well as scaling by your veterinarian, will help prevent this from advancing. Dental radiographs reveal bone loss and abscesses not readily visible. Antibiotic therapy will help with the bacterial load in the mouth, and in some dogs may be administered in "pulse" fashion, with dosing at regular intervals through the month. Holistic products such as natural tooth sprays and ozonated olive oil are very effective for gingivitis. Appropriate diets, fish oils, and antioxidants are also very effective in preventing dental disease.

These are some of the more commonly seen problems in senior Bernese Mountain Dogs. If you notice something amiss with your Berner, a visit to your vet can help determine what the problem might be. Often this involves lab work, including blood and urinalysis, which should be done every six months on senior pets. ❄️



★ Celebrating Our Berners! ★



Windfall's To a Thousand Places (Digit)

BG# 120454 - 03/14/15

Digit had a busy first year as a veteran and plans to rest, play, and eat his way through year two!

- Adam Conn, Kris Hayko, and Michael Knicely DVM, Maynard, MA



Misu Tatonka Locota (Tonka)

02/27/16

Happy 7th Birthday, my beautiful baby boy.

- Audra Lacey-Ehrlich, Millis, MA



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.



Peacefield's Pamola Peak Aurora (Rori)

BG# 155409 - 12/07/18

Rori loves to romp through the woods on a hike and swim year-round, the more mud the better.

Favorite activity: snacks.

- Roberta French, Sandwich, NH



Smokey Keep King Moonracer's Treasure (Luna)

BG# 128053 - 12/24/15

Excited to have a new Veteran in the house! Happy 7th birthday to my bed hog, Miss Tunapants! Love you to the Moon and back!

- Carolyn Massey, Billerica, MA



Tobi

BG# 208234 - 01/12/20

Tobi came to us four months ago, and loves playing with big sister Rori. He is super affectionate. Favorite place: In front of the woodstove. Favorite games: Tug of war with a Kong stick and keep-away with balls.

- Roberta French, Sandwich, NH

The Berner-Garde Foundation was established to assist in efforts to improve the health of Bernese Mountain Dogs. They maintain a computerized database which is the most extensive collection of health and pedigree information available. Every BMD registered in their system is given a unique (BG#) identifier. To learn more, go to <http://bernergarde.org/home/>

★ Celebrating Our Berners!



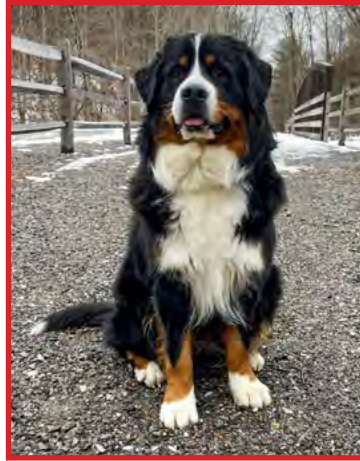
Oleka's Zingy Beautiful Violet (Violet)

BG# 190440 - 12/02/20

Happy 2nd birthday to my best friend Violet! Looking forward to many more adventures together.

Love you so much, sweet girl!

- Jessica Moore, Waterbury, VT



Banhof's Lady of My Dreams (Lady)

BG# 191215 - 12/15/20

Happy 2nd Birthday to my Lady-girl! I'm so grateful for two wonderful years with my darling; time has passed so quickly! Hoping for many more years to come!

- Ava Bollig, Woodstock, CT



Four Season's Vivaldi's Dream (Wesley)

BG# 191582 - 01/21/21

Happy Birthday, Wesley and all your litter mates! Two years old on Jan 21!

- Pam & Charles Swearingen,
Belmont, MA



Trailbound's More Than Words (Lyra)

BG# 191109 - 02/08/21

Happy 2nd birthday to Lyra and her siblings (Hippie, Micah, Murphy, and Bode). This "crazy cat lady" photo was from her first-place win in the Fetching Hope online 2022 Halloween costume contest and goes with her Slumberland birthday theme!

- Linda & Nancy Bates,
Old Orchard Beach, ME



Liberty's Riley

11/17/21

Happy 1st birthday Riley! Celebrated with a day at the beach, party, new toys, and lots of yummy treats!

- Michelle and Alec Colvin,
Merrimack, NH

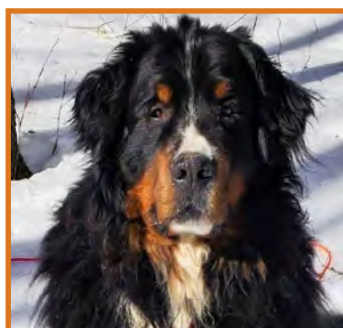


Honeoye A Emma

BG# 80815 - 04/14/11 - 10/22/22

Emma brought such joy and pleasure into our lives, and we miss her dearly.

- Melanie and Bill Strycharz,
Steamboat Springs, CO



Tripp ★7★

BG# 126902 - 11/01/15

My new Veteran, Tripp, is a goofy lovable fellow that makes me laugh and smile every day. He's my sunshine and my happiness.

- Tressy & Cory Manning, Barnard, VT

Remembering & Celebrating



Loretta

BG# 106314 - 08/11/13 - 01/24/23

Loretta loved a good head scratch. She would try to make eye contact with the tourists in Beacon Hill, Boston and wait to hear "Can I pet your dog?" Thank you, Megan McTavish, for entrusting us with her.

- Larry and Diane Goldberg,
Boston, MA

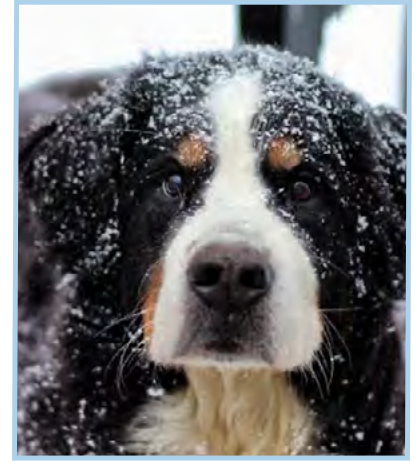


**CH Zermatt's
Boogie Nights (Stig)**

BG# 98179 - 02/15/13 - 01/14/23

Stig was my once in a lifetime dog. He was from my second litter—born an old soul. He was a Pet Partners Therapy Dog for eight years and always seemed to know what people needed.

- Erin O'Malley, Hampton Falls, NH



**CH Zermatt's Tumbarumba of
Snowy Mountain (Ouchy)**

BG# 77290 - 10/23/10 - 9/12/22

Ouchy was from my first litter of 11. I knew from the time I first held her she was staying. She was a Pet Partners Therapy Dog for nine years and boss of the house from her first breath to her last.

- Erin O'Malley, Hampton Falls, NH



**Jaberwock's
Jack of Hearts (Jack)**

BG# 209000 - 09/22/22

I named my puppy Jack of Hearts before I was able to meet him. Little did I know, he has a heart-shaped mark on the bottom of his back left paw!

- Pat Meissner, Charlestown, NH



**Trailbound's More Than Words
(Lyra)**

BG# 191109 - 02/08/21

Lyra had a special ribbon to add to the tree this Christmas. She earned her NACSW Nose Work 1 Title at her first trial on December 3, 2022.

- Linda and Nancy Bates,
Old Orchard Beach, ME



**Four Seasons
Purple Mountain Majesty
(Sierra)**

05/11/18

Proud to announce Sierra passed her Canine Good Citizen test with flying colors on January 23, 2023!

- Jill Schare, Hopkinton, MA



Hazel

10/03/16

I'm a School Counselor and Hazel is a registered therapy dog who works alongside me providing animal assisted therapy to the students at my school. She is so special to them!

- Ashley Barsaleau, Auburn, NH





It may not have felt like winter given the 50 degree temperature, but after a two-year hiatus due to COVID the Winter Walk is back, baby! Over 80 people and almost 60 dogs from all over New England gathered at Wompatuck State Park in Hingham, MA on Sunday January 29. Many thanks to Kathy Kerwin who welcomed everyone in at the registration table and provided signs directing folks to the dog friendly visitor's center entrance!

All walked out, folks gathered in and around the visitor's center for treats, shopping, and the raffle. "Furever" grateful to Jean Michael for organizing the copious food/drink tables and to everyone who brought treats to share. Stephanie Freeman had everyone's tails wagging at the Paws 'n' Shop, which featured special Winter Walk mugs and long-sleeved T-shirts and pawsitively fetching winter-themed hoodies (T-shirts and hoodies are available online at <https://bmdcnv.bigcartel.com>). Also, a round of howls for our Winter Walk artwork seen on the mugs and T-shirts. "Paw-drawn" by former club member Melissa Bartlett, this artwork is celebrating its 30th anniversary!

Over 80 people and almost 60 dogs from all over New England gathered...

After a group photo, our dogged event chair (Dawn Flaherty) led the parade of pups along a beautiful wooded (and thankfully not muddy) trail. All the dogs (including two 12-year-old Berners) and humans definitely had "Spring" in their steps!

Thanks to our many generous donors (including Mary Durham and Paul Emerson, Sue Beagley, Nancy Stitley, Kathy Kerwin, and Stephanie Freeman), we had a great selection of Berner-related items (including a centerpiece with hand-carved Berners pulling a sleigh) for the raffle and raised almost \$600 for the club. Adam Conn and Ray Harding helped raise the woof by barking loud enough for folks to hear the numbers being called! We wish everyone could win their favorite item, but in our eyes everyone who purchased tickets is "Best in Show" because your generous donations support the club and future events!



We hope everyone had as much fun at the walk as we did, reconnecting with old friends and making new ones. To those who were unable to attend due to health challenges (most notably our event co-chair Jerry Flaherty who was once a ranger at Wompatuck), well wishes for speedy recoveries!





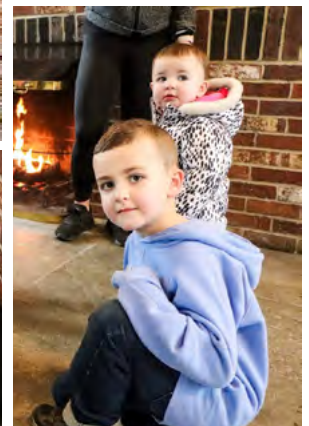
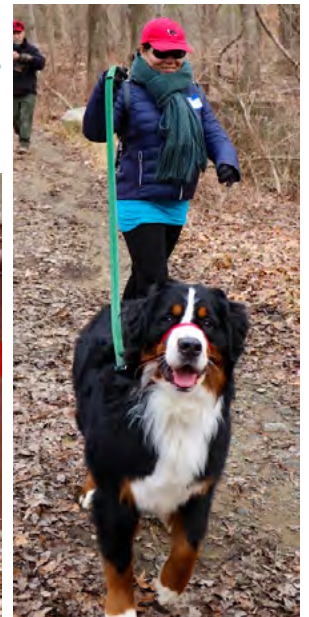
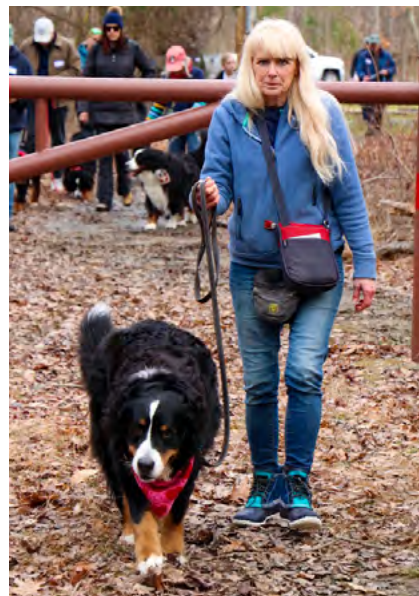
Paws up for each and every volunteer from the beginning (Julie Mott for designing the flyer), during the event, and to the end (Alise and Dick Burbridge and Allison and Ray Harding for lending their paws for clean-up). Volunteers make club events possible and helping is one of the best ways to create new and lasting friendships!

On behalf of the club, our utmost gratitude to event chairs Dawn and Jerry Flaherty for the time and energy they invested in organizing and running the walk and our deepest condolences on the loss of their beloved English Shepherd, Bright (who passed away the week before the walk at age 13)—*you shine ever so brightly!*

– Nancy & Linda Bates
(raffle table volunteers)



We missed you all but be sure to check out the BMDCNV Facebook page for video and nearly 100 photos posted by our volunteer photographer extraordinaire Sue Baer McEvoy: it's the next best thing to being there and a great way to relive memories of such a fun dog day afternoon!



Nominating Committee Submissions for 2023 BMDCNV Board of Directors

The BMDCNV Nominating Committee met via Zoom on October 19th, 2022 with all appointed members and alternates of the committee in attendance. After a review of the pertinent BMDCNV by-laws and a discussion of procedures, potential candidates, open positions, the committee decided unanimously upon the following slate to stand for election for terms running from the Annual Meeting in April 2023 through the Annual Meeting in 2025.

Vice President: Susan Mahan (Incumbent) Ashby, MA
Secretary: Julie Mott (Incumbent) Sherborn, MA
Director: Heidi Henderson (Incumbent) Killington, VT
Director: Anya Wittenborg (Incumbent) South Berwick, ME
Director: Candace Wright (Incumbent) Ashburnham, MA

Each candidate has accepted the nomination, completed the BMDCNV Candidate Questionnaire, and agreed to make every effort to attend all board meetings and annual meetings during their term which begins at the Annual Meeting April 16, 2023. Each has a two-year term ending at the Annual Meeting of 2025 (date TBD).

Respectfully submitted, on behalf of the Nominating Committee,

Adam Conn, Chair
Lisa Freed, Member
Kim Ravida, Member
George Brown, First Alternate
Melissa George, Second Alternate

All candidate questionnaires can be found in the Members section of our website: [bmdcnv.org](https://www.bmdcnv.org) > Files > Board Members and Documents > 2023 Candidate Questionnaires. You must create a login password to access these files. If you haven't done so already, please sign up to be a website member: <https://www.bmdcnv.org/become-a-site-member>.

This is also a reminder that every year additional nominations of any eligible member for open Officer and Director positions may be made by any club member in good standing. A written petition must be submitted to the Secretary at least eight weeks prior to the Annual Meeting, which is scheduled to be held April 16. Each petition must be accompanied by the written acceptance of the nominee signifying willingness to be a candidate and, if elected, to attend all Board Meetings and Annual Meetings during the term. A candidate questionnaire is also available from the Secretary, and it is suggested you provide that as well. Nominations cannot be made at the Annual Meeting. Written petitions were due February 19.

Since the cut-off date for additional valid nominations for open Officer and Director positions for the 2023-2024 BMDCNV Board of Directors has passed, and no additional nominations were received, according to our By-laws the Nominating Committee's slate shall be declared elected at the time of the Annual Meeting and no balloting will be required.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions, Julie Mott secretary@bmdcnv.org. Thank you.

Shelley Tyre Outstanding Service Award 2022

The Shelley Tyre Outstanding Service Award is presented annually and honors a club member who has made outstanding contributions and demonstrated exceptional service to our club and/or the breed. Formerly named the Kennel Ration or Gaines Good Sportsmanship Award, it is now named in honor of club member Shelley Tyre who unexpectedly passed away in March 1999.

The membership nominates a club member in good standing who has made an extra special contribution to the club either recently, in the past, or on a regular and consistent basis. Any club member can send their recommendation for the award recipient to the secretary with a short paragraph on why they believe the nominee deserves the award. The board will take all the recommendations into consideration and decide on the recipient. The only restrictions are that the award may not go to a previous recipient; or to any Officer or Director of the club while they are serving. The award will be presented at the Annual Meeting on April 16, 2023.

Nominations for the 2022 Shelley Award should be emailed to the club Secretary, Julie Mott, at secretary@bmdcnv.org by March 1, 2023.

Last Year's Recipient 2021 Patricia Buickerood



Shelley with her Berner Torgi, and the Cottle's Remy, one of the first teams to pass the Brace Novice Draft Test.

Happiness, Generosity, Love... Shelley Tyre's spirit remains with the BMDCNV in many forms. Her love of life, love of her dogs, her enthusiasm and dedication to our club were as big as her radiant smile. Sadly, she was taken from us too soon. At this time each year we stand in her light and present a club member with the Shelley Tyre Outstanding Service Award to acknowledge exceptional dedication and contributions to our club and our beloved Berners.

BERNER Inc. Veterans

By Linda DeCelles, Rescue Chair



Come meet a few of our BERNER Inc. Veterans. Despite challenging starts to their lives, they are enjoying their Veteran status with loving families. The age given with each name is their current age.

FALCO (8 yrs.) By Jim Tompkins

Falco has turned out to be a wonderful dog. My wife Karen really loves him despite some of his remaining bad habits. I'm more indulgent and try to keep him out of trouble. He makes me laugh a lot. Our Golden Retriever Miley is his pal, even though she must share him with me!

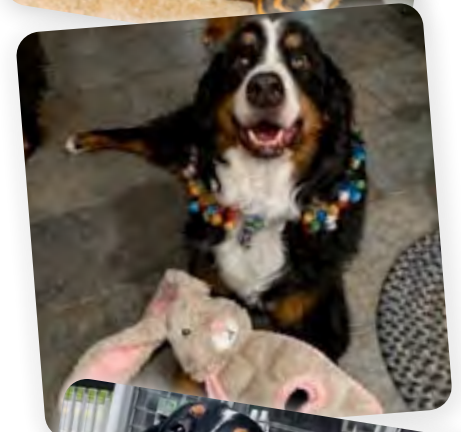
Falco was surrendered to BERNER Inc. at a year old because of his high energy. He was a risk for one of his owners, who had hip problems. Other family members could not control Falco. He was intact and untrained. Jim and Karen worked tirelessly to train and socialize Falco, with great results!



ROSIE (est. 8 yrs.) By Judy Beck

This is our darling Rosie. She is our seventh BERNER Inc. foster and our first foster fail. Bred by a backyard breeder and kept isolated in miserable conditions, she still struggles with her fears, even though she knows she is safe and loved. Her days are happy with lots of visiting dog friends to our daycare/boarding business who keep her tail wagging.

Rosie lived under a porch with 13 puppies that her owner intended to sell. Through the efforts of a neighbor, the Animal Rescue League and BERNER Inc., the puppies were rescued and placed in good homes. BERNER Inc. volunteer Amy Matthieu helped rescue Rosie and brought her to fosters/adopters Judy and Mick Beck.



ZURI (10 yrs.) By Teresa Mauk

Although Zuri has some arthritis, she still insists on going on a car ride every day, and she will go up or down stairs to be close to us. She is sweetness mixed with a little stubbornness and has the heart of a lion. We are honored to be owned by her!

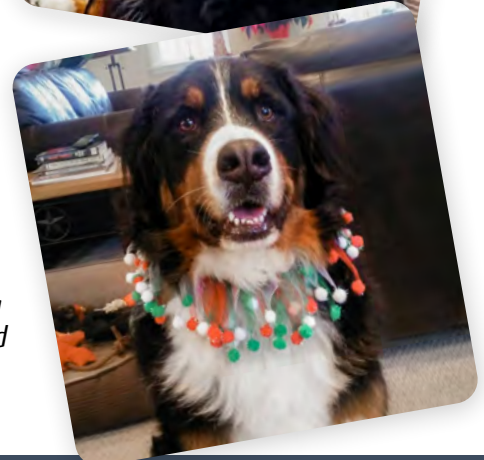
Zuri was released to BERNER Inc. at age one by her young owner, who was going through hard financial times and could not support a dog. Teresa and Mickey Mauk adopted Zuri, who spent many happy years with their Berner, Jackson, who recently passed over the Bridge, and their alpacas!



MAYA (11 yrs.) by Penny Petrone

Maya has come so far from the day we brought her home. She was a real wild child, but 40 consecutive weeks of obedience school resulted in her therapy dog certification, just after she finally passed Family Dog 2 classes. She became my best R.E.A.D. dog of all, retired now due to mobility problems. She goes to PT once a week. She's such a sweet old girl.

Maya was bought from a commercial breeder by a family that had no time to raise a puppy. In a previous home, Maya was attacked and badly injured by a dog owned by her adopter's relative. Penny took her away from that bad situation and adopted her into a wonderful life.



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.

Veterans Parade ★ 12



CARSON

11/03/10 - BG# 75655

Favorite snack: She really likes everything. My BMD loves to: Dominate every dog in the house. Mystic's Silent Spring (Carson) is a very independent but sweet girl. She is the alpha dog of the house and the chief barker and howler when I come and go. Hoping to have a few more years from this lovely girl.

- Diane Smith, Bolton, MA



CHLOE

02/01/11 - BG# 93155

Favorite snack: Turkey. My BMD loves to: Make angels in the snow. NV Rescue Chloe came to us as a foster/rescue at 16 months old. At 12 years old, Chloe is still exuberant as ever! Every day with this girl is a gift!

- Dawn & Jerry Flaherty, Plymouth, MA



TENNEY

11/05/10 - BG# 77096

Favorite snack: Salmon. My BMD loves: People. Tennescott White Mtns Tenney is 12 years old. She has slowed down but still insists on at least one walk a day, in rain or snow. She is well known around Freeport for wearing red goggles while riding in her Ural Motorcycle Sidecar.

- Rebecca & Harry Davis, Freeport, ME

★ 10 ★



BOULDER

12/03/12 - BG# 90988

Favorite snack: Bacon. My BMD loves to: Go for walks. Spellbound Rock My World Boulder still loves his daily walks more than food! He will stop for a quick hello but not for long - he lets me know it's time to keep going. He continues to make every day happier and brings smiles wherever he goes.

- Linda Layman, Portsmouth, RI

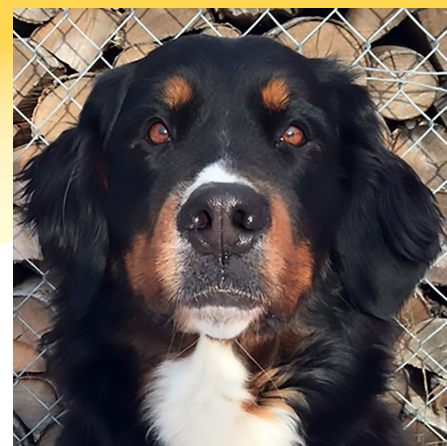


FIRN

02/16/13 - BG# 97891

Favorite snack: Whatever you're eating. My BMD loves to: Do agility. Ursli Firn's biggest fun is agility, and she still burns up the courses! This year we resumed her conformation career. At age nine, she took three Majors in three days, followed by Winners Bitch the following weekend, completing her AKC Champion title and becoming a Versatility Dog. She's a treasure!

- Paul Emerson & Mary Durham, Groton, MA



NESSA

12/03/12 - BG# 90986

Favorite snack: Food. My BMD loves to: Eat. Spellbound's Harbor Baroness CD RA PT OAP OJP TKA CGC NDD ABNDD. Nessa is smart, funny, and sound. My Triathlete achiever! She wakes me when the pup needs to go out. Finds my stuff and brings it to me. Takes my stuff so she can bring it back. And she can still run like the wind!

- Barb Gibson & Dayna Merrow, Edgecomb, ME

Veterans ★ 9

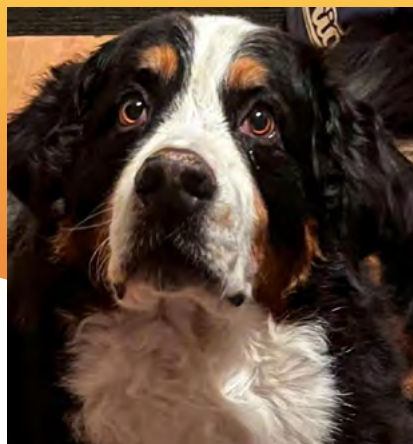


PARKER ★10★

12/03/12 - BG# 90982

Favorite snack: Pizza crust & ice cream. My BMD loves to: Cuddle, get groomed, go for walks. Spellbound's Beach Bum. Parker is a sweet, smart, and beautiful 10-year-old! With three litters, she is BMDCA Top Producer of Champions: Titus, Fresca, Kacey, Reese, and Cash! We are so blessed to have had her for so long.

- Dayna & Scott Merrow, Dover, NH



BACIO

07/04/13 - BG# 125054

Favorite snack: Ice Cream! My BMD loves: Car rides. Olympian's Sweet Dreams CGCA TKN FDC. Bacio is a sweet, sassy princess who is opinionated as she should be. She is always happy. She loves doing tricks and does her best to keep up with the younger ones.

- Jeanne Robbins, Canaan, NH



CALLIE

04/21/13 - BG# 108390

Favorite snack: Homemade dog cookies. My BMD loves to: Be wherever I am. Brandywine's Gentle Spirit CGC CGCA CGCU TKN TKI TKA BN RN. Callie loves car rides, walks and going to training class. Our walks are a little shorter now, but she still enjoys them. I am looking forward to making many more memories with my special girl.

- Barbara Morss, Rochester, MA

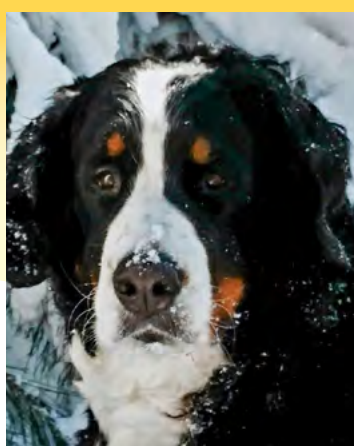


JACKSON

08/25/13 - BG# 108490

Favorite snack: Pizza crust. My BMD loves to: Be with his family. Hickory's Expect the Unexpected. Jackson took the red eye from CA many years ago, arrived with wagging tail and barking, has not stopped either since. Loves all two and four-legged friends, taking car rides and lazing around his dad's office. We just love him.

- Vicki Fallin & Bruce Hallden, Cromwell, CT



KEEVAH

03/16/13 - BG# 112728

Favorite snack: Nilla Wafers. My BMD loves to: Cuddle with her Daddy. Keevah is the heart and soul of our family. She is fearless, strong, beautiful, and stubborn as they come. Diagnosed at two with kidney disease, my dreams of showing and breeding came to a full stop, but not the love and adoration of this beautiful Polish Princess who epitomizes this breed.

- Holly & Anthony Toner, Marstons Mills, MA



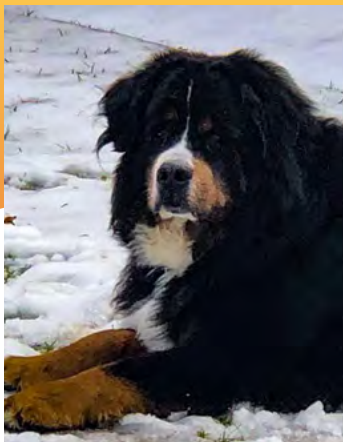
SACO

10/24/13 - BG# 107082

Favorite snack: Peanut Butter. My BMD loves to: Run and play. Tennescott White Mtns Saco is active at shows and performance events, a blast to show and fun and wonderful to live with. He loves running and learning new things. He's accomplished at Rally and Obedience and is enjoying learning scent work. He's a healthy proud boy and good friend to all.

- Peg Hickox, Daly City, CA

Veterans ★ 9

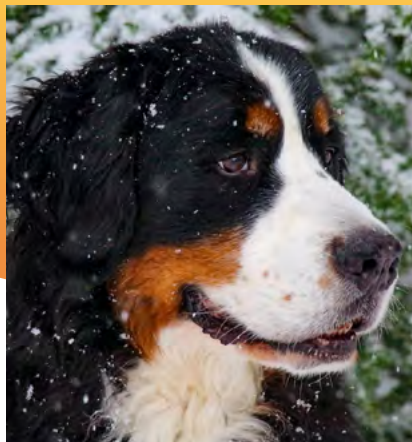


TACO

07/24/13 - BG# 107459

Favorite snack: Well, his name is TACO! My BMD loves to: Make new friends. Spellbound's Taco. A true ambassador of the breed, happy, outgoing Taco thinks everyone wants to say hi, and is confused if they don't. He adores his family and loves to hang out, cuddle, and eat!

- Steve & Christine Wyman,
Dayna Merrow, Boston, MA

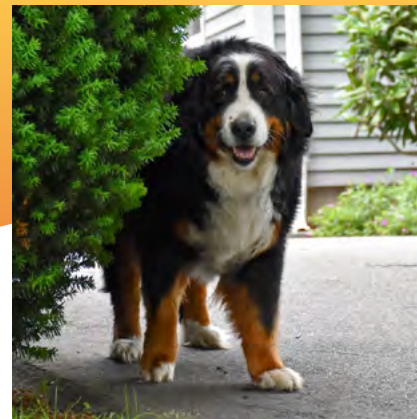


TRISTAN

06/25/13 - BG# 100429

Favorite snack: Cheese. My BMD loves to: Be active. Tristan's inner fire is for agility, so we keep playing that game which he adores. Still whining to run and fast on the course, he is blessed with a sound body and eager mind.

- Alison Jaskiewicz, Mason, NH



BETTY ★8★

11/23/14

Favorite snack: Three Dog Bakery, "Woofers." My BMD loves to: Sit outside during snowstorms. She has puppy-like energy for an 8-yr old (especially when the grandchildren visit). She is very vocal when UPS or Amazon delivers packages. The neighbors, when passing by, get a "greeting" from her. Despite the barking, delivery people and neighbors quickly learn that she is very friendly.

- Diane Mangiaratti, Attleboro, MA

★ 8 ★

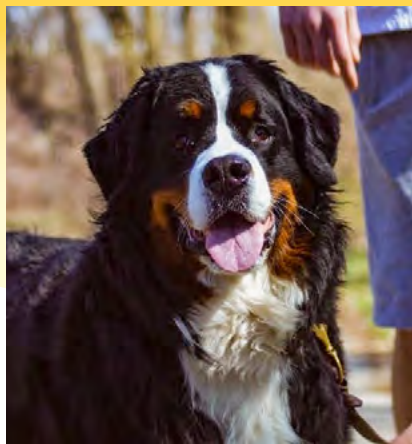


CHARLIE

01/17/15 - BG# 120093

Favorite snack: CHEESE! My BMD loves to: Watch football and cuddle Spellbound Charlie's Angel. Charlie is lovably stubborn, likes neighborhood walks, meeting dog friends, people friends, sleeping, and prefers Tillamook cheddar. Snuggle Sunday is her day, demanding pets on her schedule!

- Leigh & Jim Smyzer,
Dayna Merrow, Odessa, FL



COOPER

06/28/14 - BG# 112801

Favorite snack: Table scraps of any kind! My BMD loves to: Be with my Hoomans! Spellbound Hall of Famer. Cooper goes by a lot of different nicknames, in particular, Big Baby. Cooper enjoys being outside when it's cold and in the air conditioning when it's hot. He likes being around his people the most, lying on the lawn with a big bone, and going for car rides.

- Jamie & Dan Bulhuis,
Dayna Merrow, Crestwood, IL



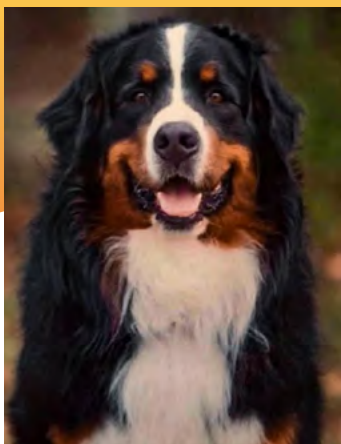
DAKIN

10/23/13 - 09/23/22 - BG# 112727

Favorite snack: Sour cream & pizza crust. My BMD loved to: Roll in the snow. Belnois Snowed in at Crmsnhvt RN, Dakin was a true lover of snow. He loved to bury his head in it and roll around on his back! He was most comfortable at home with his family, where his true personality shined, just not long enough. He is terribly missed.

- Matt & Melissa George,
Susan Morrill, Alton Bay, NH

Veterans ★ 8



GUTHRIE

01/17/15 - BG# 120095

Favorite snack: Wasiks.com Cheeses and Popcorn. My BMD loves to: Be with his family. Spellbound's Mighty Wind. Guthrie loves walks, grooming and napping. Greeting people with a hearty bark and nose boop and tunneling through legs for back and butt rubs, he is happiest when "his people" are nearby.

- Stefani & Brian Wasik, Dayna Merrow, Franklin, MA

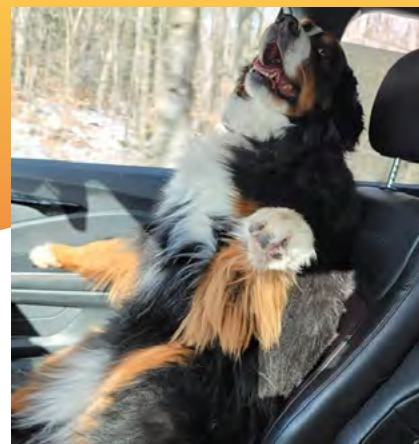


JERRY

04/23/14 - BG# 110697

Favorite snack: Peanut butter and yogurt. My BMD loves to: Ride in the car and go for walks. Mtn Ridge's Lighting Bolt Rock Star. Jerry is the second Berner we have owned. He is now a big brother to Maverick. Jerry loves to sit on his mom's lap on the couch. He loves to eat ice cubes. He can always hear the freezer drawer being opened.

- Lorie-Ann Noyes & Shawn Bigelow, North Haverhill, NH

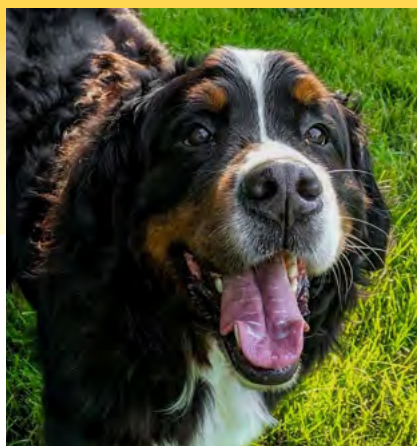


MAD'DEN MOISELLE

10/16/14

Favorite snack: People Cookies. My BMD loves to: Sit up like a person and ride shotgun everywhere! Welcome to Clown World with Hoosier Roos Marvelous Madden v Trio. She's the nuttiest dog I've ever owned! She keeps us laughing everyday with her crazy antics. Thank you, God, for this precious soul. I can't imagine life without her.

- Nancy Hoyt, Torrington, CT & John Osthoff, Beckett, MA



KLONDIKE

01/17/15 - BG# 120094

Favorite snack: Cheese, ice cream. My BMD loves to: Cuddle, dine al fresco, play with his Corgi sister. Spellbound's Gold Rush. Klondike is a sweet, kind, and gentle guy. He loves to make new friends, walk around downtown, and lie in the shade under the big walnut tree in our yard.

- Melissa Dalka & Dayna Merrow, Lisle, IL



MILLIE

01/17/15 - BG# 120090

Favorite snack: Pizza. My BMD loves to: Get belly rubs! Spellbound's Green Glass Love. Millie loves car rides to play at the beach. She enjoys naps, belly side up. Happiest on cold winter days laying on the porch, she is an auntie and playtime referee to Beatrice and Pemi. She casts her love spell on all who meet her.

- Mary & Bob Wassick, Dayna Merrow, Gorham, ME



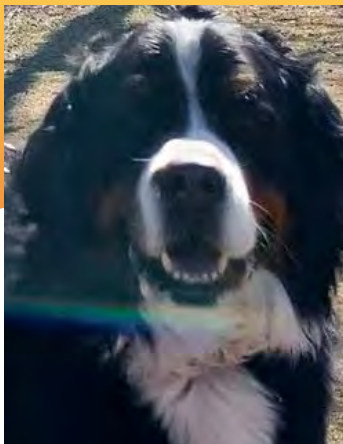
ODIN

04/09/14 - BG# 114877

Favorite snack: Cheese and whatever we are eating. My BMD loves to: Chill Out and supervise all the activity in his domain. He pays special attention to the kitchen!

- Jane & Dennis Boas, Leominster, MA

Veterans ★ 8



OTIS

06/18/14 - BG# 112804

Favorite snack: Whatever hits the floor.
My BMD loves to: Vacation with us. Spellbound Pura Vida. Otis loves hanging with his human siblings, adores getting pampered and will sport clothing and hair ties to suit the occasion. Growing up with the kids created a special bond, we adore him!

- Molly Patrick & Dayna Merrow,
Portsmouth, NH

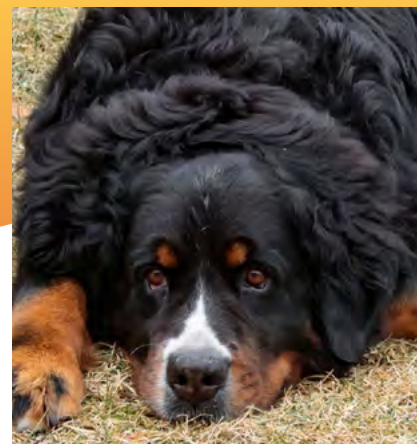


RUBY

01/17/15 - BG# 120092

Favorite snack: Pizza. My BMD loves to: Cuddle, walk the beach. Spellbound's Witchy Woman. The sweetest, silliest, most loving companion - a true gem. We joke that she "loves love." Her tail wags anytime people show affection, and insists on being included. Always exuberant, often mistaken for a puppy, Ruby makes everyone smile.

- Melissa & Jason Haenggi, Dayna Merrow,
Scituate, MA



TAYLOR

01/17/15 - BG# 120091

Favorite snack: Steak. My BMD loves to: Snuggle with her dad & bring her kiddos to school. Spellbound Walk on Down a Country Road. Generally found hanging out in her backyard in any weather and always ready for a car ride, she is the perfect faithful companion for our family. Thank you, Dayna and Scott, for entrusting her to us!

- Tracey Healy & Dayna Merrow,
Wilbraham, MA

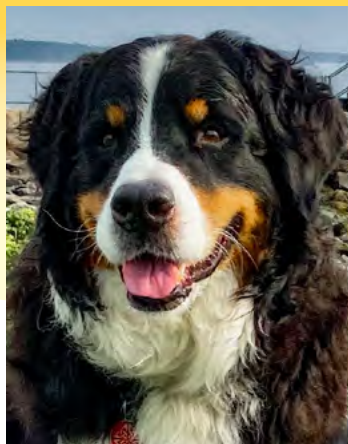


TEAGAN

07/28/14 - BG# 112805

Favorite snack: Cookies. My BMD loves to: Cuddle. Spellbound Love that Patchwork "Teagan" CGC RN is Bill's heart dog, follows him everywhere and will do anything for him. They earned a Rally title together. She gives the best cuddles and loves belly rubs.

- Bill & Stephanie Freeman,
North Chelmsford, MA

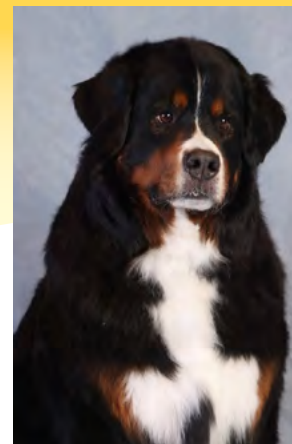


TRINITY

06/21/14 - BG# 111947

Favorite snack: Swordfish. My BMD loves to: Do nose work. Betruf Celtic Trinity CGC CGCA TKP FDC RN SIA SEA SCA NW3 Elite is a therapy dog who loves nose work, freestyle dance, performing tricks, and rocking costumes in contests/parades. She's doing great at eight and is as sweet, talented, and beautiful as ever. Baby sister, Lyra, adores and annoys her.

- Nancy Bates, Old Orchard Beach, ME



DIGIT ★7★

03/14/15 - BG# 120454

Favorite snack: Pizza bones! My BMD loves to: Meet & greet. The unofficial mayor and mascot for the local theater and beer garden, Digit enjoys his walks downtown. He had a busy first year as a veteran and looks forward to each and every cookie!

- Adam Conn, Kris Hayko, &
Michael Knicely DVM, Maynard, MA

Veterans ★ 7



HARPER

12/24/15 - BG# 129523

Favorite snack: Cookies. My BMD loves: Belly Rubs. Patchwork Heirloom. Harper is smart, playful, and loves to get belly rubs. Her favorite place to be is in the RV with us—she loves to go on adventures!

– Bill & Stephanie Freeman,
North Chelmsford, MA

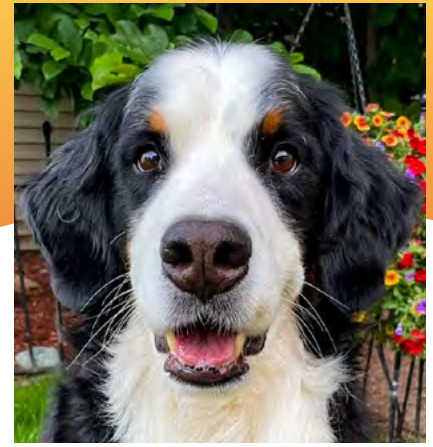


LUNA

12/24/15 - BG# 128053

Favorite snack: Plain munchkins or donuts. My BMD loves to: Go to Dunkin Donuts or to work with mum. Smokey Keep King Moonracer's Treasure FDC. I love this diva with my whole heart! We have had so many wonderful adventures and can't imagine life without her.

– Carolyn Massey, Billerica, MA



MAXWELL

06/16/15 - BG# 123806

Favorite snack: Everything! My BMD loves to: Swim and fetch. Spellbound Maxwell Glarus Gruyere is the sweetest and happiest boy ever. With an infectious smile and wagging tail, he is the best snuggler. Smart and eager to learn, he's a gentle boy with a huge heart!

– Denise & Peter Smith, Dayna Merrow,
Blaine, MN

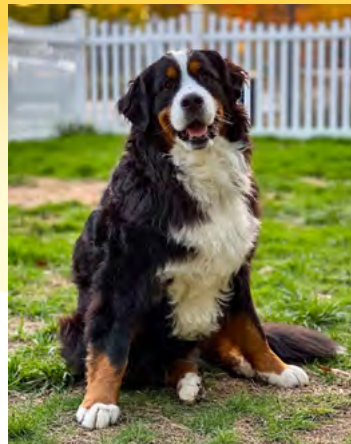


MEIKKA

07/01/15 - BG# 124713

Favorite snack: Whole raw eggs and cabbage. My BMD loves to: Be right by my side. Meikka truly is the epitome of a Berner. Strong, sweet, intelligent and the most loving soul who is always by my side.

– Susan K. Morrill, Pocasset, MA



OLIVE

06/04/15

Favorite snack: Dehydrated turkey. My BMD loves to: Explore in the woods. Olive loves to travel around New England looking for the best forests and dog parks. Finding a little stream to splash in with her sister, Zelda, is her favorite—the muddier the better!

– Macenzie Phelan & Cam Palczynski,
Plaistow, NH



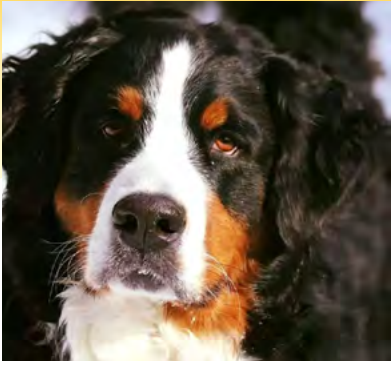
SPRECHER

06/16/15 - BG# 123811

Favorite snack: PIZZA! My BMD loves to: Be with his family. Spellbound's Black Bavarian. Sprecher was a first baby before we started having our family. He has welcomed our kids, supervised them, played nicely and bonded as we hoped. He is often lying under the highchair for free snacks! Without a doubt...Best Dog Ever!

– Jenny & Alex Chiello, Dayna Merrow,
Mukwonago, WI

Veterans Parade



WILLOW ★7★

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

Favorite snack: Apples, bocce treats. My BMD loved to: Do nose work and maze toys. Willow was truly as loyal as they come! Despite recently losing her battle with serious health issues, she continued to keep her tail endlessly wagging while she enjoyed every minute she could with her family. She will be greatly missed.

- Sue & Randy McEnvoy, Bellingham, MA



ZAYLA ★7★

04/01/15 - BG# 122936

Favorite snack: Soft moist dog treats. My BMD loves to: Rip cardboard boxes apart. Tallpine's Fool of Grace. Zayla, retired church-going therapy dog and nursing home visitor, still finds and delivers neighbors' newspapers. Evenings are special, together on the sofa watching TV. She can read me like a book.

- Nancy Stitley, Mullica Hill, NJ



ZURRI ★11★

07/18/11 - BG# 83592

Favorite snack: Just about all food! My BMD loves to: Demand attention. She is the queen of the house. Bed hog extraordinaire. Barks at nothing and everything. Demands second breakfast and second dinner (occasionally gets it). Her soulful eyes melt our hearts. We love her dearly.

- Cheryl and Bill Brickach,
Bristol, RI



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BMDCNV

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