

December 2019

# The Berner Blatt

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Nashoba Valley

THE CLUB FOR NEW ENGLAND BERNERS & THEIR FAMILIES

*Versatility Veteran Pomegranate showing off her carting skills while getting gas in Maynard, MA. Photo Courtesy of Adam Conn, who owned and loved Granate until her passing in November 2019.*



**ANNUAL  
VETERAN'S  
ISSUE**  
*pages 5-9*

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# BMDCNV *Calendar of Events*

~ 2020 ~

**February 29**

Regional Specialty: Working Dog • *Springfield, MA*

**March 1**

Supported Entry: Working Dog • *Springfield, MA*

**February 9**

Winter Walk at Wampatuck State Park • *Hingham, MA*

**April 19**

Annual Meeting at the Boxboro Regency  
*Boxborough, MA*

**June 6**

Spring Fun Day • Middlesex County 4-H Fairgrounds  
*Westford, MA*

**September 26**

Fall Fun Day • Middlesex County 4-H Fairgrounds  
*Westford, MA*

**September 26 & 27**

Fall Draft Tests • Middlesex County 4-H Fairgrounds  
*Westford, MA*

FMI: [www.bmdcnv.org/events.html](http://www.bmdcnv.org/events.html)

Share photos & videos of your Berners!  
Join the Facebook group at



[fb.com/groups/BMDCNVMembers](https://fb.com/groups/BMDCNVMembers)

# Welcome! New Members

Julianna Cameron  
*Colchester, CT*

Gary & Barbara  
Daddario  
*Hudson, NH*

Kimberly Bacher &  
Ben Crabtree  
*Bow, NH*

Ben Lovell  
*York, ME*



## ... CLUB NOTICES ...

### NEW MEMBERSHIP CHAIR WANTED:

If you or someone you know are a tech savvy person looking for a way to volunteer with the club, or are interested in more information, please contact Jean Michael at [jpmichael85@verizon.net](mailto:jpmichael85@verizon.net). We are willing to train anyone who is interested!

## ... CLUB NOTICE ...

**2020 Berner Blatt monthly issues** distributed in accordance with the schedule below. Please plan to submit your announcements, ads, articles, birthdays, etc by the 20th of the proceeding issue to: [bernerblatt@bmdcnv.org](mailto:bernerblatt@bmdcnv.org).

January /February  
March  
April/May  
June/July - BERNER Inc. Rescue Issue  
August /September  
October  
November  
December - Veterans Issue



# The BMDCNV board of directors

### PRESIDENT

Jean Michael  
[president@bmdcnv.org](mailto:president@bmdcnv.org)

### SECRETARY

Carol Jensen  
[secretary@bmdcnv.org](mailto:secretary@bmdcnv.org)

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# 2020 BMDCNV MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Renewal notices will be in the mail and you will receive only one notice. If you receive a renewal notice, you need to renew if you wish to remain a member of the BMDCNV. If you do not receive a renewal notice, it means that you fall into one of 3 categories:

- 1) You joined the Club at full membership price after September 2019,
- 2) You are a BMDCNV Rescue Home that is currently eligible for complimentary membership, or
- 3) You are a Founding member of the Club.

If you misplace your renewal form, you will be able to download a copy from the club's web site. Unfortunately, if dues remain unpaid as of April 1, 2020, your membership will lapse and your subscription to the

Berner Blatt and access to the BMDCNV Members Yahoo and Facebook Groups will also be cancelled. Your membership in the BMDCNV not only helps support the operation of the club and the many fun activities and events it sponsors, it also supports the club's mission of education and breed stewardship. Membership also connects you to the largest Berner organization of its kind allowing you to share in the camaraderie and community that is so unique to those who share the love for our wonderful Berners. When you get your renewal notice in the mail, be sure to put renewal at the top of your to do list.

*Karlo Laforteza, BMDCNV Membership Chairman*

**Renew online at:**

<https://mimidev.wixsite.com/bmdcnv/renew>

## Shelley Tyre Award 2020 Call for Nominations

The Shelley Tyre Outstanding Service Award honors someone whose service and contributions to the club and/or the breed has been exceptional. 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 Shelley Award is given annually to a member who has given outstanding service to our club. 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. Club members

send their recommendations for the award recipient to the Secretary with a short paragraph on why they believe the nominee deserves the award. The Board then takes into consideration all the recommendations and decides on the recipient. The only two restrictions are that the award may not go to a previous recipient or to any Officer or Director while they are serving. The award is presented at the annual meeting. Nominations for 2020 should be sent to the BMDCNV Secretary, Carol Jensen at [secretary@bmdcnv.org](mailto:secretary@bmdcnv.org) no later than March 1, 2020.

### ***Previous honorees are:***

2019 Linda DeCelles	2012 Mimi Englander	2003 Marge Bumen	1995 Carol Holden
2018 Stephanie & Bill Freeman	2011 Dawn Flaherty	2002 Jean Bridge	1994 Penny Petrone
2017 Alise Burbridge	2010 Linda Botti	2001 Abby Patrizio	1993 Paul Emerson
2016 Barbie Beck-Wilczek	2009 Jeff Nowak	2000 Ellen Barnaby	1992 Ellen Nott
2015 Steve Diers	2008 Jon Cons	1999 Elizabeth Malcomson	1991 Amy Cohen
2014 Beth Atkinson	2007 Anya Wittenborg	1998 Marjorie Cottle	1990 Alison Jaskiewicz
2013 Lynn & Lloyd Jones	2006 Michelle Keck	1997 Lisa Allen	1989 Beverly Barney
	2004 Martha Phelps	1996 Chris Cottle	1988 Debbie Mulvey

**BMDCNV REGIONAL SPECIALTY  
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 29TH, 2020**

**4 SHOWS  
2 DAYS!!**

**WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA  
DESIGNATED SPECIALTY WITH THE  
CT RIVER WORKING GROUP ASSOCIATION**

**ALWAYS  
MAJORS!!**

**BREED JUDGE—LIBBY KESNER  
SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE—DAYNA MERROW  
BEST PUPPY, BEST BRED-BY-EXHIBITOR, BEST VETERAN**

**BMDCNV SUPPORTED ENTRY  
SUNDAY, MARCH 1ST, 2020**

**SUPPORTING THE ENTRY AT THE CT RIVER WORKING GROUP ASSOCIATION**

**BREED JUDGE—TERRY TEMPLE  
SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE—SUE BRIGHTMAN**

**CT RIVER WORKING GROUP ASSOCIATION  
BOTH DAYS 4-6 MONTH PUPPY AND NOHS COMPETITION**

**SAT & SUN 2 ALL BREED SHOWS SAME LOCATION  
First Company Governor's Foot Guard Athletic Association**

**PLEASE CONSIDER SPONSORING A TROPHY  
CONTACT PAM ELDREDGE  
PELDREDGE39@COMCAST.NET**

**Very Reasonable \$20-\$40 to sponsor the entire class!**

**MB-F Secretary Closing Date WED at Noon February 12, 2020**

# TROPHY SPONSORS NEEDED

WE HAVE MANY PLACEMENTS THAT COULD USE YOUR HELP TO MAKE FOR SUCCESSFUL **BMDCNV REGIONAL AND SUPPORTED SHOWS ON FEB 29 - MARCH 1ST 2020** IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE CT RIVER WORKING GROUP ASSOCIATION **WE CAN'T DO IT WITHOUT YOU!!**

CLASS SPONSORS RANGE FROM \$20 TO \$40 TO SPONSOR ALL 4 PLACEMENTS OR BEST OF BREED AND BEST SWEEPS GENERAL DONATION ARE WELCOME

PLEASE USE OUR PAYPAL ADDRESS OF **ORDERS@BMDCNV.ORG**

CONTACT PAM ELDREDGE FOR AVAILABLE TROPHIES **ELDREDGE39@COMCAST.NET**



## HONORING OUR VETERANS

vet·er·an

noun \ˈve-tə-rən, ˈve-trən\

🐾 For competition purposes, dogs are considered veterans at age seven.

🐾 BMDCA Info Series

7

**Calvin**  
11/18/12



**My Favorite Treat:** Moose shaped cookie  
**My BMD loves to:** Watch TV  
Sweetest Guy in the World. Loves all dogs, but has a thing for Golden Retrievers. Loves car rides. Misses his sister that we lost at 5 yrs old. The joy of the household.

— *Mary Labato & Paul Gentile; Shrewsbury, MA*

7

**Echo**  
10/26/12



**Favorite treat:** Anything edible  
**My BMD loves to:** Do nosework  
Echo was our first BMD, and she forever cemented the breed in our hearts. She is a goofy, cuddly girl. On November 3rd, she became the 3rd BMD in the country to obtain the ELT-CH title from the National Association of Canine Scentwork.

— *Amy & Mark Matthieu; Brimfield, MA*

7

**Jazz**  
12/18/12



**Favorite treat:** Anything edible and sometimes not  
**My BMD loves to:** Spread his infectious happiness wherever he goes  
Jazz is the happiest dog alive, his tail never stops wagging. He is a recipient of the 2018 BLEF "Naughtiest Dog Ever" award and strives to live up to this honor on a daily basis. His penchant for eating anything and everything is only surpassed by his joie de vivre.

— *Janice Parky & Bruce Cagwin; North Truro, MA*

7

**Laukie**  
11/07/12



**Favorite treat:** Cheese, please!  
**My BMD loves to:** Cart!  
Laukie has been a great obedience and draft dog but he absolutely excels in therapy dog work.

— *Barbie Beck-Wilczek & Bill Wilczek; Littleton, NH*

# HONORING OUR VETERANS

*"Everyone thinks they have the best dog..  
and none of them are wrong"*

— W.R. Purche

7

**Marco**  
04/06/12



**Favorite treat:** Any type of cookie or cheese

**My BMD loves to:** Follow us around in "his yard" and crunch on the icy crust of snow  
Marco is a pup out of my litter in 2012. He is one of 6 pup. His sister lives with us as well. Marco never liked the show ring but is a champion in other ways.

— Carol & Neal Jensen;  
Cromwell, CT

7

**Max**  
11/30/12



**Favorite treat:** Frozen chicken feet

**My BMD loves to:** Play in the snow  
Mad Maples Maximillian loves the snow and cold, cuddling his soft toys and people of all ages. Always ready for a tummy rub, Max brings so much joy and happiness to our world. He is the sweetest dog ever and we are so lucky he is in our family.

— Scott & Sandra Walker;  
New Marlborough, MA

7

**MiaBella**  
03/06/12



**Favorite treat:** Cheese

**My BMD loves to:** Go for car rides  
MiaBella is a total diva at times and very stubborn! However, she is the sweetest and most sensitive girl...we wouldn't change one thing about her!

— Chuck & MaryAnn Burout ;  
Bedford, NH

7

**Parker**  
12/03/12



**Favorite treat:** Pizza

**My BMD loves to:** Go for rides, couch cuddles, play with puppies  
Our Parker is a sweet girl, the best dam and now grand-dam ever! She has a solid bark, when necessary, and is a great watchdog. Parker loves to cuddle, loves children of all ages, loves to go for car rides and eat Scott's famous "Frigerator Treats!"

— Dayna & Scott Merrow;  
Mahopac, NY

7

**Stoli**  
04/06/12



**Favorite treat:** Any food

**My BMD loves to:** Snuggle  
Windbeams Majestic Mountain Fire loves everyone he meets. He is our 127 lb lap dog. We are so lucky to be his family. Thank you Carol Jensen for our wonderful boy.

— Victoria Fallin & Bruce Hallden;  
Cromwell, CT

7

**T-Bear**  
06/04/12



**Favorite treat:** Unfortunately, sticks

**My BMD loves to:** Eat snow!  
Ch. Rockharbor's Kneel To The Man, CGC, THD, ANDD, RN recently relocated to Hampton, NH fr Richmond VA where he regularly participated in events & training at the Richmond Dog Obedience Club, as well as the Potomac Valley, Central VA and Hampton Roads Bernese Mountain Dog clubs, & hospital visitation.

— Lee & Debby Isdell; Hampton, NH

7

**Willow**  
04/06/12



**Favorite treat:** Anything at all

**My BMD loves to:** She loves to play in the yard and keep a watchful eye for anyone passing by and lets them know that she is watching them.

Willow is one of the puppies out of my Windbeam litter. She lives here with her Mom, Chloe and brother Marco as well as "Uncle Buster". She is a wonderful and gentle companion.

— Carol & Neal Jensen;  
Cromwell, CT

8

**Angel**  
12/11/11



**Favorite treat:** Carrots

**My BMD loves to:** Take walks  
Angel is such a blessing to have by my side, sending love in every direction to everyone she meets. At eight she still acts like a puppy jumping, playing, and frolicking. She loves to take walks with her other k9 friends and enjoys her social life

— Robin Freeman; Killingworth, CT

# HONORING OUR VETERANS

*"You can usually tell that a man is good if he has a dog who loves him."*

— W. Bruce Cameron, *A Dog's Purpose*

8

**Brigitte**  
03/08/11



**Favorite treat:** Beef tongue  
**My BMD loves to:** Swim  
Maine's Bodacious Bardot RN TD HCT BN CGC THD TKN FDC.. you started me on this crazy train and for that I am forever thankful to you for my first litter, first dog of many sports, best swimmer, jeep rider, donkey chaser and most affectionate girl by my side always.  
— Heidi Henderson; Killington, VT

8

**Olivia**  
05/27/11



**Favorite treat:** Peanut butter & vanilla yogurt stuffed kongs  
**My BMD loves to:** Hug  
Livy is a sweet energetic girl, always ready to go... she enjoys a little Rally now and then, a bit of Draft on a sunny day, Tracking into the winds and a comfy upside down snooze twisted to the side legs up on the wall pose most afternoons.  
— Nancy Bard; Baltic, CT

8

**Wesley**  
12/05/11



**Favorite treat:** Pretty much anything  
**My BMD loves to:** bark when he wants something. He's very demanding.  
my first Grand Champion, Wesley is from my second generation (Odin bred to Clarice).  
— Diane Smith; Bolton, MA

9

**Attie**  
11/05/10



**Favorite treat:** Salad  
**My BMD loves to:** Cuddle with her cats  
Attie is a wonderful friend and family member. She is very smart, and learns quickly. She always tries to do what we want her to do. She makes us laugh and we are thankful to Barbie and Bill for letting us have her as a great addition to our lives  
— Karol & Alan Dow; South Windsor, CT

9

**Balsam**  
11/05/10



**Favorite treat:** Anything!  
**My BMD loves to:** snuggle  
Balsam has done it all... conformation, obedience, rally, draft, therapy, and mother to 3 litters. GCHS/CAN CH Tennesco White Mtns The Balsams Am/Can CD, CDX, RE, MDD, ABNDD, ANDD, Can DD, CGC, TDI  
— Barbie Beck-Wilczek & Bill Wilczek; Littleton, NH

9

**Buster**  
05/27/10



**Favorite treat:** Mother Hubbard Treats & Cheese  
**My BMD loves to:** Buster loves to lay outdoors and let the snow build up on him until he is covered.  
Buster is a happy go lucky guy. He has a CGC award that we are proud of. He lives here with Chloe and her two pups Marco and Willow giving us 4 Veterans in the house. He is a calm and gentle giant.  
— Neal & Carol Jenson; Cromwell, CT

9

**Carson**  
11/03/10



**Favorite treat:** Anything  
**My BMD loves to:** Be the alpha dog. Carson is the protector of the home & dogs. We love you!  
Carson is also from our second generation of Berners. She is out of Alex (Morocco Alexedandre Le Grand and Clarice). We intentionally bred to Alex again for longevity and seem to be getting it. We love our 9 yr old matriarch  
— Diane Smith; Bolton, MA

9

**Cricket**  
04/16/10



**Favorite treat:** Food  
**My BMD loves to:** Wander anywhere with her people  
Cricket loves long steady beach walks and mountain rambles in this phase of life. CH Diamond Creek's My Steadfast Maxine RN, she is a top producer of Champions, with several children, nieces, nephews grands and even great grands in the area! Looking forward to many more sunny walks!  
— Dorri Poppe; Saugus, MA

# HONORING OUR VETERANS

*"Thorns may hurt you, men desert you, sunlight turn to fog;  
but you're never friendless ever, if you have a dog."*

— Douglas Malloch, American poet

9

**Jackson**  
06/12/10



**Favorite treat:** Pizza bones, cheese, bully sticks  
**My BMD loves to:** Go for rides in the car, chase squirrels, cuddle on the couch watching horse movies  
Jackson is not a show dog but he's won first place in our hearts for being the BEST BOY! He's still going strong at 9 1/2 and acts like a puppy when he gets excited. Every day we have with him is a gift.  
— Mickey Wheatley & Teresa Mauk; Westport, MA

9

**Lucy**  
04/05/10



**Favorite treat:** Cheese  
**My BMD loves to:** Walk and sniff  
Lucy is a happy, fun-loving girl. She loves people and her lifelong Berner friends. Despite surgery on a torn ACL and removal of a blastoma from her jaw, she's healthy and active. She came to us at 11 weeks old from BERNER, Inc. as a "temporary" foster!  
— Linda Decelles & Gib Otten; Rowley, MA

9

**Ouchy**  
10/23/2010



Zermatt's Tumbarumba of Snowy Mountains. "Ouchy" age 9. D.O.B. 10/23/2010 Owned and bred by Erin O'Malley.  
— Erin O'Malley; Hampton, NH

9

**Ruby**  
08/31/10



**Favorite treat:** Yogurt  
**My BMD loves to:** lounge on the porch  
Ruby is the typical couch potato Berner. She is content to hang around the house, especially on the porch, watching the world go by. She does love car rides and walks too though!  
— Amy & Mark Matthieu; Brimfield, MA

10

**Anja**  
07/26/09



Edelweiss Annali von Black Creek CD BN TD2 TDX TDU RN RA RE FDC CGCA CKCRN My special girl! Still earning titles at 10 plus years. Best companion ever.

— Annie Davis

10

**Chloe**  
04/15/09



**Favorite treat:** Cheese, any type  
Chloe was from Myotie's kennel in Maine. She had one litter in 2012 with 6 pups, 2 of whom live with her in our home. They are Willow and Marco who are also veterans and another pup Stoli who lives very close by.

— Neal & Carol Jensen; Cromwell, CT

10

**Eiger**  
09/12/09



**Favorite treat:** blueberries  
**My BMD loves to:** play in the snow  
CH Iron von Graenzweg (BG # 72272) celebrated his 10th birthday this year. Last November, his tail was amputated for a low grade mast cell tumor. GOOD MARGINS!

— Karlo & Kristina Laforteza; Milford, MA

10

**Maizie**  
06/03/09



**Favorite treat:** Apple slices  
**My BMD loves to:** cuddle  
Maine's Amazing Allegro is a calm, sweet girl who loves all people, especially my grandson Cody and granddaughter Hazel. She loves being outside watching the squirrels and neighbors. She has always been a joy!

— Dr. Mary Dickerson; Chevy Chase, MD



# HONORING OUR VETERANS

*Our veteran's favorite things:*

*Favorite snacks: Cheese (of all varieties), pizza bones, fruit*

*Favorite activities: walks, car rides, love their people*

**10**

**Paige**  
03/30/09



**Favorite treat:** birthday cake  
**My BMD loves to:** Hike with me  
Paige will always be my hiker girl. Despite some health challenges this year, she still enjoys the view from the top of the mountain. Every day is a blessing. A joyous holiday season to breeder Sherri Starbird, first mom Linda Carney and all the wonderful Nashoba officers and volunteers.  
— *Tricia Sullivan; Hanover, MA*

**10**

**Pomegranate**  
05/18/09-11/06/19



**Favorite treat:** Liver Batch #2  
**My BMD loves:** Secretly snuggle  
Pomegranate was the brightest bitch of her generation. Demure in conformation, masterful drafter, persistent herder, eager worker... unless it was during a trial. Everything happened according to HER schedule. Thank you to Jon and Judy Cons and the entire extended Southwind family.  
— *Adam & Amy Conn; Maynard, MA*

**11**

**Kodiak**  
08/24/08



**Favorite treat:** Bananas & pizza bones  
**My BMD loves to:** Bring his stuffies outside, go for walkabouts in his yard, give us the Berner bump.  
Foxfire's Kodiak Blue's Brother is 11 years and counting! Arthritis has slowed him down, and his rust eyebrows and muzzle are now mostly gray. But he still has days when acts like a puppy. We cherish every day with have with our sweet "old man."  
We love you, Special K!  
— *Fran & Phil LaFlamme; Salem, CT*

**11**

**Luke**  
01/08/08



**Favorite treat:** Salmon skin  
**My BMD loves to:** Bark  
Lukie, Wagenblast's Interlaken, 12 in January, just keeps on keepin on. Despite some kidney issues he is happy and noisy, enjoying life with his Leonberger sister. A velcro boy, my right hand companion while reading or watching TV, always right there.  
— *Jane Hunt-Brackett; Kensington, NH*

**12**

**Kallie**  
05/14/07



**Favorite treat:** Cheese  
**My BMD loves to:** Sleep on the couch  
Kallie was from a litter of T's in Cataumet. Her uncle Willie is the oldest Bernese in the world currently at over 15 years.  
— *Tricia Sullivan; Hanover, MA*

**12**

**Mac**  
07/24/07



**Favorite treat:** Mother Hubbard Biscuits  
**My BMD loves:** Clean our yogurt container  
We feel so blessed to have this boy at almost 12 1/2. He gets to be spoiled every day with extra loving and with the diet of his choice (which varies greatly but has limitations because of a sensitive tummy). He definitely seems to welcome the cool winter air.  
— *Buffy & Dan Bell; Reading, VT*

• • **SAVE THE DATE** • •

**BMDCNV Regional Specialty**

**Sat. February 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**BMDCNV Supported Entry**

**Sun, March 1st, 2020**

CT River Working Group Assoc. • Eastern States Expo  
1305 MEMORIAL AVE • W. SPRINGFIELD, MA

**Closing Date: Wednesday, February 12, 2020**

Find us on  
Instagram  
@bmdcnv



# Birthdays, Congratulations and Brags...



## NEW CHAMPION!

CH Belnois WhiteMtns Pemigewasset FDC CGC (Pemi) finished her championship at 19 months old. Bred by Lise LaCroix, Robert Turcotte and Veronique Paquet. She has been a delightful pup and I am very thankful to them.

— Barbie Beck-Wilczek; Littleton, NH



## Best Baby Puppy!

McKenna won working group in the 4-6 month baby puppy competition at the Holiday Classic under Mary Alice Eschwieler. This competition is always such fun, and I am so happy she was recognized.

— Susan Morrill, Cataumet, MA



## VETERAN LITTER STUDY!

The nine year old Tennescott White Mtns Alpine Ski Mountain litter of 8 puppies and the seven year old Tennescott White Mtns 4,000 Footer litter of 4 puppies are all well and have been asked to participate in studies at the BMD Repository at MSU, sponsored by Berner-Garde. I am very grateful to all the puppy owners for agreeing to participate in the studies.

— Barbie Beck-Wilczek; Littleton, NH



## Best of Winners!

Riverwood's The Fennel Countdown (Fennel) went Best of Winners at the Thanksgiving Cluster in West Springfield, MA. It was an amazing day for our first major!

— Tina & Sam Sirico, Old Saybrook, CT



## Best of Breed!

CH Riverwood's Night Wind (Icculous) was chosen as Best of Breed by a breeder judge at the BMDCNV Supported Entry at the Holiday Classic in West Springfield, MA. We are looking forward to Icky's future in competition and breeding.

— Laurel Wood, Deep River, CT



## First Major!

Rowyn went Reserve Winner's Dog at the Holiday Classic under Andrew Ritter for his first major at 6 months and two days old. So proud of this young man!

— Susan Morrill, Cataumet, MA

## BMDCNV Fall Retreat

The Fall Retreat took place November 7-10th at the Oceanwood Camp and Conference Center in Ocean Park, Maine. With a turnout of 18 Berners, 4 Chinooks, a Newfoundland and all their humans, we filled all the cabins and half of the Holt Lodge. Thursday night was rainy and cold but many made the trek to the dining hall for the pizza welcome party after moving into their accommodations for the weekend.

Friday morning, volunteers Nancy Bates and Dawn Flaherty held a Nosework demonstration and training session. All of the dogs that tried it had a great time finding yummy treats in boxes laying a foundation for if anyone decides to continue Nosework with their dogs. The afternoon brought a really fun and competitive scavenger hunt that had to be completed with at least one live Berner on the team with a s'mores favor for everyone that participated. That night we watched Instant Family with a surprise FaceTime session with the star of the movie Keeper aka Meatball.

The fun games with your dog, rally, and agility try its were held Saturday morning. Sue Beagley and Jay Larson hosted the fun games with your dog which involved Simon Says and the Olympic Race. Nancy Hoyt led the agility session where dogs got to try tunnels, jumps and weave poles. Tressena Manning set up and walked everyone through a novice rally course. Everyone could move around between the try its and spend as much time as they wanted at each spot and all dogs that participated got a goody bag of yummy treats. We also raised \$400 in our raffle Saturday at lunchtime to help offset club costs for the Retreat and for future events.

Saturday afternoon was the draft clinic led by Laurie McDonough Greaney. After everyone was measured and fitted with harnesses, we moved outside to see an example draft course and went over draft equipment basics. The dogs and handlers moved on to dragging the wooden trees and adding bottles or chains as the dogs got comfortable over varying terrain. Some dogs moved onto practicing with being touched by fake shafts with a few more experienced dog getting hitched and having their equipment set up checked over. After dinner Saturday night, Juliana Cameron led a Paint your Pet session. Everyone did a fantastic job on their paintings. Sunday morning we did a group photo after breakfast with most of the attendees before we all had to pack and head home.

We would like to give a big thanks to all our volunteers that made the event possible. And if any attendees or club members have any suggestions for activities at future retreats or events feel free to contact us.

Erin Spanos & Nancy Bard



## 2019 BMDCNV Elections

### Nominating Slate

In accordance with Article IV section 3 of the By-Laws of the BMDCNV, the Nominating Committee (*Linda DeCelles, Marge Bumen, Mimi Englander*) have identified the following nominees for open positions for the BMDCNV Board 2020 - 2022 terms.

President: *Jean Michael* (*incumbent*)

Treasurer: *Bruce Hallden* (*incumbent*)

Secretary: *Patricia Buickerood*

Director: *Steve Diers* (*incumbent*)

Director: *Carol Jensen*

*Thank you* to Linda, Marge & Mimi for doing such an important job so well. Additional nominations of eligible members in good standing may be made by another member in good standing. A written petition must be submitted to the Secretary at least 8 weeks prior to the Annual Meeting. Each petition must be accompanied by the written acceptance of the nominee signifying his/her willingness to be a candidate and, if elected, to attend all Board Meetings and Annual Meetings during the term.

Any petition must be submitted to the [secretary@bmdcnv.org](mailto:secretary@bmdcnv.org).

# WINTER WALK



## The Annual BMDCNV Winter Walk

**Sunday, February 9th • 10:30 am gather in Visitor's Center • 11 am Walk**  
at Wompatuck State Park • 204 Union St • Hingham, MA

*Chair: Alise Burbridge 781-749-5253*

*Volunteers always needed!*

After the walk, we will gather in the Visitor's Center for warm drinks. Please feel free to bring a snack to share, or a bagged lunch. Please coordinate any raffle items and shared snacks with Alise!

<https://www.mass.gov/locations/wompatuck-state-park>

Raffle donations can be sent to Alise at 98R  
Kilby Street, Hingham, MA 02043

If there is a cancellation due to weather, a message will be posted on the BMDCNV member's e-group list and Facebook.

*Reminders:* Places to take your dog off-leash are dwindling and we must do our part to control our dogs in the presence of other park patrons. Please bring baggies to pick up after your dog.

## BMDCNV

19 Lantern Ln.  
Milford, MA 01757-3709

### REMINDER!

**Annual Club Dues  
are due.**

*See page 3.*



Contact  
[Memberchair@bmdcnv.org](mailto:Memberchair@bmdcnv.org)  
to receive an electronic color  
issue of the Berner-Blatt



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