



Mountain Dog MESSENGER

— NEWSLETTER OF THE BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF THE ROCKIES —

Life Expectancy & Environmental Factors: Maintaining Behavioral Health

The following is an excerpt from a presentation given at the 3rd International Symposium sponsored by the Swiss and German Bernese Mountain Dog Clubs in Burgdorf, Switzerland. The presentation of this title was given by Dr. Andrew Urs Luescher DVM who is a Certified Applied Animal Behaviorist and Director of the Animal Behavior Clinic at Purdue University Department of Veterinary Clinical Services. This is the second in a series of articles from Dr. Luescher's presentation. The first article addressed causes and consequences of stress in animals and can be found in the November/December BMDCR Mountain Dog Messenger. This article will address signs of stress in canines and ways to avoid stress.

Mark Your Calendars: 2008 Meeting Dates*

January 27

(held at Awards Banquet)

March 30

(held at Bob & Lou Tucker's following draft practice-details will be in the March newsletter)

May 18

July 27

September 28

November 23

*although meetings are usually held on the 4th Sunday of the odd numbered months please note a few date changes due to holidays.

Stress in dogs can be recognized by various physiological signs such as:

- Dilated pupils
- Dilatation of blood vessels in the retina of the eye which may cause a change in eye color to green
- Decreased pain sensitivity
- Decreased appetite and thirst (usually the first sign)
- Panting
- Increased perspiration on the pads of the feet
- Increased heart rate
- Frequent defecation, diarrhea
- Frequent urination
- Stronger startle and withdrawal reflexes

When stressed, these behavior changes may also be seen:

- Body language changes such as ears back, tail tucked and body lowered
- Yawning, scratching, shifting eyes, scanning and pacing which indicate conflict behavior and compulsive disorder
- Scurrying and hiding (trying to escape)
- Hyperactivity and hyper-reactivity
- Destructiveness, chewing & licking
- "Sexual" mounting (this can be an indication of stress rather than just another horny male!)
- Vocalization (repetitive barking or high-pitched screaming)
- Inability to focus and learn
- Not accepting treats
- Aggression

you will likely want to do something to help alleviate their stress. Although treatments do need to be directed to the cause (like separation anxiety), there are some specific measures that can help:

- Provide a consistent environment with absolute rules. Obedience training & command-response-reward type of interactions can contribute to stress reduction.
- Do not use punishment but rather avoid triggers to undesirable behaviors, remove the reward (so if you have a counter cruiser make sure there is nothing on the counter your dog can get that would be a "reward" for helping himself), or give an acceptable alternative (a toy rather than a shoe).
- Exercise your dog frequently as this will help regulate stress hormones



Once you have recognized behaviors that indicate your dog is "stressed out" commotion at the BernerNoel.

Bernese Mountain Dog Club of The Rockies

Officers

President Valerie Horney
Vice President Ron Abbott
Treasurer Sara Karl
Secretary Sharon Keefer

Directors

Fay Benson
Dr. Laura Haupenthal
Ann Rutherford
Pam Solomon
Elaine Witulski

Newsletter Submissions

Dottie Schulte
1943 Montview Drive
Greeley, CO 80631
dotties911@aol.com

Membership Applications

Stacy Temples
PO Box 2490
Fort Collins, CO 80522-2490

Meetings

Unless members are otherwise notified, meetings are held on the fourth Sunday of January, March, May, July, September & November at Laura & Al's house at 5614 S. Ivy Ct. in Greenwood Village. Board Meetings start at 11:30 AM & the General Meetings start at 1 PM. From I-25 North or South, exit on Orchard Rd. Go west about one mile & turn right onto E. Orchard Drive. Take the third right onto S. Ivy St. which turns into S. Ivy Ct. 5614 S. Ivy Ct. is the tan house at the end of the street.

and reduce impulsive behaviors. If you exercise off the usual property your dog will have an opportunity to investigate new stimuli which can greatly reduce anxiety and alleviate behavior disorders that involve anxiety.

- Provide an outlet for normal behaviors such as chasing, chewing and play. Rotate toys and use interactive toys... and make sure you have plenty of fast squirrels in your yard!
- Vary environmental stimuli as a very monotonous environment will increase anxiety (which may be why regularly scheduled feedings are

better than free feedings) while a more complex (yet consistent and predictable) environment will decrease anxiety. Commercially available pheromones can also be used in the area your dogs inhabit to help decrease anxiety.

- Medications such as anti-anxiety medications may be used temporarily until some of these techniques are affective or if your dog has global fear or excessive anxiety that hinders learning. Your veterinarian will be familiar with medications that are both safe and effective.

2007 Awards Banquet

Sunday, January 27th

11:30 AM - 2:00 PM

Hanson's Grill & Tavern

1301 S. Pearl St. • Denver, CO 80210 • (303) 744-0210

Appetizers

Beef Tenderloin Sliced on Bruschetta with Artichoke and Sundried Tomato Relish

Spinach and Artichoke Dip Served with Fresh Vegetables and House-Made Chips

Chips with Salsa and Guacamole

Dinner

Please choose one of the following entrees:

Garden Pasta

Sautéed tomatoes, olives, sun dried tomatoes, artichoke hearts and mushrooms. Served with farfalle pasta in a pesto cream sauce and topped with goat cheese.

Herbed Grilled Filet of Salmon

Served with seasonal vegetables, roasted potatoes and lemon leek cream sauce.

Hanson's Stuffed Chicken Breast

Stuffed with mushrooms and roasted garlic on a bed of sautéed spinach, smashed potatoes and cherry pepper cream sauce.

Dessert

Deep Dish Brownie Sundae

\$30.00 per person

A non-alcoholic drink is included & there's a cash bar with bar drinks at half price.

Directions:

Take I-25 to the Broadway exit and head south to Louisiana Ave. Turn left and go six blocks to Pearl St. Hanson's is on the southeast corner of Louisiana and Pearl. There's a parking lot to the south of the building and there's also plenty of street parking. If you would prefer Light Rail, there's a station right at Louisiana and Pearl.

Please mail your reservation with a check made out to BMDCR (\$30 per person) to Nadja Torling, 2707 W 35th Ave., Denver, CO 80211 by Friday, Jan 18.

Name(s): _____

Choice of entree(s): _____

2007 Titles

2007 was an incredibly busy year for BMDCR dogs & their owners (& co-owners). Here is a list of dogs along with titles earned in this year. Congratulations to all. . .you do us proud!

Nashems Dream A Little Dream "Whisper"
owned by Shari Curran & Sara Karl
1/07 Rally Novice
2/07 Novice Draft Dog
4/07 Companion Dog
5/07 Draft Dog
10/07 Rally Advanced

Wagontale's Nordic Last Call "Beamish"
owned by Brenda Sanders & Stacy Temples
1/07 Rally Advanced
3/07 Companion Dog
3/07 Rally Excellent
3/07 APDT RL1
6/07 APDT RL2
4/07 UCD
5/07 Novice Jumpers Preferred
8/07 CPE Agility CL1R
8/07 CPE Agility CL1F
10/07 Novice Agility Jumper
11/07 CPE Agility CL1H

Wagontale Heavens to Betty CD, OA, NAJ, AXP, OJP,
CGC, NDD "Tessa"
owned by Brenda Sanders & Stacy Temples
3/07 Rally Advanced Excellent
3/07 APDT RL1
6/07 CPE Agility CSL1F
6/07 APDT RL2
11/07 CPE Agility CSL2F

CH Jalve's Starlight Sonata "Nati"
owned by Sandy & Breanne Dunaway
2/07 Canine Good Citizen (at 11.5 years young)

Triad's Marching Tuba "Tuba"
owned by Cindy & Robert Still
2/18 Rally Novice

Wagontale's Katherine Bailee "Bailee"
owned by Ruth Kropp & Stacy Temples
2/07 Canine Good Citizen
Therapy Dog Inc READ Program Certified

Wagontale's Lady of the Lake RE, NDD "Legend"
owned by Pam & Barry Solomon & Stacy Temples
3/07 Draft Dog
4/07 Companion Dog

Wagontale's Karina RN, NDD "Hannah"
owned by Kathy LaPine & Stacy Temples
3/07 Draft Dog

3/07 Rally Advanced
6/07 Rally Excellent
11/07 U-CD

CH Brighteye Angel Fire "Angie"
owned by Stephanie Biksacky
3/07 Novice Draft Dog

CH Ebnet's Hired Gun From Zanzebern "Marshall"
owned by Valerie Horney & Lisa Ebnet
3/07 Novice Draft Dog
9/07 Brace Novice Draft Dog

Legends Prairiefire Freetime "Shea"
owned by Amy Fitzgerald & Sharon Johnson
4/07 Champion

Nashems Dream A Little Dream "Gatsby"
owned by Kevin Curran & Sara Karl
4/07 Champion
12/07 Companion Dog

Prairiefire's Master Mind "Gladly"
owned by Karen Treece & Sharon Johnson
4/07 Champion

Summit's Joy of the Rockies CD "Rocky"
owned by Matt & Robin Hall
5/07 Rally Novice

CH Spring's Sandia CGC, CD "Sandy"
owned by Nancy Fuselier
5/07 Novice Draft Dog
6/07 Rally Novice
BMDCA Versatility Award

Blumoon's Meco Ascent "Meco"
owned by Michael & Christine Mann
5/07 Novice Draft Dog

Bogo NDD, CD
owned by Bob & Mary Anne Persons
5/07 Draft Dog

CH Summit's As Wild as the Wind CD "Drifter"
owned by Tracey & Chan Keith & Sandy Dunaway
5/07 Novice Draft Dog
BMDCA Versatility Award

Swiss Stars Criminal Intent "Harley"
owned by Sara Karl & Jeni West
6/07 Champion

CH Marbens Tuckernuck Belle "Tucker"
owned by Bob & Mary Anne Persons
6/07 Companion Dog
9/07 Novice Draft Dog
BMDCA Versatility Award

Kinvarra's Black Diamond "Dylan"
owned by Sandra Kemper & Pat Hughes
6/07 Champion

Wagontale's Incoming Tide CGC "Ti"
owned by Jennifer & Todd Zaayer & Stacy Temples
6/07 Herding Instinct Capability Test-Sheep
12/07 Junior Herding Dog

Sandpiper's Aegir v Wagontale "Gremmie"
owned by Jean Morris, Kathy Gray & Stacy Temples
4/07 Rally Novice
10/07 Canine Good Citizen
11/03 Herding Instinct Capability Test-Sheep
11/07 Champion

Lorien Dell's Sword of Elendil "Narsil"
owned by Joe & Kim Giannone & Lynn Wood
7/07 Champion

Summit's Vivi Plays the Poet Game "Vivi"
owned by Kevin & Pam Swisher & Sandy Dunaway
7/07 Champion

Prairiefire's Kixitup From Maine "Kix"
owned by Sharon Johnson
7/07 Champion

Wagontale's Quite A Catch "Peyton"
owned by Kelley VanArsdale, Stacy Temples & Renee Merieux
5/07 Rally Novice (at 8 months)
7/07 Rally Advanced

Rescue Me Baby "Jessie"
owned by Patti Wellinger
7/07 Canine Good Citizen

Wagontale's Painted Belle "Belle"
owned by Trisha Young Olsen & Stacy Temples
8/07 Rally Novice
6/07 Therapy Dog Inc Certified

Wagontale's Henry's Happy Hour RA, NDD "Henry"
owned by Nadja Torling & Ryan Johnson
4/07 Companion Dog
9/07 Draft Dog
10/07 Rally Excellent

Sandpiper's About Turn Wagontale "Kylie"
owned by Robin Windlinger, Kathy Gray & Stacy
Temples
8/07 Rally Novice
10/07 Canine Good Citizen
10/07 Rally Advanced

Wagontale's Kleine Klydesdale CGC "Klyde"
owned by Thia Cochrane & Stacy Temples
8/07 Rally Novice

CH Kaibab's Another Round CD, NDD
owned by Valerie Horney
Brace Novice Draft Dog (second time around!)

Nashems He's the Man of Woodmoor "Angus"
owned by Sara Karl
9/07 Champion

Wagontale Oberl& Bergsteiger CD "Steiger"
owned by Ron Abbott
9/07 Novice Draft Dog
10/07 GSMDC Novice Working Pack Dog

Davieau's Denver Symphony "Marin"
owned by Bob & Lou Tucker
9/07 Novice Draft Dog

Brighteye R Questa Win NAP, NJP, NA, NAJ "Questa"
owned by Elaine Witulski & Debbie Hotze

9/07 Novice Draft Dog
Wagontale's Nordic Legend "Donner"
owned by Jennifer Zaayer & Stacy Temples
10/07 Novice Draft Dog
10/07 Canine Good Citizen
11/07 American Rottweiler Club Carting Intermediate (CI)

Prairiefire's Hat Trick "Milan"
owned by Sharon Johnson
10/07 Champion

Spring's Lady Molly "Molly" CGC, CDX, U-CD, NDD, RN
owned by Nancy Fuselier
9/07 Rally Advanced
10/07 Rally Excellent

Sandpiper A Legacy to Wagontale "Parker"
owned by Stacy Temples & Howard Ramsdell
10/07 Champion

Spring's Golden Sage "Sage"
owned by Nancy Fuselier
11/07 Rally Novice

Prairiefires Prophecy v Jenda "Prada"
owned by Sharon Johnson
11/07 Champion

Sandpiper's at the Beach Wagontale "Lily"
owned by Kathy & James Gray & Stacy Temples
11/07 Herding Instinct Capability Test-Sheep

CH Baurenhof's Simon "Simon"
owned by Mary Rogers
11/07 Companion Dog

CH Blumoons Journey to Chimolola NDD
"Chimo" owned by Jeanne Stanwood
3/07 Draft Dog
11/07 Companion Dog
BMDCA Versatility Dog Award

CH Wagontale's Champagne on Ice NA, NAP,
NAJ, NJP "Piper"
owned by Kathy Gray & Stacy Temples
11/07 Open Jumpers Preferred

Prairiefire Strkhnd Celebrity "Clooney"
owned by Wendy Boehme & Sharon Johnson
11/07 Champion

Prairiefire Never a Dull Moment "Carter"
owned by Wendy Boehme & Sharon Johnson
11/07 Novice Draft Dog

BIS CH Sapphires Double Your Fun RN
"Pepper" owned by Carol Arbutnot & Sara
Karl
BMDCA 2007 Top Winning Bitch Conformation

BMDCR Membership Column - January/February 2008

Stacy Temples

Please welcome our newest sustaining members who were approved for membership on November 18, 2007.

Bea & Lawrence Duncan
60 Buffalo Drive
Great Falls, MT, 59404
Ph.# (406)216-2309
E: LB2Duncan@3Rivers.net.

Bruce & Becky Finger
5354 Cedar Valley Drive
Loveland, CO 80537
Ph.# (970) 481-4685
Ph.# (970) 278-1066.
E: bfinger@us.ibm.com
E: beckyfinger@hotmail.com.

Stephanie Biksacky
42 Shaggy Mtn. Rd., Herriman
UT 84096.
Ph.# (801)253-3244
E-mail: dogwoman67@q.com.

The following people will be voted on at our next Awards Banquet meeting in January.

New Sustaining Member Applicants:

Alice Gordon & Steven Clark
1955 Sandalwood Lane
Fort Collins, CO 80526
Ph.# (970) 224-4160

(E)aliceann8@hotmail.com
sclark@greeleytribune.com.

Alice and Steven have Camber, Wagontale's Radiant Camber, (11/2/2006, SF) from Wagontale Bernese and an Aussie mix. They are interested in backpacking and therapy work. They are also training Camber in obedience and doing some agility with her. Camber is their first Berner and they want to become more involved with the breed, and to meet other people who have them. They are happy and willing to help out at club events. Alice was a steward at our recent draft test and Steven took photos for the newsletter at Berner Noel. They are sponsored by Valerie Horney & Dottie Schulte.

Brian & Shelley Thysens
6019 W. Calhoun Drive
Littleton, CO 80123
Ph.# (970) 955-1154

(E) Brian_D_Thysens@Praxair.com
They have two Bernese primarily as family pets, Bronson from Honeybear kennels, (M, 2/1998) and Dryfuss from Bellebernens, (M, 6/2005). They learned about the club through the website and attended a meeting in November and also the Berner Noel. Their interests are primarily social. Sponsored by Valerie Horney & Sharon Keefer.

Lori Kennedy
9630 E. Colorado Avenue
Denver, CO 80247-3013
Ph.# (303) 641-0138
(E)lkck@comcast.net

Lori and her husband have Kennedy's Murren, (M, 4/1/2006) from Kevin Sorrell. She wants to learn more about the breed, to socialize and for breed betterment and education. She went to the Roxborough Park event last summer and attended the recent Berner Noel. She also has a rescue mutt and has had Collies and Labs in the past. She trains her dogs in obedience and want to learn how to draft with her dog. She is also interested in backpacking. She is sponsored by Phil Shaffer & Fay Benson.

SHOW REPORT by Valerie Horney

Idaho Kennel Club

October 11-14, 2007

Novice B Obedience legs 183.0, 177.0 CH Blumoons Journey to Chimolola "Chimo", owned by Jeanne Stanwood
Novice B Obedience 186.0 CH Blumoons Mission Control "Houston", owned by Christine and Michael Mann

Southern Colorado Kennel Club

November 10 and 11, 2007

WD Bernerliebe's Scott v Deerpark owned by Walt Smith
RWD Prairiefire's Cocktail Hour, owned by Alisa Kice and Sharon Johnson
WB/BW/OS Sapphires Fire N Ice, owned by Sharon Montville and Carol Arbuthnot
RWB Nashems Good Day Sunshine "Sunny", owned by Sara Karl
BB CH Adesa's And The Beat Goes On "Bono", owned by Ann & Bill Daily, Bill & Bobbi Blewitt
GROUP 2
Best Veteran Am/Can CH Ahquabi's Bank On It Am/Can CD, "Teller" owned by Valerie Horney
VETERAN GROUP 3

Novice B Obedience 180.5 CH Baurenhof's Simon "Simon" owned by Mary Rogers
NEW COMPANION DOG at 9.5 years old
Novice B Obedience 193.0 CH Rogels Many Stars of Nighttime RE OA OAJ OJP "Kylie" owned by Angie and Kirk Hanson
3rd PLACE
Rally Excellent Advanced Wagontale's Lady of the Lake "Legend", owned by Pam & Barry Solomon & Stacy Temples
Rally Excellent A 92.0 Triad's Marching Tuba RA, "Tuba" owned by Cindy Still
2nd Place

WD/BW Prairiefire's Cocktail Hour, owned by Alisa Kice and Sharon Johnson
RWD Keilissa's Cool Love v Ratliff, owned by Tracey Hyatt & Malissa Rachuck
WB/OS Milagro's Amoracito Corazon "Jasmine" owned by Kathy Crawford and Ann Daily
RWB Nashems Good Day Sunshine "Sunny", owned by Sara Karl
BB CH Adesa's And The Beat Goes On "Bono", owned by Ann & Bill Daily, Bill & Bobbi Blewitt

Novice B Obedience 176.0 CH Blumoons Mission Control "Houston", owned by Christine and Michael Mann
Rally Excellent A 98.0 Triad's Marching Tuba RA, "Tuba" owned by Cindy Still
2nd Place
Rally Excellent B 90.0 Springs Lady Molly CDX RA "Molly", owned by Nancy Fuselier

Mid Continent Kennel Club of Tulsa

November 2, 2007

Novice B obedience 171.0 CH Blumoons Journey to Chimolola "Chimo", owned by Jeanne Stanwood
NEW COMPANION DOG
NEW BMDCA VERSATILITY DOG



SPRING DRAFT TEST



April 5, 2008 at Cherry Creek State Park

Judges: Susan Sanvido & Larry Bohling

Draft Chairperson: Christine Mann (bluemoonbmd@earthlink.net)

Draft Secretary: Jeanne Stanwood (stanwood@earthlink.net)

Fun at Berner Noel



Soaking up some December rays



Santa's coming!!



Santa's Helper supervises Mike & Howard giving holiday pets



Buzz visiting with his tri-colored friends



Holiday socializing



What is this white stuff?!



Feeding frenzy

Pictures taken by Alice Gordon and Steven Clark

Meeting Minutes - November 18, 2007

Board Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the BMDCR Board of Directors was called to order at 11:45 am on November 18, 2007.

Present: Laura Hauptenthal, Val Horney, Sharon Keefer, Ann Rutherford, Lou Tucker, Elaine Witulski, plus Al Beers and Ron Abbott.

Approval of Minutes: Laura moved to approve the minutes of the September meeting as published in the November/December 2007 newsletter. Ann seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Secretary's Report: Since the last meeting, the club received 2 mailings from AKC: (1) Information regarding insurance available to AKC licensed clubs; and (2) Forms for submitting election results. The insurance program information was forwarded to Treasurer Sara Karl. Secretary Sharon Keefer will file the election results following today's general membership meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Sara Karl reported by phone positive balances in the club's checking, savings, and rescue accounts.

Committee Reports: Ways and Means: Sharon reported that she, Val Horney, Dottie Schulte and Elaine Witulski had inventoried the items in stock. They totaled 9 boxes including 2 boxes of raffle/trophy items and miscellaneous supplies.

Rescue: Val passed a sample rescue form from the Bulldog club on to Lou Tucker. Val is also getting nice sample forms from the Seattle club that may yield ideas for improvements in our forms. A coordinator is still needed for the Rescue Committee and will be discussed further in the general membership meeting. Val reported that one female Bernese Mountain Dog relinquished from an owner in Grand Junction is currently in Rescue, being fostered by Phil Shaffer.

New Business: Rescue Funds Approval: The female rescue dog being fostered by Phil Shaffer has a sore leg and a mass on her chest. Phil is requesting funds for veterinary examination and treatment of these problems. Sharon moved to use BMDCR Rescue funds for a veterinary exam, leg radiograph, and mass treatment for this dog. Lou Tucker seconded the motion. Motion passed. Val will check with her veterinarian and member Dr. Rae Valentine on costs; Sharon will check on discounts for rescue dogs at the clinic where she works.

New AKC Draft Test Proposal: Lou and Val reminded members that the comment period is closing on AKC's proposal to add draft tests to their licensed events. BMDCA is also asking that comments be sent to President Alison Jaskiewicz at alison@jaskiewicz.mv.com for inclusion in the reply from BMDCA.

Follow-up on September Program: Val reported that she had met with the presenter at our last meeting, Linda Sommers Green, regarding her own pet trust. Val found her meeting with Linda very informative and useful; she encourages others to pursue establishing a pet trust.

Adjournment: The Board Meeting was adjourned at 12:25 pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sharon Keefer.

General Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the BMDCR membership was called to order at 1:10 pm on November 18, 2007.

Present: 14 voting members (a quorum) and 1 guest applying for membership.

Approval of Minutes: Lou Tucker moved to approve the minutes of the September meeting as published in the November/December 2007 newsletter. Laura Hauptenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Secretary's Report: Since the last meeting, the club received 2 mailings from AKC: (1) Information regarding insurance available to AKC licensed clubs; and (2) Forms for submitting election results. The insurance program information was forwarded to Treasurer Sara Karl. Secretary Sharon Keefer will file the election results following today's general membership meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Val Horney read Sara Karl's telephone report as recorded in the minutes of today's board meeting. The balance reported for the checking account includes the club's \$4,000 donation designated for the AKC Donor-Advised Canine Health Fund.

Committee Reports: Spring Draft Test: Chris Mann reported that the Spring Draft Test will be held on April 5, 2008 at Cherry Creek State Park. The judges will be Susan Sanvido and Larry Bohlig. The test will be held with new equipment and fun distractions. Ron Abbott can purchase the new measuring wheel needed through his company and will deliver it to Chris at Berner Noel next month. Chris Mann is Chairman and Jeanne Stanwood is Draft Test Secretary for this event.

Ways and Means: Sharon reported that she, Val Horney, Dottie Schulte and Elaine Witulski had inventoried the items in stock. They totaled 9 boxes including 2 boxes of raffle/trophy items and miscellaneous supplies. Members present were encourage to purchase items at reduced prices from today's "Bern Out" Sale. All other property owned by the club has also been tabulated by location. This process helped determine that no additional storage space needs to be purchased. Elaine Witulski, Dottie Schulte and Sharon Keefer will continue to work together as the Ways and Means Committee.

Election of New Members: Voting was unanimous to admit new sustaining members Bea and Lawrence Duncan, Bruce and Becky Finger, and Stephanie Biksacky.

Unfinished Business: Charity Donation: Dottie Schulte moved to send our \$4,000 donation to the AKC Donor-advised Canine Health Fund via the BMDCA which has a mechanism in place to submit the donation. The motion was seconded by Fay Benson. Motion passed.

Rescue Committee Chairman: A coordinator is still needed for the Rescue Committee. This position involves being listed for calls from All Breed Rescue and local shelters, contacting committee members and volunteers as needed, and maintaining files of paper forms. Committee members include Lou Tucker, Stacy Temples, Phil Shaffer, Rosie Malinowski, Nancy Fuselier, and Holly Foster. Anyone interested, please contact Val Horney.

New Business: Election: Prior to holding the annual election via written ballot, Chris Mann raised the question of current BMDCR President Val Horney running for BMDCA President. The concern was Val having enough time to complete the remaining year of her term for BMDCR if she is elected BMDCA President. Val stated that she is confident she can continue to fulfill her BMDCR duties. Regarding a secondary issue of possible conflicts of interests was considered satisfactorily addressed since any such issues are likely to involve the vote of the Board and members.

Voting was unanimous to elect Ron Abbott as Vice President, Sharon Keefer as Secretary, and Fay Benson, Laura Haupenthal, and Pam Solomon as Directors for the 2008-2009 term.

Current Rescue Dog: Phil Shaffer is fostering a female relinquished by her owner in Grand Junction. The Board approved expenditure of BMDCR Rescue funds to have the dog examined by a veterinarian to address a sore leg and mass on her chest.

New AKC Draft Test Proposal: Lou and Val reminded members that the comment period is closing on AKC's proposal to add draft tests to their licensed events. BMDCA is also asking that comments be sent to President Alison Jaskiewicz at alison@jaskiewicz.mv.com. Discussion centered around the fact that AKC's draft test and rules would not affect BMDCA's established draft test program, and that unrealistic entry fees and entry counts are included in AKC's proposal.

Follow-up on September Program: Val reported that she had met with the presenter at our last meeting, Linda Sommers

Green, regarding her own pet trust. Val found her meeting with Linda very informative; she encourages others to pursue establishing a pet trust. More information about Linda's presentation was published in the November/December newsletter.

Schedule of Meetings for 2008: By consensus, the following meeting dates were set for 2008: January 27 (at the Awards Banquet), March 30 (at the Tucker's House following a drafting practice session), May 18, July 27, September 28, and November 23.

Awards Banquet: Members were reminded to send 2007 new titles on their dogs, plus Kathy Roth award nominations, to Nadja Torling.

Donation to New AKC Legislative Department: Information received in a letter from AKC soliciting donations to the new AKC Legislative Department was published in the November/December newsletter. Since the club just made a large donation for health studies, and since BMDCR is a member of the Colorado Federation of Dog Clubs which addresses local legislative issues, no motion was made to make a donation at this time to the AKC Legislative Department.

Adjournment: The General Membership Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm. Thank you again to Laura Haupenthal, Al Beers, Kismet and Dylan for hosting today's meetings.

Following the meeting, the "Bern Out" Ways and Means sale concluded with \$605 raised for the club.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sharon Keefer.

BMDCR Club Information

Meetings

The Bernese Mountain Dog Club of the Rockies holds regular meetings on the fourth Sunday of January, March, May, July, September and November, unless members are otherwise notified. The board meetings take place at 11:30 followed by the general meeting at 1:00 followed by the program at 2:00 if scheduled. Location of meetings will be announced each newsletter. In the even-numbered months we will offer a club activity that includes dogs, e.g. the Bernerfiesta, Berner hike, draft clinic, herding instinct certification test, Berner Noel, etc. The starting times and locations of these events will vary, depending on the activity.

Newsletter/Subscriptions

We welcome articles written by members on any topic of interest to Berner fanciers. We also reprint uncopyrighted articles from other publications such as the Alpenhorn, other regional club newsletters, the AKC Gazette, and other dog club newsletters as space permits. Newsletter subscriptions are available to non-members for \$25.00 per year. Checks should be made payable to BMDCR and sent to Stacy Temples, PO Box 2490, Ft. Collins, CO 80522-2490. Club members' name and/or mailing address changes should also be submitted to Stacy.

Litter Box Policy

BMDCR voting members who have paid the annual \$5.00 Breeder Referral Service fee will be entitled to free Litter Box advertising (for one or more litters) for the entire calendar year. Sustaining members may participate in the BR program if they are sponsored by 2 voting members who also have paid the Breeder Referral fee.

Rules for Listing a Litter

Litter must come from a member breeder or stud owner in good standing with the BMDCR who has paid the designated fee. The litter must be registrable with the AKC. Litter parents must have had hips and elbows x-rayed and submitted to the OAF, GDR, OVC or other recognized registry. Dams must be over 18 months of age. Litter owner must provide a 4-generation pedigree to buyers. Puppies must be sold with a health guarantee subject to veterinary exam within 48 hours of sale. Litter owner must have a complete entry in Berner-Garde by the time the litter is 12 months old. All ads must be limited to the following information: Sire, Dam, Whelping Date, and Breeder's name, address, and telephone number. In addition, "The only acceptable reference to joint conformation in Litter Box announcements are GDR, OAF, OVC numbers for hips and elbows, including the litter rating and age in months at evaluation.

Classified Advertising

The BMDCR newsletter accepts classified ads. This is the perfect opportunity to get rid of that used dog equipment cluttering up your garage, publicize dog-related services, or sell Berner arts and crafts items. Classified advertising should be sent to the newsletter editor. There will be a charge of 10 cents per word. A check for the required amount, payable to BMDCR, should be included with your ad copy. Display advertising will be handled by the editor. All display ads should be sent directly to the editor. Rates are as follows: Full Page: \$25, Half Page: \$15 (these include use of one photo; additional photos will cost \$10 each). 1/4 Page: \$10, Business Card: \$5 (these are no-photo ads). Camera ready ads subtract 25%. Include a check payable to BMDCR with your ad copy.

Submission Deadlines for Publication

The BMDCR newsletter is published bi-monthly. All articles, reports, and ads must be received by the editor as follows: the 20th day of February, April, June, August and December for the next months issue.

Advertising/Display

for Publication