



Mountain Dog MESSENGER

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

IN THIS ISSUE . . .

- 2007 Elections
- Show Report
- Nov Meeting Program
- Berner Noel
- 2006 Awards Banquet
- 2006 Regional Specialty
- 2006 Fall Draft Test
- And More!!!

Next Meeting:
Sun, November 19
(please note date change)

Board Meeting - 11 AM
General Meeting - 1 PM
Program - 2 PM

At Laura and Al's house
(for directions see bottom of page 2)

A Journey in Rally Obedience

Karen Jacobs



This article first appeared in "The Heart of the Berner" Michigan club newsletter in September 2006.

My fascination with the sport of obedience kicked into gear at the 2005 BMDCA National Specialty in Gettysburg, PA. As I walked by the obedience ring I could not help but admire the special bond between dog and handler as they executed the required exercises. Admiration quickly turned into the desire to pursue that special bond with my own dogs.

At this time my girl Riley was six months old and needed to continue training from our puppy kindergarten class. It seemed to make sense that I should begin training her now for an obedience career. So, we enrolled in a beginning obedience class for dogs 6 months of age and older. The focus was on developing and maintaining basic obedience skills such as sit and down stay, heeling skills, attention work, working with distractions, and ways to make training fun through the use of food rewards, toys, and lots of praise. The weeks flew by quickly and I was thrilled at how well Riley performed basic obedience skills and with the special bond that we were forging as we worked together.

2005 drew to a close and I could not wait to get started in our next class; Competition Basics I. This training class was geared toward teams that planned to pursue obedience competition. The emphasis would be on "positive and motivational training with meticulous focus on obedience ring foundation... and ways of offsetting the stress of concentrated training" The facility I had been training at did not have a class available at this level that would fit into my schedule, so I found a comparable class at another training facility - no problem I thought, as I have been practicing with my dog and we are ready to go on... famous last thoughts... We arrived at the training center 15 minutes prior to the start of class and 12-month-old Riley proved to be an even busier busy body than usual. It seemed I was constantly asking for her attention or she was on her way to visit another dog, handler, or look for toys and treats in someone else's bag. The one hour and 15 minute class seemed to go on forever as I was trying
Continued on page 2

Bernese Mountain Dog Club of The Rockies

Officers

President Valerie Horney
Vice President Lou Tucker
Treasurer Sara Karl
Secretary Sharon Keefer

Directors

Gail Brooks
Dr. Laura Haupenthal
Phil Shaffer
Elaine Witulski
Nadja Torling

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

BMD Breed Contact Information Line

Karen Baru
303-841-9262

Meetings

Unless members are otherwise notified, meetings are held on the fourth Sunday of January, March, September and November at Laura and Al's house at 5614 S. Ivy Ct. in Greenwood Village. Board Meetings start at 11:30 AM and the General Meetings start at 1 PM. From I-25 North or South, exit on Orchard Rd. Go west about one mile and 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.



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to hold my dog's attention. I stayed after class to talk with the instructor and she gave us some homework to do to prepare for next weeks class. Our performance was somewhat improved over the first week, but I still could not maintain Riley's attention without constantly asking for it or reminding her that was what I wanted.

The weeks went by and our obedience skills were developing and attention was improving but was not near the level of attention I had observed in the competition ring that day in Gettysburg. Another issue we were having was on the stand for exam. Riley would stand, but once the instructor approached, her tail took control of her body and while happy is good, I was informed that this exuberant stand needed to be toned down if we hoped to pursue competition level obedience.

So here I am with a happy, happy dog who is willing to work but needs to be talked to a lot to keep her focused. I look enviously upon the woman and her young Rottweiler who have refined their skill so much over the past 8 weeks... I approached my instructor with my concerns and her reply was, "You and Riley would have a blast in Rally Obedience! And you can return to formal obedience training when she grows up a bit." I had no idea what Rally Obedience was. My instructor explained that Rally is an obedience competition much like Rally Car Racing. The dog and handler navigate a course of exercises and the handler can, and is encouraged to talk to their dog, encouraging the dog with clapping or hand signals throughout the course.

This Rally Obedience certainly sounded like a nifty idea, but I still was not quite clear on what this

actually was, so I hit the Internet for more information. I found the best explanation provided was by Charles Kramer, the father of Rally Obedience who also developed the concept for the sport of agility. Mr. Kramer has written several books on Rally Obedience, also known as Rally-O, and the following description of this sport is based on an excerpt from, "An Introduction to Rally Obedience", Author Charles L. Kramer, second edition.

The name Rally Obedience has been adopted from the concept of Obedience training and competition based on the directional use of signs to guide the handler throughout the performance somewhat similar to the sport of Rally Car Racing (Just like my instructor says!). The directional signs for a course are numbered and arranged sequentially in the form of a course with a variety of turns to contain it within the boundaries of the ring, and start and finish lines. The team of dog and handler heel from sign to sign, and perform the exercises indicated by the sign at each location. Each sign represents one of the Rally exercises. Except for giving the handler clearance to begin, the judge gives no further orders as the handler directs the team through the course. The judge moves along with the team scoring the performance. Heeling on the course is judged as part of the total performance. The exceptional part of Rally style obedience is that the handler can communicate with the dog both verbally and with hand signals, at any time and as often as desired throughout the performance! This can be in the form of praise or various types of commands to aid the dog in performing the exercises. Handler and dog are encouraged to be excited and enthusiastic.

The judge at each trial determines the
Continued on page 7

Meeting Minutes - October 1, 2006

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

July 23, 2006

The regular meeting of the BMDCR Board was called to order at 11:10 am on October 1, 2006.

Present:

Laura Haupenthal, Val Horney, Sara Karl, Sharon Keefer, Phil Shaffer, Lou Tucker, Nadja Torling and Elaine Witulski.

Absent:

Gayle Brooks

Approval of Minutes:

Lou moved to approve the minutes of the July meeting as published in the September/October 2006 newsletter. Laura seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Secretary's Report:

Sharon reported receiving a request from the Flatirons Kennel Club for BMDCR to support either the Best of Breed or High in Trial trophy for \$50 at their 2007 all-breed show. This will be presented for vote in the general membership meeting.

Treasurer's Report:

Sara reported that the club has positive balances in the checking, rescue, and savings accounts. \$4,000 spent for 40 VonWillebrand's tests will be reimbursed soon by the Watchung club. The Board members discussed transferring a portion of the savings account balance into a higher interest rate CD. Phil moved that Sara be authorized to reinvest appropriate funds in a higher interest account. 2nd by Nadja. Motion passed.

Regional Specialty Committee Report:

Sara reported that the net profit from the 2006 Regional Specialty was \$2,258.49 minus \$200 provided for the Ways and Means cash box. Most of the profit was due to a very successful raffle and Ways and Means sales.

Unfinished Business:

Updating Rescue Forms:

Val will coordinate meetings to complete the updates needed on the Rescue forms.

Draft Test on October 14, 2006:

Trophy donations are due to Dottie Schulte. Seventeen entries have been received so far and two more are expected.

New Business:

Awards Banquet in January, 2007:

Nadja volunteered to chair the Awards Banquet committee and submit advance announcements for publication in the newsletter.

Programs for General Membership Meetings:

Sharon suggested a couple topics for programs at upcoming meetings. She will contact possible speakers for the November and March meetings.

November Meeting Date:

Since the fourth Sunday of the month falls on Thanksgiving weekend in November, BMDCR will meet on November 19, 2006 instead. (The Pueblo shows are November 11th and 12th. BernerNoel will be on December 10th).

Public Education:

Karen Baru has passed the public education display boards on to Dottie Schulte. Discussed discontinuing the information phone number and using the website instead for inquiries. Rather than finding a new Events reporter for the newsletter to replace Karen, it was decided that all member will be encouraged to send events (e.g., Matches) to Nadja for listing in the newsletter. The discussion on public education continued into discussion about breeder referral and possible links to breeders on the website; this issue becomes complicated with bylaws on voting and sustaining memberships and which can be referral breeders. Lou reported that the RCC (Regional Council of Clubs) has also been having a related discussion on legitimate breeders advertising in newspapers. None are known to be doing this in this area and Phil pointed out that it is powerful to be able to tell callers to breeder referral that reputable breeders do not sell puppies via newspaper ads. There was further discussion about how to set reputable breeders' websites apart from puppy mill websites. Formation of a committee to review BMDCR breeder referral, especially in light of the growing internet sites for breeder listings and purebred dog seekers, was deferred to the general membership meeting.

Spring Draft Test:

To hold a Spring Draft Test, BMDCR needs volunteers to be Draft Test Chairman and Draft Test Secretary. Preferred dates would be in March or April, 2007, before entries close for the Draft Test at the National Specialty in May.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 PM.
Minutes submitted by Sharon Keefer.

General Meeting Minutes

October 1, 2006

The regular meeting of the BMDCR membership was called to order at 1:06 PM.

Present:

18 voting members and 1 guest.

Approval of Minutes:

Lou Tucker moved to approve the minutes of the July meeting as published in the September/October 2006 newsletter. Laura Haupenthal seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Treasurer's Report:

Sara reported that the club has positive balances in the checking, rescue, and savings accounts. Sara has been authorized by the Board to reinvest appropriate funds in a higher interest account.

Committee Reports:

Regional Specialty:

Show Chairman Dottie Schulte reported that the Regional Specialty in September went well and the club made a profit of \$2,200. Some background issues with the schedule of events were resolved and should not occur again next year.

Draft Test on October 14, 2006:

Dottie Schulte reported that 17 entries have been received so far and two more are expected. Entries close next Wednesday and the Judging Program will be mailed on next Thursday. Trophy sponsors are still needed.

Unfinished Business:

Breeder Forum on October 15, 2006:

Members were reminded about the upcoming club-sponsored Breeder Forum on October 15th. New members are especially encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about the Bernese Mountain Dog standard from breeder judges Mary Alice Eschweiler and Sara Karl. All participants will receive lunch and snacks, an illustrated copy of the breed standard, a fancy name tag, and a very cool breed standard key chain.

Election of New Members:

Nadja moved that the 2 sustaining member applicants listed in the September/October newsletter, Heather Hogoboom and Stan Grotegut, be accepted. 2nd Laura. Motion passed.

New Business:

Call for Additional Nominations for November Election:

Nadja Torling nominated Ann Rutherford as a Board Member. All candidate biographies will be in the newsletter published before the November 19th meeting when elections will be held.

Awards Banquet in January:

Nadja Torling has volunteered to chair the Awards Banquet committee this year. Dottie Schulte will help again with producing certificates. Lou Tucker also volunteered to serve on the committee. Information about nominating candidates for the Kathy Roth award will be published in the November newsletter.

November Meeting Date Change:

Since the fourth Sunday of the month falls on Thanksgiving weekend in November, BMDCR will meet on November 19, 2006 instead. Sharon Keefer has volunteered to arrange programs for the November and March meetings.

Club Assistance with Submitting Samples to Health Studies:

Stacy Temples suggested that the club establish a contact person who can assist members with submitting samples (e.g., blood, DNA, tissue) for current health studies, as this is often a very stressful time for owners to locate the necessary information, forms, etc. The Alaska club does this and has kits available. Stacy will talk to Tracy Corneliussen in the Alaska club to get specifics about how their program works so that BMDCR can further consider implementing a similar program in our region.

Request for Trophy Donation from Flatirons KC:

Secretary Sharon Keefer reported receiving a request from the Flatirons Kennel Club for BMDCR to support either the Best of Breed or High in Trial trophy (cost \$50) at their June, 2007 all-breed shows. Dottie Schulte moved that BMDCR sponsor both

BOB and HIT trophies both days of their shows for a total donation of \$200. 2nd Elaine. Motion passed.

Newsletter Help Needed:

Newsletter editors Nadja Torling and Dottie Schulte need more help with the newsletter. They will publish an advertisement in the November newsletter listing what's needed (print-ready articles, pictures, quotes, more event reporters, etc.).

Regional Specialty Shows in 2007 and 2008:

It is anticipated that the Regional Specialty in 2007 will still be held as a BMDCA show. It is possible that our club's AKC approval may be final in time for BMDCR to hold the 2008 Regional Specialty as an independent show. Laura Haupenthal moved that BMDCR host the 2007 Regional Specialty on September 7, 2007 in conjunction with the Evergreen Kennel Club shows in Greeley. 2nd Phil Shaffer. Motion passed. Dottie Schulte volunteered to be 2007 Show Chairman and Sara Karl volunteered to be 2007 Trophy Chairman. Sherri will lead Hospitality and Ron Abbot will be Obedience Chairman.

Spring Draft Test::

To hold a Spring Draft Test, BMDCR needs volunteers to be Draft Test Chairman and Draft Test Secretary. Preferred dates would be in March or April, 2007, before entries close for the Draft Test at the National Specialty in May.

New Breeder Referral Committee:

A new committee is being formed to address current issues in breeder referral (e.g. via internet websites). Phil Shaffer and Sara Karl volunteered to serve on the new committee. Other interested members are encouraged to contact Val Horney.

Bylaws Review:

A review of the bylaws will be needed soon to address any further changes requested by AKC for our approval process, and to address clarification of requirements for membership levels.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 2:05 pm following thanks to the Laura Haupenthal and Al Beers for again graciously hosting our meetings.

Minutes submitted by Sharon Keefer.

Mountain Messenger Co-Editor Needed



Responsible for layout of bi-monthly newsletter. Working in conjunction with co-editor, you'll put information in newsletter format, adding pictures and graphics provided. Desktop publishing experience VALUABLE. Time commitment is approximately 10- 15 hours every other month.

Please contact Dottie at dotties911@aol.com or Nadja at henry.dog@comcast.net for more information. We would love your help!

2007 Elections

Election of the 2007 board members will be held at the annual meeting in November. Following are bios of the candidates for the open positions. Phil Shaffer has withdrawn his name from contention since we have another nomination for the BMDCR board. We have a full slate running unopposed.

President - Valerie Horney

My name is Valerie Horney and I am honored to be asked to continue as BMDCR president. I have held the office for two previous terms in addition to the term just prior to this one. I find our club to be a great and active club and I am glad to be a part of it. I strive to include all members in our activities and try to entice new members to attend meetings and events. I would welcome any suggestions anyone may have to try and make our club run better and to involve as many people as possible. I am currently on the BMDCA board of directors and feel very involved in both organizations and how each can

better the life for BMD's in the future. I look forward to another two years.

Treasurer - Sara Karl

My name is Sara Karl. I am running for the position of Treasurer. I have been Treasurer for the BMDCR for the past four years. I have had Bernese for 20 years and have devoted my life to them. I have held every position in the BMDCR except President. I have been a member of the club since its first meeting in 1986. I believe the BMDCR offers a valuable service to the Bernese community in Colorado by doing Rescue, Breeder Referral and just having a group of people that have expertise in the breed and are there for help and advice. The food is always good too! Thank you for letting me serve the club in the capacity of Treasurer.

Board member - Ann Rutherford

I've been a member of the BMDCR for about 7 years. My

husband Bob and I owned a Berner for 6 years. He was 9 years old when we lost him to cancer. We are now awaiting our Christie to become ours after her litter in Nov. I worked at the Dumb Friends League for 17 years in adoptions as a counselor and customer service answering questions about the league. For myself, I would love to learn more about how the club works for the betterment of the breed. Thanks for the nomination.

Board Member - Elaine Witulski

My Berner Collection started in 1997, and it is currently up to three Berners, Lahti, Questa and Moxie. All of them are involved in Agility and Drafting, with aspirations of doing tracking and someday entering an Obedience ring. I have been a member of the GCSBMDC, the BMDCA, and the BMDCR. I am currently a Board Member of the BMDCR and hope to continue for another term in order to keep an active role in the decisions of the club and the breed. Thank you.

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Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club of America

July 23 and Aug 27, 2006

Wagontales Oberland Bergsteiger, "Steiger"

owned by Ron Abbott got two legs towards the GSMDCA Novice Working Pack Dog Title

BMDCR A Match

July 24, 2006

BB Alpenspirit Charlotte's Web
(Mary Rogers & Mylene Turbide)BOS Alderfer Baran Am Davieau
(Patti Morgan & Cathy Davis)**Cheyenne Kennel Club**

September 2, 2006

WB/OS/ BPPY Sandpiper A Legacy to Wagontale "Parker"
owned by Stacy Temples & Howard Ramsdell**BMDCR Regional Specialty**

September 8, 2006

BB CH Sapphires's Double Your Fun "Pepper"

owned by Roger and Carol Arbuthnot

BOS CH Nashems Play It Again Sapphire "Rufio"
owned by Lynn Wood and Sara Karl

AOM CH Prairiefire's Bedtime Story "PJ"

owned by Sharon Johnson

AOM CH L-Sin's Thin Blue Line "Mona"

owned Ann Murphy, Sindi Leo

AOM CH Sascha's Ursa Major "Major"

owned by Vicki Whitney

WD/BW Mountainair's Genuine Draft "Miller"

owned by Darcy Babb

RWD Sapphires Sir Hobbit V Triad "Hobbs"

owned by Cindy Still

WB Prairiefire's Hat Trick "Milan"

owned by Sharon Johnson

RWB Summits You Must Love Me "Beckon"

owned by Sandy and Breanne Dunaway

Best in Puppy Sweeps Prairiefires Sofarsogood

owned by Sharon Johnson

BOS Mountainair's Genuine Draft "Miller"

owned by Darcy Babb

Best in Veteran Sweeps CH Tanzenbar Gone to Northwoods

"Greta" owned by Mary Richards

BOS Wagontale's Everest Lhotse

owned by Gayle Brooks

Qual Score Novice B, 2nd Place, Brighteye Wilanie Sweetness

'Walter', owned by Stephany Biksacky & Deb Hotze, 180.5

Qual Score Novice B 1st Place, CH Bauernhofs Simon "Simon",
owned by Mary RogersQual score Open A 1st Place, Raabehaus Outlaw Deputy CD RA,
"Nakota" owned by Martine Sauvegneau 192.5

HIGH IN TRIAL

Veterans Obedience

1st CH Blue Moon's Pumpernickle CD, "Nicky"

owned by Jeanne Stanwood

2nd Spring's Nicka Nadia CD, "Nadia"

owned by Nancy Fuselier

3rd Pinnacles Dulcimer Dance CD "Dulcie"

owned by Louise and Bob Tucker

Evergreen Kennel Club

September 9, 2006

WD/BW Alderfer Baran Am Davieau "Baran"

owned by Patti Morgan & Cathy Davis

RWD Nashem's In My Dreams "Dillon"

owned by Laura Hauptenthal, Al Beers, Sara Karl

WB Lorien Dell's York Peppermint Patty

owned by Elaine Sheridan, Lynn & George Wood

NEW CHAMPION

RWB Lorien Dells Puffins Rainbow Connection, "Rainbow"

George & Lynn Wood, Sara Karl

BB CH Nashems Play It Again Sapphire "Rufio"

owned by Lynn Wood and Sara Karl

BOS CH L-Sin's Thin Blue Line "Mona"

owned Ann Murphy, Sindi Leo

Qual Nov B CH Sapphires Rhinestone April "April"

owned by Patti Morgan 188.0

Qual Nov B CH Nashems Dreamboat of Sapphire, "

Annie" owned by Sara Karl

Rally Adv Qual Score, 2nd Place, Wagontale Henry's Happy Hour

owned by Nadja Torling and Ryan Johnson 89.0

September 10, 2006

WD/BW Prairiefire's Mastermind "Gladly"

owned by Karen Treece & Sharon Johnson

RWD Alderfer Baran Am Davieau "Baran"

owned by Patti Morgan & Cathy Davis

WB Prairiefire's Mind Your Manners "Macy"

owned by Bob & Becky Shurris, Sharon Johnson

RWB Summits You Must Love Me "Beckon"

owned by Sandy and Breanne Dunaway

BB CH Nashems Play It Again Sapphire "Rufio"

owned by Lynn Wood and Sara Karl

GROUP 1

BOS CH Sapphires's Double Your Fun "Pepper"

owned by Roger and Carol Arbuthnot

Rally Adv Qual Score, 2nd Place, Wagontale Henry's Happy Hour

owned by Nadja Torling and Ryan Johnson 93.0

NEW RALLY ADVANCED TITLE**Santa Ana Kennel Club**

September 23 & 24, 2006

Rally Ob Nov Qual Score Wagontale's Looking Up "Sky"

owned by Robin Windlinger and Stacy Temples 83 and 92

NEW RALLY NOVICE TITLE**Texas Kennel Clubs**

September 23 and 24, 2006

23rd WD/BW/BB Mountainair's Genuine Draft "Miller"

owned by Darcy Babb

24th WD/BW/BB Mountainair's Echoing Thunder "Thunder"

owned by Darcy Babb, Bob & Lisa Hanks

NEW CHAMPION**Gallatin Kennel Club MT**

September 21-24, 2006

4 BB's, 1 cut in group, CH Ebnet's Hired Gun from Zanzebern

"Marshall", owned by Valerie Horney and Lisa Ebnet

Sooner State Kennel Club

October 15, 2006

Qual Score Novice B Mountainair's Echoing Thunder "Thunder"

owned by Darcy Babb, Bob & Lisa Hanks

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Program For BMDCR Meeting, Nov 19, 2:00 PM

How to Assess and Train Your Dog for Therapy Work followed by Training and Behavior Problems Q & A

PRESENTER

Lisa Knowles, M.S.

A-PLAWS Animal Behavior and Training Consulting, www.A-PLAWS.com

Please submit your training and behavior questions in advance to sharonkeefe@comcast.net (ok to just bring them to the program, too)

Lisa Knowles is an animal behaviorist and dog trainer. She is the owner of A-PLAWS (Animals-Positive, Learning, Attitudes, Wellbeing and Solutions) and offers private dog training sessions for all types of issues, including a new puppy or newly adopted dog, basic obedience, dog-dog aggression issues and advanced training for many activities. Lisa especially enjoys training dogs in preparation for pet assisted therapy and lecturing. She is a positive reinforcement trainer and believes in setting a dog up for success, carefully managing the environment so the dog can make the right choices and providing environmental enrichment to encourage species appropriate behaviors and occupy the dog's attention.

Lisa has a Master's degree in animal behavior and believes in using the natural behavior, physiology and communication of a species in her training methods. She spent many years doing positive training, enrichment and socializing with many species of primates. Lisa has been a

reward-based dog trainer for 9 years and is a Canine Good Citizen evaluator, www.akc.com, and a member of the Association of Pet Dog Trainers, www.apdt.com. She studied with, and trained group dog classes for Patricia McConnell Ph.D., one of the leading animal behaviorists and positive family dog trainers in the country, www.dogsbestfriendtraining.com.

Lisa worked in one of the best feline specialty vet clinics in the country providing behavioral and medical support to clients and their feline patients.

Lisa is a member of the Delta Society, www.deltasociety.org, a national leader in the field of the human-animal health connection and pet assisted activities/therapy. Lisa serves as a training advisor, hospital team lead and Acute Care Facilities Coordinator for the Denver Pet Partners, www.denverpetpartners.org, the local branch of the Delta Society.

Lisa is currently self-employed and has dedicated her career to improving the quality of life for the dogs and families with which she works, as well as the ethical treatment of all animals in the human community. Lisa does her job with passion, compassion and respect for the animals for whom she works and the people who love them.

Lisa has worked with several Bernese Mountain Dogs locally and they have rapidly become one of her favorite breeds.

BMDCR Draft Test

October 14, 2006

Novice Brace Draft Dogs

CH Blumoon Journey to Chimolola "Chimo" and CH Blue Moon Pumpnickle CD BDD "Nikki" owned by Christine Mann and Jeanne Stanwood

Novice Draft Dogs

CH Wagontales Great Grey Wizard CGC RN "Gandalf" owned by Pam and Barry Solomon

Wagontales Lady of the Lake CGC RE "Legend" owned by Pam & Barry Solomon and Stacy Temples

CH Blumoon's Mission Control "Houston" owned by Michael and Christine Mann

Wagontale's Karina "Hannah" owned by Kathy LaPine and Stacy Temples

Am/Can CH Clearfire's Dial My Number, "Freedom" owned by Valerie Horney, the first Australian Shepherd to earn a BMDCA NDD

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design of the course. The selection of exercises used in course design, the sequence in which the exercises are arranged, and the path the team is directed to follow vary with the creativity of each course designer! The performance of the team is evaluated by the judge based on the ability of the human partner to handle the dog to the best of the dog's ability to complete the task. Rally scoring is more forgiving than in traditional obedience. Only errors that are at least a full point deduction in traditional Obedience are scored in Rally, while errors that would be scored as ½ point deductions in traditional Obedience are not scored in Rally at all. At the current time, there are 3 levels of Rally Obedience competition, Novice, Advance, and Excellent.

After my Internet research, I could not wait to get Riley and I enrolled in a Rally-O class! We started out in an Intro to Rally class where we were exposed to the exercises that are needed to compete at the Rally Novice level. The exercises are similar to those in traditional Obedience, but the handler can consistently use verbal praise and all types of body language to help their dog through the course. Some of the exercises that are seen in Rally are for example, halt and sit your dog, halt and down your dog, right and left turns, about turns, turns of varying degrees such as 270 degree or 360 degree turns to the right or left, call the dog front and finish left or right, changes of pace, and figure 8 weave. Other exercises more specific to Rally are to spiral around a set of 3 pylon cones in a specified pattern, serpentine weaving, halt the dog and take one step with the dog in heel position, halt then two steps, halt then three steps forward, a similar exercise is also done while

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Berner Noel

Sunday, Dec 10
11:30 AM - 3 PM



Please bring your Berners and join us for the BMDCR Annual Berner Noel Pot Luck at Al and Laura's (see below for directions).

Al and Laura will provide hot cider. Please bring a dish to share.

Last name starting with:

A - J Main Dish

K - S Salad

T - Z Dessert



Also, please bring a present for the doggie g exchange (cost less than \$7).

Please RSVP before Fri, Dec 1, 303-221-2211.

DIRECTIONS:

From I-25 North or South, exit on Orchard Rd. Go west about one mile and 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.

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backing up and calling the dog front, and yet another exercise is to halt and walk around the dog in the position specified, which is sit or down at the novice level. Since I was able to use my voice and hand signals throughout the course and exercises, Riley and I were not only having a great time, but we were successful in what will be required to enter a trial!

While I was thrilled and encouraged by our success in Rally class, I knew we still had some work to do with attention in a strange environment and refining the execution of certain exercises before actually being ready for the competition ring. Our training continued in a Novice Rally class and we also started doing drop in training sessions at a different venue where we could practice on an actual course with an instructor

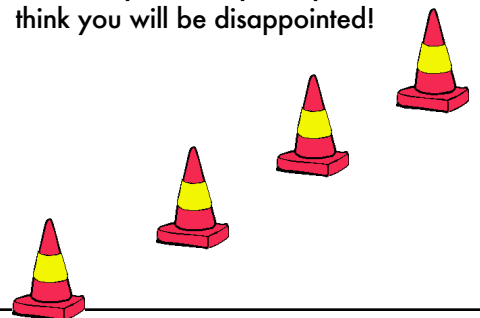
monitoring our performance. Riley and I were both enjoying the training sessions and I had much joy in my heart for the bond that continued to build between us as we worked successfully together as a team. Now the closing date for Rally entry for the National Specialty was upon me... no time to mail in, so an online entry was the only option... deep breath and hit "send"... the email hits my inbox then reads, "entry received", now only a few weeks until our debut.

It was a cool rainy day in Frankenmuth, Michigan as we waited for our turn in the Rally ring. So many thoughts running through my head on what silly mistakes I need to remember not to make and the fact that Riley and I have not had much time to train outside, let alone in the rain. Our number is called to be on deck and we head over to prepare

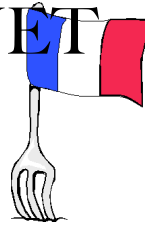
for our first real performance. Riley is energized and can't wait to get to work. It is our turn to enter the ring and we line up at the start sign and are off to navigate the course together. Riley was working beautifully with me as we headed into a "270 right turn", the only problem was that I realized I was going left and not right! Oh my! But another beautiful thing about Rally is that if you do an exercise incorrectly, you have the opportunity to go back and repeat the exercise. I told Riley that she was a very good girl, but mom sent us left and we were supposed to be going right, so let's do this one more time. We crossed the finish line and anxiously awaited to see if we earned a qualifying score . . . the Steward approached the scoreboard and entered a qualifying score for us... we earned our first leg, yippee!!!

Riley and I continued our training sessions in Rally and I quickly learned that there were far more issues with my handling than with Riley and her performance. Despite the issues with my handling, Riley completed her Rally Novice title, June 4, 2006 in Maumee, Ohio. Rally has been not only fun for Riley and me, it has been a great inspiration to explore the world of performance events. Yes, Riley has matured from a teenager to a young adult, but I credit our success in Rally with giving me the confidence to return to training for formal obedience, working toward the skills for advanced Rally, and laying the ground work to compete in agility as well.

Give Rally 'O' a try. Riley and I don't think you will be disappointed!



2006 AWARDS BANQUET



Sunday, Jan. 28 11:30 AM - 2 PM
Le Central
112 E 8th Ave Denver, CO 80203
303-863-8094

Please join the BMDCR for the first meeting of the year at Le Central, featuring a french three course menu for \$25 per person. There will be a cash bar available for those who would like to order wine or cocktails. Any special dietary concerns please contact Nadja for more information.

Please send your reservations and checks made payable to BMDCR no later than January 12, 2007 to Nadja Torling, 2707 W 35th Ave, Denver, CO 80211, 303-433-4879.

Directions:

From I-25 take 6th Ave East to Lincoln St. Turn left onto Lincoln. Le Central is three blocks down on 8th and Lincoln on your right. Parking on the street is free on Sundays.

2006 AWARDS

Please send all new 2006 titles, awards and accomplishment info to Dottie at dotties911@aol.com no later than December 31, 2006. If you can, please include a picture of your dog .

Please note that only those who provide the information requested to Dottie by the deadline will be awarded certificates.

Nominations for the Kathy Roth Award

Each year the BMDCR recognizes our human members for contributions they have made to our club as well as for the betterment of our breed by awarding one of our own with the Kathy Roth Award.

Kathy was a charter and founding member of the BMDCR who died of cancer in 1991. She was known for her dedication to the breed and her willingness to share her knowledge to both new BMD owners as well as those of us who had dogs but needed information or assistance.

This is our clubs highest honor and input from our members is needed in order to make the selection. The award is presented at the annual awards banquet in January. If you would like to recommend a person for this award, please submit his or her name to Nadja by December 31 henry.dog@comcast.net

Stacy Temples & Howard Ramsdell
Wagontale Bernese
PO Box 2490
Fort Collins, CO 80522-2490
Phone:(970) 493-3714
Email: satemples@aol.com

Litter Box

Litter Due Date: November 1, 2006

Dam: Ch Wagontale's Inside Edge
AKC Number: WR05169703
OFA Hip: BMD-I0860G24F-PI
OFA Elbow : BMD-EL3544F24-PI
OFA Shoulders: BMD-SH17F24-PI
OFA Cardiac: BMD-CA323/14F/C-PI
Eye CERF : BMD-2169/2006-51
vWD Free by parentage

Sire: Ch Sunshine's Arctic Star
AKC Number: WS08370401
OFA Hip: BMD-I2744G26M-PI
OFA Elbow: BMD-EL4936M26-PI
OFA Cardiac: BMD-CA846/26M/C-PI
Eye CERF: BMD-3323
vWD Free by parentage

Previous recipients are:

| | |
|------|----------------------|
| 1991 | Sara Karl |
| 1992 | Martha Rosener |
| 1993 | Christina Ohlsen |
| 1994 | Phil Shaffer |
| 1995 | Nancy Fuselier |
| 1996 | Valerie Horney |
| 1997 | Cindy Still |
| 1998 | Dottie Schulte |
| 1999 | Holly & Maria Foster |
| 2000 | Patti Morgan |
| 2001 | Sharon Montville |
| 2002 | Karen Baru |
| 2003 | Bob & Lou Tucker |
| 2004 | Stacy Temples |
| 2205 | Ron Abbott |

2006 Regional Specialty

The BMDCR hosted their 2006 Regional Specialty on September 8 in Greeley, Colorado. Seventy-one dogs entered the competition, several in two or more events to total 106 entries. There were many highlights of the show, the most heartwarming seeing 12 year old CH Triad's Major Melody trotting around the ring with owners Cindy and Michelle Still in the Veteran Bitch 11 years and older class. Judges Jean Pero (sweepstakes) and Charles McWilliams (regular classes) had their work cut out for them as all the competing dogs and bitches looked their finest. Ten dogs participated in the obedience trial under judge Carole Joy Evert. As always, there were some entertaining moments. Three veteran dogs competed, all receiving acceptable scores—proving again that our breed only gets better with age.

Thanks to all who worked at the event: Patti Morgan and Linda Adams (Ways and Means—making more than \$1500 on the raffle and silent auction!), Sara Karl (Trophies), Ron Abbott (obedience chair), Phil Shaffer (chief ring steward), Rip Stanwood (ring steward), Sherri Mangin (hospitality), not to mention all those attending who pitched in and helped out when needed.

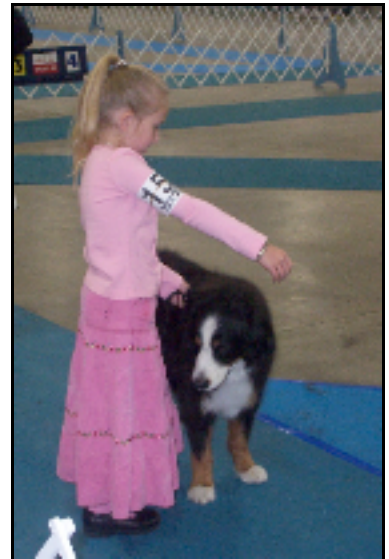
Dottie Schulte, Show Chair



Veterans Dulcie and Nadia laugh in the face of age with their obedience performances



Stacy Temples and Darcy Babb stack up their bred by boys.



Handler Mary Bugg makes her veteran girl Nadia look her best.



Veteran girls line up for the judge's final look.



Modeling raffle winnings.

Sara Karl, trophy chairperson, designed a lovely display of all the items offered for class and breed wins.



Fall 2006 Draft Test

October 14th dawned crisp and clear, perfect weather for the fall 2006 BMDCA sponsored draft test. Judges Mary Alice Eschweiler and Fay Benson laid out a challenging but fair course for the 18 human/canine teams. When the day had finished, there were nine newly titled dogs—one novice brace team and eight novice draft dogs. It was a landmark occasion for our club as this was the first all-breed test—a German Shepherd and Australian Shepherd competed, both passing and showing our Swiss dogs just how draft is done by canines of other countries!



Val and Freedom show how the little dogs do it.



Jeanne and the "qualifying bitches".



Elaine and Questa show how to do a perfect turn--check that loose leash.



Houston and Chris get off to a good start by passing the basic command exercise.



Bob and Marin team up to do weaves and narrows.



Gandalf and Barry--a perfect front getting ready for a qualifying performance.

BMDCR Membership Column - November/December 2006

Stacy Temples

Please welcome our new Sustaining Members.

Heather Hogoboom
12037 W. 75th Lane
Arvada, CO 80005
Ph.# (303) 423-0267.
E-mail: h2heather@msn.com

Stan Grotegut
810 Kalmia
Boulder, CO 80304
Ph.# (303) 443-7763.

New Applicants
Sustaining Membership
This month we have a many new families and applicants who would like to become club members.

Troy & Patti Arnold
833 Madison St.
Denver, CO 80206
Ph. # (303) 321-3806.
E-mail: tarnold37@comcast.net,
parnold05@comcast.net.

Troy is a Criminal Investigator and Patti is a Dental Hygienist. They have a new puppy (7/13/06) from Lorien Dell Kennels. They are interested in health issues, obedience, and having a family pet. They would like to meet other Berner owners. They heard about the club on the internet and have not owned dogs before.

Kelley Matthews
393 Ruby Foest Trail
Evergreen, CO 80439
Ph.# (303) 377-9530

Kelley works in Administration and she is the owner of Enstone Jefferson R. Chester, (M, 6/17/02) from Enstone Kennels in BC Canada. Her interestes are in beginning drafting, therapy work and owning a family pet. She wants to join the club to learn more about the breed and she knows Jane Trexler, a club member. She will help out with what she can in the club. She has trained her dog in puppy obedience years ago.

Kenneth Morgan
4223 South Shawnee Ct.
Aurora, CO 80018
Ph.# (303)995-8760.

E-mail: workinitt@yahoo.com

Kenneth is a UXO Tech II and he has Apollo (M, 6/6/2006) out of Semper Fi Sampson & Semper Fi Heidi, from L. L. Vance. He is interested in Health Issues, Obedience and Breeding along with owning a family pet. He heard about the BMDCR from the club internet site and he wants to join to have contact and association with other Berner owners and lovers. It is unknown at this time how he can contribute to the the club. He has owned a St. Bernard/Lab mix, a Great Pyrenees/ Lab mix and a "mutt" as a child. He just started training his dog and he hopes to show him.

Mona Fiuzat & David Hopper
4990 W. Stanford Ave.
Denver, CO 80236.
Ph. # (720) 269-4671
E-mail: monafiuzat@gmail.com,
hopperman00@gmail.com

Mona is a Pharmacist in in Biotech Research & David is in Landscape Construction. They have a new puppy named Riley, (M, 7/13/06) from Lorien Dell Kennels. The are interested in health issues and obedience and therapy work. They want to join the club for education and for socializing. They have met Phil Shaffer and were at the recent draft test in October where they met others. This is their first puppy and they can volunteer to help with events.

Mr. Terry & Mrs. Randi Jarrett
22865 E. Canyon Pl.
Aurora, CO 80016
Ph.# (720) 936-7611 & # (720) 224-2802
E-mail: trjarrett@msn.com

Randi is a Notary Public and Terry is in Management. They are interested in owning a family pet, drafting and doing therapy work. They want to join the club to find good breeders and to be better owners and to enhance their enjoyment of the breed. They learned about the club on the internet and through Phil Shaffer. He is open to helping the club with events. In the past they owned Golden Retrievers and bred 2 litters which were registered with the AKC. They have not shown their dogs nor done training with them before. They have never been members of any dog clubs.

Funny One...

One day in heaven Saint Peter, Saint Paul, and Saint John were standing around the heavenly kennels watching the dogs laying around. "I am certainly bored" stated John. "Me too" Paul chimed in. Peter stood and watching the dogs said "I know" Peter began. "Why don't we have a dog show??" Paul & John thought that the idea was great except for one small detail that Paul pointed out. "Who are we to compete against, Peter?" Paul asked.

The trio pondered a moment when Peter realized the answer.

"We will call up Satan and invite him to the dog show. I mean, we have all of the finest dogs here in heaven; all of the World and National Champions are here. His kennels are filled with the spoiled, difficult and mean dogs. We are certain to win at the show!"

And so the trio called up Satan on the "other realm" communication line and invited him to their dog show.

Satan laughed and asked why they would want to be humiliated like that, because he would certainly beat them.

Peter, Paul and John did not understand. "What do you mean Satan?" Peter asked. "We have all of the National and World Champion dogs in our kennels in heaven. How could you possibly beat us?"

Satan paused a moment and then laughed. "Have you forgotten so soon gentlemen...? I have all the judges!"

Committee Members Needed

Both the by-laws and the breeder referral committees are in need of members. Both have a limited time commitment but involvement is a great way to get to know other club members and become more active in the BMDCR. Breeder referral is developing a new program for education and by-laws are being rewritten to be more consistent with our club functions. For information on breeder referral contact Phil Shaffer, pshaffer@bmd.org, and for by-laws contact Sara Karl, karl3106@adelphia.net, or Val Horney, valhorney@comcast.net.