



Mountain Dog MESSENGER

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

Next meeting
Sunday, September 23
Board Meeting - 11:30 AM
General Meeting - 1:00 PM

At Al & Laura's
(see page 2 for directions)

Celebrating 100 Years of the Bernese Mountain Dog

Thirteen (or more) BMDCR members traveled to Switzerland in mid-August to celebrate the 100th year anniversary of the Schweizerischer Klub für Berner Sennenhunde. They were joined at the event by over 70 Bernese fanciers from the United States. The jubilee celebration was held in Burgdorf in honor of the founding members, Max Schafroth, Gottfried Mumenthaler, and Franz Schertenleib who all came from this city. The weekend began with an international health symposium on Friday, August 10th. Topics addressed included breeding for longevity and the effects of environmental factors on longevity. Members of the German Bernese Mountain Dog clubs presented their breeding rules which have been developed in hopes of improving life expectancy. These proved to be quite controversial and generated a good discussion (however it was in German!). Updates for on-going studies relating to histiocytosis in the BMD were given by researchers from the United States, Netherlands and France.

During the following two days attendees were treated to a traditional style European conformation show, viewing over 400 Bernese from Switzerland, the Netherlands, Belgium, France, Germany, Russia and Scandinavia. The backdrop of the Alps and the Burgdorf castle provided a spectacular setting. Saturday evening Bernese lovers from all over the world honored our past and present dogs at the Jubilee dinner featuring Swiss cuisine and plenty of local wines. Dinner was preceded by a concert of Alphorns, traditional Swiss flag throwing and music by the Swiss club chorale. Everyone left with lasting memories of lovely dogs, Swiss hospitality and the camaraderie of fellow Bernese Mountain Dog owners.



BMDCR members toast to the heritage of our dogs



The Manns enjoying international cuisine and friendship



Alphorns play in the shadow of the Burgdorf castle

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
Ann Rutherford
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

Meetings

Unless members are otherwise notified, meetings are held on the fourth Sunday of January, March, May, July, 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.



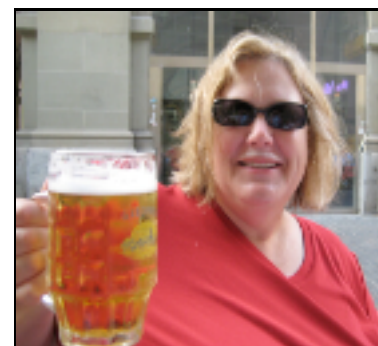
BMDCR members on top of the Swiss world



Sandy wishing for a comb and some grooming scissors



Best of Show for both Saturday and Sunday and Best in Jubilee Berntiers Front Page



Got Beer?



Ron hob nobs with the Brits while consuming local wines and celebrating at the Jubilee dinner



The Tuckers intent on analyzing the European BMDs

BERNERMANIA



COME TOGETHER

Bernese Mountain Dog Club of the Rockies

First Independent Regional Specialty

Friday, September 7th
Island Grove Park
Greeley, Colorado

- 9:00 AM Rally Trial
(12 entries)
- 10:30 AM Obedience Trial
(11 entries)
- 12:00 PM Puppy Sweepstakes
(22 entries)
- 1:15 PM Veteran Sweepstakes
(15 entries)
- 2:00 PM Junior Showmanship
(4 entries)
- 2:15 PM Breed Regular Classes
followed by
- Best of Breed
(66 entries)

Plan to attend a complimentary reception
with open bar following BOB
RSVP to dotties911@aol.com
if you have not one so

Draft Test

Thursday, September 6th
Bittersweet Park
Greeley Colorado

Judging starts at 9 AM

Future Specialty Ideas

This year the BMDCR is hosting our first independent specialty in Greeley. At our last club meeting we discussed ideas for future specialties since we will have more leeway on dates and activities now that we are AKC licensed.

First, chairpersons for the specialty and committee chairpersons and members are always needed so if you are wanting to participate in planning, please let this be known to the board. The committee (as well as chairperson positions) is always in need of new ideas and leadership.

Second, we would like to hear from membership on whether we would like to change dates and sites. We are committed to have the specialty in 2008 in conjunction with the Evergreen Colorado Kennel Club in Greeley the first weekend in September (the same site and date as this year and the past two years) as judges have been secured. But 2009 and future years are open for change and we will be discussing this at our next club meeting. Our specialty would be hosted on the day preceding these shows and options include:

- Thursday before the third weekend in February in conjunction with the Colorado Kennel Club and Plum Creek Kennel Club at the stock show complex in Denver
- Friday before the second weekend in April in conjunction with the Terry All Kennel Club at the Adams County Fairgrounds in Brighton
- Friday before the first weekend in June in conjunction with the Flatirons Kennel Club at the Boulder County Fairgrounds in

Longmont

- Friday before the second weekend in June in conjunction with the Colorado Springs Kennel Club in Colorado Springs at the Phil Long Exhibition Complex
- Friday before the first weekend in July in conjunction with the Buckhorn Valley Kennel Club at the Budweiser Events Center in Loveland
- Friday before the third weekend in August in conjunction with the Greeley Kennel Club at Island Grove Park in Greeley
- Friday before the second weekend in September in conjunction with Evergreen Kennel Club at Island Grove Park in Greeley (our current date and location)
- Friday before the second weekend in November in conjunction with the Southern Colorado Kennel Club at the Pueblo County Fairgrounds in Pueblo

Another option might be to host our own two day specialty with date and place determined by a specialty committee. When choosing a site and date we need to take into consideration weather, can we hold a draft test in conjunction with the specialty, cooperation of the kennel club we will be working with and if we have club members who belong to that club, parking, do we show indoors or outdoors. . .so think about it and come prepared to discuss at our next meeting or send your input to the board to bring to the discussion.

**BMDCR Membership Column
September/October 2007
Stacy Temples**

Please Welcome our New Sustaining Members who were approved at the July 22, 2007 meeting.

Lugenia Rose Malinovskii
187 S. Rogers Way
Golden, CO 80401
Ph.# (303) 216-1035
E: yegor00@mac.com

Deborah Barrett
1531 Ervine Ave.
Longmont, CO 80501
Ph. # (303) 651-1904
E: dbarrett@ball.com

Candy McDanal
11969 Blackhawk Drive
Conifer, CO 80433
Ph.# (303) 838-4098
E: mcdanaljc@msn.com

New Sustaining Member Applicant:

Kim Giannone
941 23 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81505
Ph.# (970) 263-7428
E: winridge@gvii.net
Kim and her husband Joe own CH Lorientell's Sword of Elendel, (M, 7/13/06), from L. Wood. Kim has a longtime love of Berners and she used to own Labradors. She is interested in conformation, obedience and drafting and has championed her first Berner and is now training in obedience. She is a member of the Grand Valley Kennel Club. She has never bred a litter of puppies or been a club officer. Lynn Wood and Sharon Keefer are her sponsors.

"Address Change"
Sharon Keefer
PO Box 36
Kiowa, CO 80117
Ph.# (303) 621-2217
sharon@joyfulbmd.com

HELP WANTED

We need someone to Chair the 2007 Awards Banquet committee.

Responsibilities include securing a site, collecting reservations and fees, coordinating a menu, making Award Certificates, etc.

Please volunteer at the next meeting!

Follow up. . .BMDCR as Philanthropists

At our last club meeting club members voted to donate \$4000 to the AKC Donor Advised Fund. This decision was made based on the AKC matching funds provided for donations as well as the ability to have monies go to health studies relating to histiocytosis and osteosarcoma which are prevalent in our breed. Members asked that more information be obtained regarding how donations are made and can our club designate a specific study to which we would like our money to go towards. Hopefully this information will answer those questions.

All monies donated go to the BMDCA Donor Advised Fund (DAF) and then to the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF). Donations do not go through the BMDCA coffers as it loses its tax advantage and delays the deposit. The BMDCA board votes on which studies they support through their DAF with input from the BMDCA Health Committee.

There are several current BMDCA funded studies including the histiocytosis and osteocarcoma tumors. All of these studies are fully funded by the BMDCA or a group of Berner lovers who raise money through on-line auctions and other activities. The AKC CHF Grants Committee will be meeting in September to review and select additional studies to support. Following their review, the AKC board with vote to make a final decision on which studies to fund. The BMDCA will then be contacted with information on these studies in about a month (likely in October). They then review studies and determine which to support through the DAF.

If the BMDCR wants to earmark our monies to go to a particular study we would need to contact the BMDCA board to get information on the AKC approved studies so we could review and determine which our club would like to support. We would also need to get approval from the BMDCA board to support a particular study rather than have our monies go into the general BMDCA DAF. This could be done prior to receiving any studies for review. Once we have done this, we might be able to move rather quickly to review studies, select which one we want to support and send our check in! This would also allow

the BMDCA board to know that they would have funding for a particular study so they could approve it.

The October Alpenhorn will have an article on the history of the BMDCA/CHF collaboration. This article will also address how matching funds from the AKC are determined, which was another question that BMDCR members had asked. What typically happens is the CHF will fund half of any given study and ask DAF's/breed clubs for the other half. No study can start until this other half is pledged. This is the 1:1 match. Some studies are only \$2000-3000 so our club might be able to fully fund a study if we found one that is consistent with our mission.

The process is a bit confusing (too many initials) but to summarize what our members need to discuss the following at our next meeting:

- Do we want to continue with our donation of \$4000 to the BMDCA DAF to the AKC CHF or do we want to revisit other donation options that we discussed at the last meeting (the BMDCA tissue depository, CSU cancer center)?
- If we want to continue with the DAF donation, do we want to contact the BMDCA to get approval to earmark our monies to a particular study or are we o.k. to have the monies go the general DAF coffers?
- If we want to earmark our monies to go to a particular study, do we want a committee to review studies and make recommendations to the general membership or do we want to have the board make this decision?

There are likely many other issues pertaining to this to discuss so come prepared with ideas for the next meeting.



Nominations for the 2008/2009 Elections

The BMDCR Nominating Committee would like to report the nominations for the 2008/2009 slate.

Ron Abbott - Vice President
Sharon Keefer - Secretary
Fay Benson - Director
Pam Solomon - Director
Laura Haupenthal - Director

Additional nominations can be made at the September meeting. The election will be held at the Annual Meeting in November.

Lou Tucker - Nominating Committee Chair
Stacy Temples - committee member
Barry Solomon - committee member
Phil Shaffer - alternate
Anne Rutherford - alternate

Bios for 2008/2009 Elections

RON ABBOTT

Vice President Candidate

I have been a member of the BMDCR since 1990, during which time I have owned three Bernese Mountain Dogs. Each of my first two Berners lived past 11 years-a gift of life for which I hope I can take some credit as a responsible and concerned "berner dad"! Both Barry and Obie obtained their CGC and CD, their DD, and together shared a BNDD. They were experienced pack dogs who enjoyed day hikes, and who had each served me as a full working pack dog, carrying essential equipment and supplies during professional botanical field work. My current Berner, Steiger, has so far earned a CD and we are working toward an NDD and a working pack dog title through the Greater Swiss Mountain Dog Club. Steiger enjoys day hikes too, as well as sheep herding sessions.

I have served the club previously on the board of directors and have stewarded for and/or served as chair for obedience and draft competitions. I believe it is important to support the activities of club members who show in conformation and are active in breeding while simultaneously nurturing the performance activities of the club which foster the

behaviors and skills for which our dogs were originally bred. I can lend perspective as an average Berner owner and performance participant toward the important issues of health and rescue.

SHARON KEEFER

Secretary Candidate

I have served as Secretary for BMDCR for the last 2 years and served on the Board of Directors for 2 prior years. I have been a member of BMDCR and BMDCA since 2000, and have had Bernese Mountain Dogs since 1999. With my dogs, I participate in conformation showing, therapy dog volunteer work, drafting, and breeding. I believe our national and local breed clubs play a vital role in ensuring that Bernese Mountain Dogs are cherished and fun family companions, and that the breed has a bright and healthy future. I am happy to contribute toward those goals through service to BMDCR.

FAY BENSON

Director Candidate

Hello,

My name is Fay Benson and I have been a member of the BMDCR for 17 years. During that time I have served on the Board for one term, as the Rescue Chair for 8 years, worked at several of our functions, and judged a few of our Draft tests. I would be honored to serve on the Board again. I have always enjoyed the fact that our club is so supportive of each other, and of all the fun activities and events we participate in. In the Berner community, we are known as a good, strong club with members that do everything with our dogs.

Our family lives in Nederland and our boys, John and Christopher have grown up with our dogs. They keep us busy with sports, music, and 4-H and I am also on the Boulder County Fair Board. My husband, Doug and I got our first Berner, Aiko in 1988 and attended our first Specialty in 1991. Aiko was in the first Specialty Draft test in 1992 and earned his NDD. He went on to earn his DD and our second Berner, Ripple also earned his DD. Ripple was my first Champion, also earning his CDX (as did

Aiko) and holds the first Berner VST (Variable Surface Tracker) and CT (Champion Tracker) titles. I have tracked since 1991 with our Berners and my Corgi, Cassidy. I am now training our Corgi, Porter and our Berner, Reckon in Tracking and Obedience. I enjoy working with my dogs in whatever they like to do. Watching them put their hearts into their work is always a good day for me.

Thanks for listening,
Fay

PAM SOLOMON

Director Candidate

My name is Pam Solomon. I became a BMDCR member when I got my first Bernese in the Spring of 2001, and. I am also a member of the BMDCA. I own 3 Bernese and work them in Conformation, Obedience, Drafting and Rally Obedience. I am serving as the Rally Chairperson for the Club Specialty this September, as well as Draft Secretary with my husband, Barry's, technical support. Professionally I work as a Sr. Applications Developer. I served on the Evergreen Newcomer's Board as Membership Chairperson for 2 years and I act as Community Outreach Co-Chairperson. I appreciate my board nomination and would be happy to give my time if elected. Thank you.

DR. LAURA HAUPENTHAL

Director Candidate

I have been a BMDCR Board member for the past two years and have enjoyed seeing how the club works from the "inside out," so to speak. I have been a member of the BMDCR since 1990 and have been a proud human companion to five different Berners. Most of them have been therapy dogs as well as show dogs. Professionally, I am in private practice as a Clinical Psychologist and am frequently accompanied by one of our Berners ("Kismet," 4 y/o, or "Dylan," 9 months). Our home has often served as the site location for BMDCR meetings and for Berner Noel. Being a Board member has been an interesting experience and I would be glad to continue serving in that capacity if the membership would like to return me to that position.

Selecting A Good Puppy Class - Nadja Torling

So you're getting ready to bring home your new puppy. Now it's up to you to start shaping this little fuzz-ball, full of mischievous energy into a well-mannered dog. That's no small feat. It's time to find a good puppy class for you and your dog to learn how you both can live together in peace. Here are some things to look for in a good puppy class.

Find a course that emphasizes socialization while teaching owners how to prevent and manage unwanted behaviors. Also, since young puppies are learning so rapidly and easily at this time of their life, it's also a great time to start laying a foundation for some basic manners before your dog enters adolescence. The most important thing for your puppy at this time from a developmental perspective is to be exposed to as many new experiences as possible in a safe environment. A good puppy class provides the opportunity to meet other puppies and people and teaches you how to properly socialize your dog. You also want to start building a long-lasting relationship with your dog and have the trainer teach you techniques on how to handle any issues that arise during the upcoming adolescence. Choose a class that employs gentle, positive learning techniques. Avoid any programs that use any kind of harsh training methods or punishment.

The optimal age for puppies to start

class is about 10 to 18 weeks. This is the optimal time for puppies to learn and experience new things without being fearful. Ideally the course should only have puppies of this age when the course starts. If it's not possible to find a "true" puppy class, make sure that all dogs have been screened for any aggression issues. If older dogs are attending the class, check that there are measures in place to ensure that everybody has a safe and fun time.

In order for each puppy and owner to receive adequate individual attention class size should be limited to about 8 puppies, or up to 12 for a class with a trainer and an assistant.

Time for the puppies to play with each other is very important to teach them how to interact politely with each other. Playtime should be carefully set up and supervised. Dogs should be separated into smaller groups based on size, temperament and play style. All dogs should enjoy play, not just the rambunctious ones tearing around with the timid puppies hiding behind their owners or under furniture. Furthermore, play sessions should be kept short and stopped before any puppy gets too aroused and starts playing too roughly. Playtime should always be ended on a good note.

Good classes should welcome the entire family. While only one person

should be working with the puppy during each training session - it gets very confusing for the puppy to have more than one person telling him what to do - there should be room for the family members who are not training to watch and learn. It's important that the entire family is participating in the training on some level and that they are using the same methods. Older children can participate in the training with supervision, but that may be better done at home and not in class. Many trainers require the person who is working with the dog to be at least 12 years old.

There is no required, official licensing of dog trainers so you need to do your homework. Your veterinarian or breeder can be a great source of recommendations for trainers and make sure to ask the trainer for references. A good trainer should have no problem giving you names of several persons who have taken their course. Call them and find out what they thought of the course. Also, ask to come and watch a class before signing up.

Try to find a course that incorporates as many of the above criteria as possible. Remember that the most important thing is that you and your puppy have a great time starting a wonderful life together.

Rescue News

In early August the BMDCR became aware of a puppy mill in Akron, Colorado who was breeding Pyrenees and Bernese Mountain Dog mixes. Patti (Morgan) Davieau, the BMDCR rescue chair, assisted another BMD owner to remove two litters of puppies from this operation. Several of the dogs, who were around 9 months of age, were ill with round worms, yeast infections and skin infections. One male had a serious hip injury and was lame. There was inadequate water and food and the kennels were infested with sand flies. Four of these dogs are with Patti and the remainder are in a home in Evergreen. Because our rescue policy does not support rescue dogs other than the purebred Bernese, monies are needed for vet care and food so these dogs can be rehabilitated and adopted. If you would like to provide some financial assistance please contact Patti Davieau at davieau@aol.com.



SHOW REPORT by Valerie Horney

Buckhorn Valley Kennel Club

June 30 & July 1, 2007

WD/BW/BB Lorien Dell's Sword of Elendil, owned by Joe & Kim Giannone & M Lynn Wood

PUPPY GROUP 3

RWD Nashems He's the Man of Woodmoor, "Angus" owned by Sara Karl

WB Funatic Vanity Fair "Saimi", owned By Tuuli Yrjonen

RWB Swiss Stars Making Bail, owned by Patti Davieau and Bobbie Hefner

OS CH Rogel's Many Stars of Nighttime, "Kylie", owned by Angela & Kirk Hanson

4th Place Novice Junior Mary Margaret Bugg

WD/BW Lorien Dell's Sword of Elendil, owned by Joe & Kim Giannone & M Lynn Wood

NEW CHAMPION

RWD Prairefire's Prophecy V Jenda, "Prada", owned by Charli Nicholas

WB Prairefire's Kixitup from Maine, owned by Sharon Johnson

RWB Blumoons Quervo Gold, "Rita", owned by Christine and Michael Mann

OS CH Marben's Tuckernuck Belle "Belle" owned by Robert & Mary Ann Persons

BB CH Adesa's And The Beat Goes On "Bono", owned by Ann & Bill Daily, Bill & Bobbi Blewitt

4th Place Novice Junior Mary Margaret Bugg

Roaring Fork Kennel Club

July 14 & 15, 2007

WD/BW Nashems He's the Man of Woodmoor, "Angus" owned by Sara Karl

RWD Maines 4ever Raisin Ruckus, "Ruckus" owned by Jean Gottenborg

WB/OS Blumoons Quervo Gold, "Rita", owned by Christine and Michael Mann

RWB Funatic Vanity Fair "Saimi", owned By Tuuli Yrjonen

BB CH Ebnet's Hired Gun From Zanzebern, "Marshall", owned by Valerie Horney & Lisa Ebnet

WD/BW Maines 4ever Raisin Ruckus, "Ruckus" owned by Jean Gottenborg

RWD Nashems He's the Man of Woodmoor, "Angus" owned by Sara Karl

WB/OS Northwinds Sagarmatha Kailas Rose, owned by Gayle Brookes

RWB Prairefore's Hat Trick "Milan", owned by Sharon Johnson

BB Lorien Dell's Sword of Elendil, owned by Joe & Kim Giannone & M Lynn Wood

GROUP 3

Greeley Kennel Club

August 18 & 19, 2007

WD/BW Nashems He's the Man of Woodmoor, "Angus" owned by Sara Karl

RWD Lorien Dell's Glamoring Foe Hammer, owned by Bruce & Becky Finger, M Lynn Wood

WB/OS Swiss Stars Making Bail, owned by Patti Davieau and Bobbie Hefner

RWB Prairefires Mind Your Manners, owned by Bill & Becky Shuris & Sharon Johnson

BB CH Adesa's And The Beat Goes On "Bono", owned by Ann & Bill Daily, Bill & Bobbi Blewitt

4th Place Novice Junior Mary Margaret Bugg

WD/BW Nashem's Hes the Man of Woodmoor, "Angus" owned by Sara Karl

RWD Maines 4ever Raisin Ruckus, "Ruckus" owned by Jean Gottenborg

WB/OS Prairefires Mind Your Manners, owned by Bill & Becky Shuris & Sharon Johnson

RWB Lorien Dell's Haribou Gummi Bear, owned by Bridget & Mark Pieffer & M Lynn & George Wood

BB CH Adesa's And The Beat Goes On "Bono", owned by Ann & Bill Daily, Bill & Bobbi Blewitt

Meeting Minutes - July 22, 2007

Board Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the BMDCR Board of Directors was called to order at 11:56 am on July 22, 2007.

Present: Laura Haupenthal, Val Horney, Sharon Keefer, Ann Rutherford, Nadja Torling, Lou Tucker, and Elaine Witulski..

Approval of Minutes: Nadja moved to approve the minutes of the May meeting as published in the July/August 2007 newsletter with the amendment to correct the date of BernerFiesta to June 1, 2007. Laura seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Technology Task Force: Sharon reported that she reconvened this task force with the goal of submitting recommendations for website and other related improvements, with options for implementing the recommendations, to the Club by the end of this year. The task force includes Sharon Keefer, Matt Hall, Sandy Dunaway, Kathy Crawford, and Phil Shaffer (pending). Laura Haupenthal volunteered to join the task force, too.

Rescue: Lou Tucker resigned from the Rescue Committee. She stated that she would like to see Rescue coordinated more via the national rescue chairman. The Board then discussed what information needs to be included in reports from the Rescue Committee at meetings. It was decided to finalize this information request at the next meeting. The purpose of defining specific information to be reported is to make preparing the report easy for the Committee and complete for the Club.

Regional Specialty: Show chairman Dottie Schulte requested approval for funds to supplement the t-shirt sales in paying for the complimentary reception. After researching menu and caterer options, Dottie estimates the reception cost to be \$1,100 - \$1,300. T-shirt sales are estimated to net \$1,000, so the supplemental club money needed will likely be minimal. This will be presented to the membership for approval in the general club meeting to follow.

New Business:

Complaint Handling Process: Val explained that BMDCR had received a complaint (from a non-BMDCR member several months ago) about a breeder who is a BMDCR member. Val described how the National club handles such complaints and asked how BMDCR wants to handle such complaints. Formal complaints to BMDCR are rare; more frequent, informal complaints are received usually by the Membership and Breeder Referral contact persons. Options for handling complaints were discussed, concluding with the best option to present to the general BMDCR membership being a written reply to both parties involved stating that BMDCR received the complaint, that BMDCR is not a regulatory agent, and encouraging the parties involved to resolve the problem.

Nominating Committee: Terms for the Vice President, Secretary and three Board Members end this year. Lou Tucker volunteered to chair a nominating committee for filling these positions (2-year terms starting 1/1/08).

Programs: Possible topics for programs at upcoming meetings were discussed. Ideas should be submitted to Val Horney or Sharon Keefer.

Adjournment: The Board Meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm. Minutes respectfully submitted by Sharon Keefer.

General Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the BMDCR membership was called to order at 1:15 pm on July 22, 2007.

Present: 13 voting members (a quorum), and 2 guests.

Approval of Minutes: Ron Abbott moved to approve the minutes of the May meeting as published in the July/August 2007 newsletter with the amendment to correct the date of BernerFiesta to June 1, 2007. Ann Rutherford seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Rescue: Patti Davieau reported that one 18-month old, spayed female came in to Rescue 7/19/07. She is now just starting to eat better, is not dog-friendly and has temperament issues making her not placeable at this point. She would require a family with obedience experience and patience. This dog was bred by a backyard breeder/broker in Aurora.

Patti also reported that All Breed Rescue is asking for volunteers for 3-hour shifts at Meet the Breeds at the August shows in Greeley. Lou Tucker and Dottie Schulte volunteered pending shift schedules and show ring times. Patti will express tentative interest to All Breed Rescue depending on the schedule.

Patti also reported receiving inquiries for participating with a booth at the Furball Annual Awareness Fair on August 4th, a benefit for Colorado Humane Society. This event is held outdoors in a park. Member consensus was that because of the outdoor heat likely on August 4th, we could not participate with our dogs. Discontinuing participation in the Family Pet Expo held at the Denver Merchandising Mart was also discussed; breed rescue groups were poorly attended at that event this year.

Holly Foster asked about an internet post she saw requesting names of foster homes. She reiterated that BMDCR cannot give out those names unless the dog has come through the BMDCR Rescue Program. Holly also asked about the temperament of dogs coming through Rescue. Patti reported that they have been very poor. Holly encouraged Patti and the Rescue Committee to make full use of the volunteer foster homes, especially those with skills to work with temperament issues.

Ways and Means: Patti Davieau brought 2008 BMD calendars now available for sale. Raffle items are needed for the Regional Specialty on September 7th. She and Dottie Schulte will be at the August Greeley shows and can accept donations then or by arrangement.

Regional Specialty: Dottie Schulte reported that the premium list for the Specialty and the Fall Draft Test have been mailed

out by show superintendent Robert Miller. The Show Committee decided to include a complimentary reception following the Best of Breed competition to celebrate this being BMDCR's first independent specialty as a newly licensed AKC club. We anticipate a \$1,000 profit from sales of the BernerMania t-shirts to pay for the reception. Dottie asked that an additional \$100-\$200 possibly needed for the reception be paid by the club. Other expenses this year are low (e.g., travel for judges) so an overall wash or slight profit is expected for this year's Regional Specialty. It was decided that no motion was required for the requested additional expenditure of less than \$300.

Dottie also stated that since she has been Show Chairman for the last 2 years, anyone else interested is welcome to volunteer.

Sharon Keefer and Dottie presented 2 theme ideas for the 2008 Regional Specialty, already slated for Greeley on September 5, 2008. The theme idea submitted by Sandy Dunaway and Sharon Keefer, "Pirates of the Carribern," was deemed best since the 2008 show will be held at Island Grove Park again and the 2009 show may be moved to another location. Brief discussion of moving the 2009 show followed; Dottie and Sara Karl were asked to present alternative date and location possibilities for discussion at a later meeting.

Dottie reported that trophy sponsors are still needed for the Fall Draft Test on September 6th. Donations are \$25 and can be sent to treasurer Sara Karl.

Membership: Stacy Temples would like to update the sponsor forms before putting them on the website, and she would like some help with that. She will draft the update and email it for comments.

Stacy read new applicant descriptions and moved that the 3 sustaining member applicants listed in the July/August 2007 newsletter be voted on as a slate. Sharon Keefer seconded that motion. Voting was unanimous to admit these new members: Lugenia Rose Malinovskii, Deborah Barrett, and Candy McDanal.

Unfinished Business:

Charity Donation: Discussion from the last meeting on the topic of making a charitable donation when excess funds are available in the treasury was reviewed. Phil Shaffer moved to donate \$4,000 from BMDCR to causes to be determined at this meeting. Ann Rutherford seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Dottie Schulte reviewed the causes listed in the last newsletter and additional causes received by email in response to the newsletter (Fay Benson felt funds should be targeted for histiocytosis studies, the CSU Veterinary Cancer Center, and DNA research; Cindy Stills thought more funds should be spent on public education). Dottie noted that the histiocytosis studies conducted by Drs. Ostrander and Breen and funded via the AKC Canine Health Foundation's Donor-advised Fund are in need of refunding. Val Horney described the new tissue repository being established through a Berner-Garde Foundation to store and provide samples for future health studies; funds are needed for this program, too. Consensus was to keep this donation specific to Bernese Mountain Dogs

rather than for BestFriends (where BMDCR donated funds for Katrina animal rescue), Morris Foundation or Denver Dumb Friends League (where BMDCR donates via the annual Furry Scurry event).

Phil Shaffer moved to donate the \$4,000 to the AKC CHF Donor-advised Fund with the exact studies to be determined at the next meeting, after the BMDCA Health Committee could be consulted for recommendations. Motion seconded by Dottie Schulte. Motion approved. Dottie will e-mail BMDCA Health Committee Chairman, Kevin Curran, for recommendations and get information on how much dollar match AKC would add to our donation; she will report back in the September newsletter.

New Business:

Nominating Committee: Terms for the Vice President, Secretary and three Board Members end this year. Lou Tucker has volunteered to chair a nominating committee for filling these positions (2-year terms starting 1/1/08). Stacy Temples and Barry Solomon will fill out the committee, with Phil Shaffer and Ann Rutherford as alternate members.

Program Ideas for September and Future Meetings: Send program ideas to Val Horney or Sharon Keefer.

Club Policy for Handling Complaints: Val Horney recapped the discussion on this topic from the earlier Board meeting. A motion was made to create a task force to determine the BMDCR complaint handling process and to create template letter to be sent in response to complaints received by BMDCR. Motion seconded by Sharon Keefer. Sharon Keefer, Holly Foster, and Phil Shaffer volunteered to serve on this task force. Val will get wording used by the national club to the Task Force.

Public Education Spending: In response to Cindy Stills suggestion that the club spend more on public education, Phil Shaffer presented costs to run our "contact us first" classified ad everyday in the Denver Post/Rocky Mountain News. Patti Davieau has found it cheaper to use the ad through All Breed Rescue. Phil will research options further and make a proposal at the next meeting.

Draft Test Judges and Travel: Ron Abbott reported that arrangements still need to be made to get one of the Fall Draft Test judges here, and asked about reimbursement arrangements for her travel. Sharon Keefer will e-mail Ron sample judge's contract from previous draft tests.

Adjournment: The General Membership Meeting was adjourned at 2:48 pm. Thank you Ann Rutherford for bringing sandwiches, and thank you Laura Haupenthal, Al Beers, Kismet and Dillion for hosting the meeting in their home. Minutes respectfully submitted by Sharon Keefer.

In Memoriam



Pinnacle's Dulcimer Dance CD, DD, CGC
August 11, 1995 - July 30, 2007

Our hearts ache from the loss of our sweet special Dulcie, but we have many wonderful memories to cherish. Thanks, Dulcie for giving us 12 (almost) great years.

Lou, Bob, Marin & Bergen Tucker



Wagontale's Lilla Labolina RN
June 21, 2003 - August 10, 2007

We miss our little Beans.

Nadja, Ryan & Henry

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 OFA, GDC, 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 GDC, OFA, OVC numbers for hips and elbows, including the letter 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.