



BerNews

Spring 2009 Volume 6, Issue 2

Special Interest Articles:

- President's Letter
- 2009 Lucy Fund
- B2B Regional Specialty Report

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Bernese Mountain Dog Club of the Greater Twin Cities

The BMDCGTC was formed in 1988 to help promote the best possible breeding, training, health, and well-being of the purebred Bernese Mountain Dog.

President's Letter

-Denise McCabe (Mick)

Ahhh, spring is finally in the air as I write this letter. With the advent of nice weather, we are excited about all of the great events we have in store for you throughout the remainder of the year. I know I am looking forward to the Annual Afternoon out at Buca's on May 17th, our third annual Regional Specialty, August 21st and our 2 day Draft test, Oct 31st/Nov 1st. Please refer to the list of upcoming events in this newsletter, as well as the events page of our website for all the details on these and other events.

Speaking of the website, we've made great progress at refreshing the content of nearly every section of the site. Be sure to check it out at www.twincitiesbmd.org. Thank you to all of our Committee Chairs for their work on this.

Remember that you can easily add photos of your favorite Berner to the website's Photo Gallery. Just go to the photo gallery page on the website and click on Login to Add Photos. You will be prompted for a User ID and Password; just enter the user ID = member and Password = berner.

Another exciting development for the Club is the submission of our application to the AKC for

accreditation as a local specialty club. This is the first step in a rather lengthy process; I will keep you updated on our progress as we move forward. AKC accreditation will allow us to hold AKC sanctioned matches and afford us the opportunity to purchase reasonably priced insurance for our rescue program.

As always, we welcome any feedback on our programs, events, newsletters and all things Berner. ●



See the touching story about Indie on the next page.

2009 Lucy Fund Wine Tasting and Silent Auction Fundraiser

-Alice Barry

It was a party. It was a Berner blast. And this year, for us, it was personal.

More than 40 people, 10 dogs and a resulting countless number of balls of fur converged for the 2009 Lucy Fund Wine Tasting and Fundraiser at the home of hosts, Bella and Gwynneth, and their gracious parents, Steve Boda and Shelley Strohm, who founded The Lucy Fund in honor of their dog Lucy who died after a long, brave battle with cancer.

As volunteers since the Fund's inception, my husband Craig and I have managed the silent auction each year. It has been a pleasure witnessing the commitment and generosity of our attendees year after year who donate items and then bid for twice as many items in the spirit of helping raise money for Berner parents who find themselves facing catastrophic medical expenses for their dogs and need financial assistance.

This year, we found ourselves not just as volunteers, but as recipients. We found ourselves in a similar situation Shelley and Steve were in all those years ago with Lucy. The same situation so many of you have experienced. A sudden, unexplained illness took hold of our Berner, Indie in December. It had us in and out of various veterinary offices to find a diagnosis, and overnight in the emergency room on many nights when we simply could not give Indie the care she needed. As the fear mounted, so did the bills.

Then, when we realized her condition was declining the grief set in. Indie lost her battle with a mysterious brain disease on December 14, 2008 at the age of 8.

Initially, just knowing The Lucy Fund existed gave us a lot of hope to press on and find a diagnosis and continue to seek a treatment. In the end, the Fund saved us financially at a time when both of our businesses had slowed to a trickle.

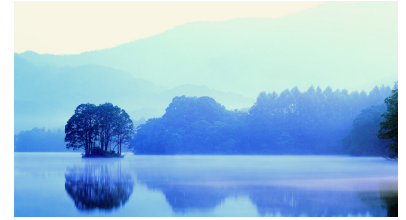
But it was the support of Shelly and Steve, Julie, Colleen, Nancy and countless club members and event attendees that saved our hearts. We realized that night that we were in the midst of grace and that we were not alone. Each hug and knowing glance and every word of sympathy filled us up and kept us from falling apart.

We are forever grateful for your friendship and support.

The Lucy Fund is a simple, yet effectual form of support for Bernese Mountain Dog Club members. The Annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction is the major way we raise funds. However, we do accept donations from individuals throughout the year.

If you would like to donate to the fund and help ensure it will be there for those who need it, you can donate any dollar amount in the form of a personal check and mail it to: The Lucy Fund, c/o Julie Latterell, Julie Latterell, N8323 County Road B, Spring Valley, WI 54767.

What a great idea for a meaningful Mother's or Father's Day gift for a Dog Mom or Dad you may know. You can also donate in the name of a loved one, or beloved dog. To apply for funds, current members of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of the Greater Twin Cities can download an application online at <http://www.twincitiesbmd.org/lucy.html>. •



Berner Play Pals Presents An On-Leash Walk Around Lake Como

Date: Saturday, May 16th

Time: 9:30 am

**Mapping Address: 1360 Lexington Parkway N.
St. Paul, MN**

We will meet on the grass outside the Black Bear Crossings Café inside the Lakeside Pavilion.

The building will be between our gathering place and the lake.

Parking is available on each side of the Lakeside Pavilion.

This is a fairly shady and level pathway of 1.6 miles or “3200 Steps” for anyone on the 10,000 steps program.●

Club Calendar of Events

-Julie Latterell

April 25 - April 30 - BMDCA National Specialty, Portland, Oregon

May 1 - 2 - 2009 AKC/USA Agility World Team tryouts, Hopkins, MN

May 14 - Board and Committee Chair Meeting

May 16 - PlayPals - Lake Como

May 17 - Club Afternoon out - Buca St. Paul

May 23 - 24 - Heartland BMDC Draft Test Chair Meeting

May 23 - 24 - Key City Kennel Club Dog Show

June 6 - 7 - Lake Minnetonka Kennel Club Dog Show

June 18 - June 21 - Anoka County and Cambridge Kennel Club shows

July 11 - 12 - Duluth Kennel Club Show

August 1 - 2 - Berne Swissfest, Berne, MN

August 21 - 24

BMDCGTC Regional Specialty (21st)

St. Croix Valley Kennel Club Show (22nd - 23rd)

Northstar Working Group Show (24th)

For detailed info on upcoming events check out the club events calendar●

B2B Regional Specialty Report

-Shannon Cihlar

BMDCGTC members represented the club well at the B2B Regional Specialty in Wisconsin on February 27

Sweepstakes

15-18 month dogs

Wynsome's Urban Legend (Mojo)

4th on Friday

Owner-Sarah Tennessen and Shannon Cihlar

15-18 month bitches

Dou-Hil's Cash Advance (Whimsy)

3rd Friday and 4th Saturday

Owners-Rick Bryan and Coleen Carroll and Doug Hildre

Veteran Sweepstakes

9 years and under 11 years dogs

AKC/CKC Ch. Abbey Road RK Samson, CD, CGC- (Samson)

2nd on Friday and 1st on Saturday

Owners-Karen Stromgren-Johnson and Lisa Rydeen

9 years and under 11 years bitches

AKC/CKC Ch. Abbey Road's Kiley v Northfork (Kiley)

2nd on Friday and 1st on Saturday

Owners-Karen Stromgren-Johnson and Lisa Rydeen

Regular Classes

12 to 18 month dogs

Gut Klaus van't Stokerybos (Klaus)

3rd on Friday and 4th on Saturday

Owner-Mary Pearson

Wynsome's Noble Knight (Xander)

4th on Friday and 2nd on Saturday

Owners-Randall and Peggy Bebeau and Shannon Cihlar

Bred by Exhibitor

Wynsome's High Velocity (Ruger)

2nd on Friday

Owners-Shannon Cihlar and Diane Waldman

Non-Regular Classes

Veteran 9 years and under 11 years dogs

AKC/CKC Ch. Abbey Road RK Samson, CD, CGC- (Samson)

2nd on Friday and 1st on Saturday

Owners-Karen Stromgren-Johnson and Lisa Rydeen

Veteran 9 years and under 11 years bitches

AKC/CKC Ch. Abbey Road's Kiley v Northfork (Kiley)

2nd on Friday and 1st on Saturday

Owners-Karen Stromgren-Johnson and Lisa Rydeen

Best of Breed

Ch. Country Wings No More Credit (Cash)

Award of Merit on Friday

Owners-Dough Hildre and Ondy Hildre

Rally Excellent B

Dou-Hil's A Cold One Michelob, RN, RA, RE (Mick)

Qualified on Friday

Owner-Denise McCabe

Rally Advanced B

Dou-Hil's A Cold One Michelob, RN, RA, RE (Mick)

Qualified on Friday

Owner-Denise McCabe●



BMDCGTC Club Meeting Minutes

-Karen Johnson, Secretary

Bloomington Dog Training Center
February 14, 2009



Call to Order at 12:45 P.M. Quorum: Yes

Minutes of last meeting of December 4 were approved as emailed on motion by Deb Wilkins, with second by Julie.

Report of President: Denise McCabe

Report of Secretary: Karen Johnson

Report of Treasurer: Julie Latterell

Report of Committees:

Rescue- Coleen Carroll –There is currently one dog waiting for a permanent home. His name is Abe and he is a 7-8 year old male found in the White Bear Lake area.

Playpals- Marilyn Blake, Carolyn Anderson

Newsletter- Catherine Muenich

Ways & Means- Sarah Tennessen brought items with to the meeting to sell.

RCC- Micky Trent

Public Education- Julie Latterell- Upcoming events include the Pet Expo at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Contact Mary Pearson if you can volunteer. The club night out will be March 14 at Bucca in St Paul and will include a silent auction. The next general meeting will be April 18, and include presentations on different activities you can do with your Berners. There is also an upcoming Playpals in March.

Website-

Trophy- Karen Johnson- Asked anyone interested in helping our trophy fund to please make a donation before the catalog due date.

Membership- Susan Acklen- New members voted in were Lori Cornell from Woodbury, AJ Faleck from Minneapolis and Lois and Mark Starkey from Maple Grove. Applications were read for Laura Fourre from Edina and Sheila Brandner from Medford, WI.

Breeder Referral- Darwin Missling

Legislative- Debby Wilkins

Raffle- Theresa Schwarten, who accepted this position after the meeting.

Unfinished Business:

AKC accreditation-

New Business:

A motion was made to donate a trophy to the 4H program on a motion by Sarah and a second by Julie. Motion passed. A motion was made by Deb with a second by Julie to run an ad in the National Specialty catalog. Motion passed.

With no other business presented, adjournment called at 1:05 PM

Braggs noted

Program: Introduction to Dog Shows by Debby Wilkins●

Club Officers

President

Denise McCabe

715-531-0344

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Vice President

Shannon Cihlar

320-283-5378

VicePresident@TwinCitiesBMD.org

Secretary

Karen Johnson

Treasurer

Julie Latterell

Board Members:

Colleen Carroll

Micky Trent

Darwin Missling

Debra Wilkins

Sarah Tennesen

We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.twincitiesbmd.org

Annual Bernese Mountain Dog Club Afternoon Out!! (Just for Humans) Rescheduled – Sunday, May 17th

Join us at Buca di Beppo, a great family style Italian restaurant in St. Paul on **Sunday afternoon, May 17th from 12:30 to 3**. We will eat, have a silent auction, and present the 2008 awards for title holders, rescue dogs and veterans!

We will order off the menu so you can have whatever you like.

Everyone is invited, so please come to socialize with other Berner owners! Items appreciated for the silent auction, which will help to cover the cost of the awards.

Pre-sign up appreciated; just email kscope@runestone.net or call Shannon at 320-283-5378 by May 1. Not sure if you can make it or plans change? Last minute attendees also welcome!

Buca di Beppo
2728 Gannon Road
St. Paul, MN 55116●

About BerNews

The content of BerNews represents the views and opinions of the authors, and not necessarily those of the BMDCGTC or its members, nor does publication constitute endorsement.

Articles written by members of the BMDCGTC on any subject that may be of interest to members are welcome. All works must be sited.



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