



BerNews

New Year 2010 Volume 7, Issue 1

Special Interest Articles:

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- A Beginner's Guide to Dog Shows
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- Berner U

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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

-Micky Trent (Merlin, Cammie & Viva)

Wow! My first president's letter! I am honored that you elected me and am looking forward to a year of great activities and fun with the dogs. I am fortunate to be supported by dedicated group of Board Members and Committee Chairs and hope to see many new faces participating in club activities this year.

This promises to be a very full year. In addition to our regular club activities and our second AKC sanctioned show, the National Club Specialty will be in Oconomowoc, Wisconsin in May. This is the place to go to see a lot of Bernese Mountain Dogs all in one place and to see the top dogs compete for best in breed. If you are interested but feel confused about what is going on in the breed ring, check out the "Beginner's Guide to Dog Shows" article in this newsletter. The National Club Specialty is not just for those that are interested in conformation shows. This is a place to see Bernese Mountain Dogs doing all of the many things that they can do, including agility, tracking, drafting, obedience, rally and herding. In addition, there are classes and presentations on everything from nutrition and massage to conformation evaluation and breeding management. See the Berner U schedule in this newsletter for a list of classes with times. You can sign up for Berner U and get more details on classes on the BMDCA web site: (<http://www.2010bmdspecialty.info/>).

Even if you don't have any interest in the classes or the different conformation and performance venues, it is a great place to shop and to socialize. Our club will have a large contingent there. Come join us!

If you can't make it to Nationals, don't worry, there will be plenty of things to enjoy. Some of the planned club and regional Berner activities to put on your schedule include:

- The Annual **Wine Tasting Party** to benefit the Lucy Fund is coming up on **February 27th** at Lisa and Steve Fosdick's house. More details coming on the web site and in an email blast.
- **Playpals** provides opportunities for Berners and their human friends to gather for informal walks and some off-leash play throughout the year. Stay tuned for the schedule for 2010.▶

President's Letter Continued...

- The **Southeast Wisconsin Bernese Mountain Dog Club** is having their state **Regional Specialty** on **Friday, March 5th and Saturday, March 6th** in Oconomowoc. Events include conformation, obedience and rally. A large contingent of the BMDCGTC will be there, so we decided not to sponsor a booth in the Twin Cities Pet Expo this year. Hopefully we will be able to participate in Pet Expo next year.
- The **BMDCGTC Health and Wellness Day** is scheduled on **March 20th** at the Stone Mtn. Pet Lodge in Blaine. Services include microchipping, sample collection for the BMDCGTC genetic study, CERF (eye) exams for dogs over 1 year of age, and assisted registration of information with Bernergarde. In addition, there will be a Rally Demo and opportunity to try out your dogs in Rally in the morning, and a great speaker, Dr. Jaime Modiano from the U. MN, who will present information about canine cancer. More information will be available on the web site.
- Once the snow recedes in the spring, watch the newsletter and web site for opportunities to **introduce your dogs to drafting** or, if you are further along in training, to practice in preparation for our Fall Draft Test.
- The club will be putting on a sanctioned B match this summer or fall. The current plans are to hold an **obedience & rally match** in conjunction with a **picnic**. Stay tuned for more details.
- Our **Fall 2-Day Draft Test** will be held again this year on **Halloween weekend** at the end of October. It is a great opportunity to see Berners showing off their talents and a good goal if you are interested in introducing your dogs to drafting this spring.
- New for this year, we are working on a **herding demo and aptitude test in November!** Berners are being added to the list of breeds that can be certified through the AKC in herding for the first time this year.
- And then, of course, there are the wine-tasting and winterfest parties!

Of course, we could not do any of this without the participation and contributions of our club members. I hope that you will all find activities that you enjoy and volunteer to help with a couple. I also welcome your suggestions for club activities and directions at any time.

Here's to a great year!●

A Beginner's Guide to Dog Shows

-Deb Wilkins

Do you enjoy watching breed dog shows like Westminster and our own BMDCGTC Regional Specialty but are not really sure how they work or what the judge is looking for? The article below provides an overview that addresses those questions.

A Beginner's Guide to Dog Shows

The AKC offers a wide variety of resources to assist everyone from the first-time puppy buyer to the experienced dog fancier. All exhibitors are required to be familiar with these rules prior to entering a dog show. To order the rule book, contact Customer Service at 919-233-9767 or via email at OrderDesk@akc.org. Copies of this rulebook may also be purchased at our [online store](#). The following information is intended as a general description of dog shows and is not intended as complete information about any aspect of showing. For complete information, see the [Rules Applying to Dog Shows](#).▶

Beginner's Guide Continued...

This is the AKC

The **American Kennel Club** was established in 1884 to promote the study, breeding, exhibiting and advancement of purebred dogs. It is the largest not-for-profit purebred dog registry in the nation.

The AKC approves and maintains the official records of over 15,000 sanctioned and licensed events each year.

The AKC has approximately 500 member clubs and over 4,000 affiliated clubs. These clubs are more than show-giving entities. They are public service, educational organizations whose activities benefit their entire community. Some AKC club activities include public education through presentations at schools, fairs, libraries, shelters, hospitals, rescue leagues, scouts and 4-H; training classes; and health clinics.

AKC registration means a dog, its parents, and its ancestors are purebred. It does not indicate health or quality. Dogs registered with the AKC can have their offspring registered and compete in AKC events.

The World of Dog Shows

Showing dogs is a great sport where the thrill of competition is combined with the joy of seeing beautiful dogs. Dog shows are one of many types of AKC dog events in which AKC-registered dogs can compete. These events, which draw over three million entries annually, include dog shows and tests of instinct and trainability, such as obedience trials, Canine Good Citizen tests, field trials, agility trials, lure coursing, rally, hunting tests, herding trials, tracking tests, coonhound and earthdog events.

Dog shows (conformation events) are intended to evaluate breeding stock. The size of these events ranges from large all-breed shows, with over 3,000 dogs entered, to small local specialty club shows, featuring a specific breed. The dog's conformation (overall appearance and structure), an indication of the dog's ability to produce quality puppies, is judged.

Types of Conformation Dog Shows

There are three types of conformation dog shows:

All-breed shows offer competitions for over 150 breeds and varieties of dogs recognized by the AKC. All-breed shows are the type often shown on television

Specialty shows are restricted to dogs of a specific breed or to varieties of one breed. For example, the Bulldog Club of America Specialty is for Bulldogs only, but the Poodle Club of America's specialty show includes the three varieties of the Poodle - Standard, Miniature and Toy.

Group shows are limited to dogs belonging to one of the seven groups. For example, the Potomac Hound Group show features only breeds belonging to the Hound group. ►

More Beginner's Guide...

Which Dogs May Participate

To be eligible to compete, a dog must:

- be individually registered with the American Kennel Club
- be 6 months of age or older
- be a breed for which classes are offered at a show
- meet any eligibility requirements in the written standard for its breed

Spayed or neutered dogs are not eligible to compete in conformation classes at a dog show, because the purpose of a dog show is to evaluate breeding stock.

The Role of the Judge

Judges examine the dogs, then give awards according to how closely each dog compares to the judge's mental image of the "perfect" dog described in the breed's **official standard**.

The standard describes the characteristics that allow the breed to perform the function for which it was bred. These standards include specifications for structure, temperament and movement.

The official written standard for each breed is maintained by the breed's national club and is included in the **The Complete Dog Book** published by the AKC.

The judges are experts on the breeds they are judging. They examine ("go over") each dog with their hands to see if the teeth, muscles, bones and coat texture conform to the breed's standard. They view each dog in profile for overall balance, and watch each dog gait ("move") to see how all of those features fit together in action.

How a Dog Show Works

Each dog presented to a judge is exhibited ("handled") by its owner, breeder or a hired professional. The role of a handler is similar to that of a jockey who rides a horse around the track and, hopefully, into the winner's circle.

Most dogs in competition at conformation shows are competing for points toward their AKC championships. It takes fifteen points, including two majors (wins of three, four or five points) awarded by at least three different judges, to become an American Kennel Club "Champion of Record."

The number of championship points awarded at a show depends on the number of males ("dogs") and females ("bitches") of the breed actually in competition. The larger the entry, the greater the number of points a male or a female can win. The maximum number of points awarded to a dog at any show is 5 points.

Males and females compete separately within their respective breeds, in seven regular classes. The following classes are offered, and are divided by sex:

Puppy - For dogs between six and twelve months of age that are not yet champions (optional class). ►

Twelve-To-Eighteen Months - For dogs twelve to eighteen months of age, that are not yet champions (optional class).

Novice - For dogs six months of age and over, which have not, prior to the date of closing of entries, won three first prizes in the Novice Class, a first prize in Bred-by-Exhibitor, American-bred, or Open Classes, nor one or more points toward their championship (optional class).

Amateur-Owner-Handler – For dogs that are at least six months of age that are not champions. Dogs must be handled in the class by the registered owner of the dog and is limited to exhibitors who have not, at any point in time, been a professional dog handler, AKC approved conformation judge, or employed as an assistant to a professional handler (effective January 1, 2009) (optional class).

Bred By Exhibitor - For dogs that are exhibited by their owner and breeder that are not yet champions (optional class).

American-Bred - For dogs born in the United States from a mating which took place in the United States, that are not yet champions (mandatory class).

Open - For any dog of the breed, at least 6 months of age (mandatory class).
After these classes are judged, all the dogs that won first place in a class compete again to see who is the best of the winning dogs. Males and females are judged separately. Only the best male (Winners Dog) and the best female (Winners Bitch) receive championship points. The Winners Dog and Winners Bitch then compete with the champions for the Best of Breed award. At the end of the Best of Breed Competition, three awards are usually given:

Best of Breed - the dog judged as the best in its breed category.

Best of Winners - the dog judged as the better of the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch.

Best of Opposite Sex - the best dog that is the opposite sex to the Best of Breed winner.

The Road to Best in Show

Dog shows are a process of elimination, with one dog being named **Best in Show** at the end of the show.

Only the Best of Breed winners advance to compete in the **Group** competitions. Each AKC-recognized breed falls into one of seven group classifications. The seven groups are Sporting, Hound, Working, Terrier, Toy, Non-Sporting and Herding. Four placements are awarded in each group, but only the first-place winner advances to the Best In Show competition.

The Seven Groups in All-Breed Shows

Sporting - These dogs were bred to hunt game birds both on land and in the water. The breeds in this group include Pointers, Retrievers, Setters and Spaniels.

Hounds - These breeds were bred for hunting other game by sight or scent. These breeds include such dogs as Beagles, Bassets, Dachshunds and Greyhounds. ►

Working - These dogs were bred to pull carts, guard property and perform search and rescue services. Among the breeds in this group are the Akita, Boxer, Doberman Pinscher and St. Bernard.

Terrier - This group includes breeds such as the Airedale, Cairn Terrier and Scottish Terrier. Terriers were bred to rid property of vermin such as rats.

Toy - These dogs were bred to be household companions. This group includes little dogs such as the Chihuahua, Maltese, Pomeranian and Pug.

Non-Sporting - This diverse group includes the Chow Chow, Bulldog, Dalmatian and Poodle. These dogs vary in size and function, and many are considered companion dogs.

Herding - These dogs were bred to help shepherds and ranchers herd their livestock. The Briard, Collie, German Shepherd Dog and Old English Sheepdog are some of the breeds in this group.

Finally, the seven group winners are brought into the ring where they compete for **Best In Show**, the highest award at a dog show.

Ribbons

Each dog that receives an award is given a ribbon by the judge. The color of the ribbon indicates the type of award the dog has won.

Blue - awarded for first place in any regular class. Also awarded to the winner of each group competition, usually in the form of a "rosette".

Red - awarded for second place in each class. Also awarded for second place in each group competition, usually in the form of a "rosette".

Yellow - awarded for third place in each class. Also awarded for third place in each group competition, usually in the form of a "rosette".

White - awarded for fourth place in each class. Also awarded for fourth place of each group competition, usually in the form of a "rosette".

Purple - awarded to the winners of the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch classes. Since these are the classes in which championship points are earned, these ribbons are highly coveted.

Purple and White - awarded to the Reserve Winners; that is, the runners-up to the winner of the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch classes.

Blue and White - awarded to the dog that wins Best of Winners; that is, the better of the Winners Dog and Winners Bitch winners.

Purple and Gold - awarded to the dog judged "Best of Breed" in each breed competition. This is highly coveted because it allows advancement to the Group competition. ►

Red and White - awarded to the Best of Opposite Sex. This means the best dog of the breed that is the opposite sex of the Best of Breed winner.

Red, White and Blue - only one of these is awarded, at the end of each show. It is given to the ultimate award winner, the Best In Show.

How Do I Get Started Showing My Dog?

The best place to start is by joining a local kennel club, whether an all-breed kennel club or a breed-specific specialty club. A listing of clubs by state can be found on our [Club Search](#) page or through our customer service department by calling (919) 233-9767.

Local clubs will have information on training classes for the show ring, and for obedience and agility classes. Even if the show ring is not your ultimate goal, the relationship that training forms between you and your dog will be very rewarding to you both. Local clubs also have "Matches" where you and your dog can test your skill in the ring.

Handling your dog is an exceptional and enjoyable experience. From the grooming table to the show ring, you and your dog will develop a bond. While training classes offer the best hands-on way to practice for the show ring, attending shows and observing your breed is also a great way to gain understanding of what judges and other competitors do.

If you do not wish to handle your dog yourself, or have a friend or family member do it, you may contact a [professional handler](#) who charges a fee for showing your dog.

You're on your way! You are entering a sport that will bring many hours of enjoyment and education to every member of your family. You will make many friends in the sport, and will enjoy your dog and your new hobby for many years to come.

Junior Showmanship

The AKC offers children 9 to 18 years of age the opportunity to compete with others their own age at various AKC events. Juniors competing in conformation events are judged on how they present their dogs.

Tips for the First-Time Exhibitor

- Make sure your dog is registered with the AKC.
 - Be sure your dog is current on all inoculations.
 - Learn the proper techniques for grooming and for presenting your dog in the ring.
 - Join your breed's Parent Club, or a Local Specialty and/or All-Breed club in your area.
 - Become familiar with the [AKC rules and regulations for dog shows](#).
 - Attend some dog shows to observe your breed being judged and how others present your breed. Get a Judging Program at the show to find out ring number and judging time.
 - Use the knowledge of your breeder.
 - Don't be afraid to ask questions.
 - Attend handling classes with your dog. ▶
-

Tips for the First-Time Spectator

- If the grooming area is open to spectators, visit it and talk with professional groomers to get tips on keeping your dog looking his best.
- However tempting, do not pet a dog without asking for permission first. The dog may have just been groomed in preparation for being judged.
- At each dog show, you will find vendors and information booths. Many club booths offer helpful information to the general public.
- Wear comfortable shoes - you'll be doing a lot of walking. Unless you bring a chair or arrive early, be prepared to stand most of the time, as seating is usually limited.
- If you are considering getting a purebred dog, talk to the breeders and exhibitors - they are experts in their breeds
- If you bring a baby stroller to a dog show, be careful that you do not run over any dog's tail, and that your child does not grab or poke the dogs it can reach. Avoid having them near ring entrances, which are especially crowded. Some shows prohibit baby strollers.

Dog Show Terms

Angulation - Angles created by bones meeting at their joints.

Baiting - Using liver or some treat to get the dog's attention and have him look alert.

Bench Show - A dog show at which the dogs are kept on assigned benches when not being shown in competition, so they can be viewed and discussed by attendees, exhibitors and breeders.

Exhibitor - A person who brings a dog to a dog show and shows it in the appropriate class.

Fancier - A person who is especially interested, and usually active, in some phase of the sport of purebred dogs.

Gait - The way a dog moves, movement is a good indicator of structure and condition.

Groom - To brush, comb, trim or otherwise make a dog's coat neat.

Handler - A person or agent who takes a dog into the show ring or who works the dog at a field trial or other performance event.

Heel - A command to a dog to keep close beside its handler.

Match Show - A usually informal dog show at which no championship points are awarded.

Miscellaneous Class - Transitional class for breeds attempting to advance to full AKC recognition.

Pedigree - The written record of a dog's family tree of three or more generations. ►

Points - Credits earned toward a championship.

Soundness - Mental and physical well-being.

Stacking - Posing the dog's legs and body to create a pleasing picture (see below).●



General Meeting Minutes

-Karen Johnson

Dean White/Renee Boyd Residence, Hugo
December 13, 2009
Call to Order at 2:10 PM
Quorum: Yes

Presidents Report:

President Denise McCabe thanked everyone for being here today. She reported the completion of our first 'B' match on November 21 in Shakopee after Best in Show at the Minneapolis Kennel Club show.

Secretaries Report: Karen Johnson read a letter sent to the Club about efforts to add pet food to local food shelves. Paper ballots were handed out to club members at the meeting for the annual Board of Directors election. The ballots were counted by Karen, Nancy Mayer and Darwin Missling. The results are as follows:

President-Micky Trent

Treasurer-Denise McCabe

Director- Sarah Tennessen

Membership: Susan Acklen did a first reading for Corinne Komor and Zachary Drew of Minneapolis. They were not in attendance.

Treasurers Report: Julie Latteral gave an informal treasurers report of Club assets at approximately \$7,500 currently.

Committee Reports:

Ways and Means- Sarah Tennessen reported that the Club has 2010 puppy calendars available thru Café Press. Please shop and support this project.

Play Pals- The next Play Pal event will be Sunday, December 20. See the website for more detail.

Rescue- Coleen Carroll reported that there may be a 7 year old male available, but he has some serious health issues. There has been some gift wrapping done at a local book store that has raised some money, but pre-planning for next year should give us better results.

Public Education- Julie Latteral reported that the calendar of events for 2010 is being worked on. March will be our Health & Wellness event, with the date to be determined soon. She is also checking into participation at the Pet Expo, and will get the dates.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

Shelley Strom announced that since she and Steve are moving to California, they will not be available for the Lucy Fund wine tasting party this winter. She announced that Lisa and Steve Fosdick will host the event this year.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.●

Minutes: Board of Directors Meeting

-Karen Johnson



Conference Call
November 12, 2009
Call to Order at 7:10 P.M.
Quorum: Yes

Directors Present: Denise McCabe, Shannon Cihlar, Julie Latteral, Coleen Carroll, Micky Trent, Sarah Tennesen, Deb Wilkins, Darwin Missling, Karen Johnson

Minutes of last adjourned meeting of September 10, 2009 were approved as presented on motion by Shannon, with second by Julie. The Club minutes will be published in the newsletter after they are approved at each Board meeting.

Report of President: Denise McCabe- Membership renewals will need to be mailed out to the members by the end of the year. Karen made a motion to leave membership fees the same, with a second by Deb. They are as follows: \$15 for individual, \$20 for family, \$10 for associate membership and \$7.50 for the newsletter only.

Report of Secretary: Karen Johnson- The results of the nominating committee for Board position candidates are:

Bethany Pearson- President

Mary Pearson- Treasurer

Sarah Tennesen- Director

Nominations made from the floor at the October 17 meeting are:

Micky Trent- President

Denise McCabe- Treasurer

Julie Latteral- Director (who declined the nomination after the meeting)

The candidate biographies will be included in the November newsletter and sent out by e-mail blast. Elections will be at the December 13 general meeting/Winterfest at the home of Renee Boyd and Dean White.

Report of Treasurer: Julie Latteral will send out the treasurer's report soon as she has been ill.

Report of Committees:

Denise brought up the question of if we should have the committee chairs on the Board meeting conference calls. Deb suggested a Board liaison with the committee chairs, and this will be something to work on after the first of the year.

Rescue-Coleen Carroll –Coleen reported that there has not been a lot of activity, but there may be a re-home coming up.

Playpals-Marilyn Blake, Carolyn Anderson Darwin reported that the last playpals event was well attended with about 20 dogs.

Newsletter-Catherine Muenich The next newsletter will be published in November

Ways & Means- Sarah Tennesen-Sarah reported that the new 2010 calendar is picking up in sales.

Public Education/Events-Julie Latteral is working on a new events calendar for 2010.

RCC-Mickey Trent

Website- Denise- Nothing new to report.

Trophy-Karen Johnson-Karen suggested that the Board look into splitting the trophy job for 2010.

Membership-Susan Acklen-No report •

Directors Meeting Continued...

Breeder Referral- Debby Wilkins reported that 3 people have so far signed up for breeder referral. She hopes that we will have more and there was discussion about the program. She is getting about 1 inquiry per week asking questions or looking for a dog.

Unfinished Business:

AKC accreditation- In the process
We will hold a "B" match after Best in Show at the Minneapolis Kennel Club show in Shakopee on November 21st. Deb will get armbands, entry forms & stickers for the ribbons.
2009 Regional Specialty Recap-Julie is working on a report.
Health and Wellness Day- This is being deferred to 2010 and Micky is working on a date and contacting potential speakers.
Communications Chair-Coleen is going to ask Deb Galuk

New Business:

BMDCA 2010 National Specialty- Request from Lynn Griffin to make a donation for morning hospitality. Deb made a motion that we donate \$200 with a second by Micky. Motion passed. We have already made a \$70 donation for a class at the Nationals.

2010 Regional Specialty-Judges selection

Sweeps Judge-Sandy Dunaway and several names were suggested for regular classes that will be suggested to St Croix Valley so they can use them also.

Obedience and Rally- We will work with David Samuelson on whether to do this on our own or with St Croix Valley.

Supported Entries- the Board chooses not to do these at this time.

Draft Test- Our draft test was well attended this year. Shannon will be stepping down as Draft Chair and Micky will be taking over those duties.

Upcoming Club meeting will be October 17, in conjunction with the Lucy Fundraiser.

Upcoming board meetings, the second Thursday of every other month starting January 18.

Shannon and Julie are working on the upcoming Awards Banquet.

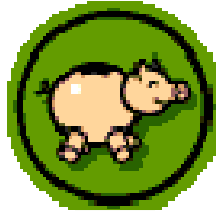
With no other business presented, adjournment called at 8:45 PM on a motion by Deb and second by Darwin
Brags noted●



-Photo submitted by Lisa Fosdick of Whimsy

Treasurer's Report

-Denise McCabe (Mick & Lily)



Year ending 12/31/09

The Club's balance at the end of 2009 was \$9,343.63. Of this, \$1,868.30 are restricted funds exclusively for the Lucy Fund* which are not available for General Club purposes.

The club started 2009 with a balance of \$8,280.34; factoring in the restricted funds, the club operated at a deficit of \$1754.42 for the year.

Membership dues, Ways and Means sales and other fundraisers such as silent auctions and raffles held at club events are the primary sources of income for the Club. We will continue to pursue additional opportunities to increase our revenues through means such as holding AKC sanctioned events and will keep a keen eye on expenses in 2010 to improve our financial position.

Additional details regarding the club's finances are available upon request.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise McCabe, Treasurer

*The Lucy Fund provides financial assistance to Club members facing extraordinary medical expenses for their dog. Refer to the Club website, www.twincitiesbmd.org for additional details.●

Breeder Referral Program

-Deb Wilkins



September 20, 2009

Dear BMDCGTC Member:

The BMDCGTC Breeder Referral Program has been revised and approved by the Board of Directors. It is our hope that our member breeders will participate in this endeavor to educate and assist prospective Bernese Mountain Dog owners in their quest to find a healthy puppy bred by a responsible breeder. Please review these guidelines and requirements for participation in our program. If you would like to participate, please complete and return these signed documents to me as soon as possible. The participant renewal will occur annually beginning with renewal in 2011.

I look forward to hearing from all of our member breeders.▶

**BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF THE GREATER TWIN CITIES
BREEDER REFERRAL PROGRAM**

In keeping with the mission of the BMDCGTC to preserve and protect the integrity of the Bernese Mountain Dog, the Breeder Referral Program encourages member breeder participation. To encourage and promote quality in the breeding of Bernese Mountain Dogs, the club has established a list of requirements that breeders must abide by in order to participate. Participation in the Breeder Referral Program is a privilege and failure to abide by these requirements may be cause for removal from the program.

PARTICIPATION REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BMDCGTC BREEDER REFERRAL PROGRAM

1. The breeder must be a member in good standing of the BMDCGTC.
2. The breeder must be in good standing with the American Kennel Club.
3. The breeder will only breed AKC Registered dogs and all litters must be eligible for AKC registration.
4. The breeder agrees to provide education to all prospective puppy buyer inquiries, regardless if they have puppies available or expected at the time of the inquiry.
5. The breeder must have OFA health evaluations done on all potential breeding dogs, including both the sire and the dam, prior to the breeding of each litter and copies of these evaluations must be provided to prospective buyers prior to the placement of a dog or puppy. This requirement includes OFA health evaluations for hip and elbow dysplasia, a VetGen evaluation for Von Willebrand disease, and a current CERF certificate for ophthalmology diseases. (While it is not required it is recommended that all breeding stock also be screened for cardiac and thyroid issues along with any other health testing that becomes available specific to the breed.)
6. The breeder must provide copies of all health evaluations of the sire and dam to the prospective puppy buyer prior to the placement of a dog or puppy.
7. The breeder will fully disclose all known health concerns of the sire and dam including knowledge of health concerns in the pedigree.
8. The breeder will show potential breeding stock in AKC Conformation Shows on a regular basis with the goal of attaining championship titles on the sire and dam of each litter. (While not required, it is recommended that the sire and dam of each litter be an AKC Champion or at least be major pointed.)
9. The breeder must provide a copy of the five generation pedigree to the buyer.
10. The breeder must assist in the re-homing of any dogs that they have bred or owned regardless of the age of the dog or the circumstances.
11. The breeder will agree to lifetime mentorship of all puppies they place.
12. The breeder must list of all of their dogs in the Berner Garde Foundation data base including all of the litters they have produced.
13. The breeder must have AKC DNA profiles for all of their sires and dams.

I have read and agree to abide by these requirements for participation in the BMDCGTC Breeder Referral Program. I understand that I may be removed from the list at the direction of the BMDCGTC Board of Directors at any time. I understand that participation in this program is a privilege and the BMDCGTC Board has the right to reject my application for any reason. I agree that I am a member in good standing of BMDCGTC with no unresolved grievances with any regional club, national breed club, or the American Kennel Club.

Print Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF THE GREATER TWIN CITIES ►

BREEDER REFERRAL PROGRAM PARTICIPATION APPLICATION

Applicant's Name: _____

Kennel Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____ **Zip:** _____

Telephone # _____ **Cell #** _____

Email Address: _____

Website URL: _____

Club Memberships: _____

Names of breedable dogs owned.	AKC Champion?		Shows attended and dates:
	Yes	No	
	Yes	No	
	Yes	No	
	Yes	No	
	Yes	No	
	Yes	No	
	Yes	No	
	Yes	No	

(Please use the reverse side of this form to list additional dogs or information.)

I understand that participation in this program is a privilege and I agree to abide by the BMDCGTC Requirements for Participation. I understand that the BMDCGTC Board of Directors may refuse my application and the reasons shall remain confidential to the Board only. The Board may revoke participation privileges at any time if I am found not to be in compliance with the Requirements for Participation. Participation eligibility shall be renewed annually.

SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

PRINT NAME: _____ ●



Since the BMDCA National Specialty is pretty much in our backyard this year (Oconomowoc, Wisconsin), below is a schedule of the things that one can learn about through Berner-University (Berner-U). It's a great opportunity!

BERNER U – 2010 Class Descriptions				
MONDAY, MAY 11				
Time	Session A	Session B	Session C	Session D
9-11am	AKC BMD STANDARD – The Finer Points Franel Brown:	BMD HISTORY Dan Sernicola	Drafting 101 Christine Mann	
12-2pm	HOLISTIC CARE Andrea Brin	THE VERSATILE BERNER Mary-Ann Bowman	SERVICE PROGRAMS ROUND TABLE Sheri Cassens, Michele Labagh, Carol Stephenson, Penny Turner, Gary Turner	
3-5pm	CANINE NUTRITION 101: YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT Nancy Stewart	MASSAGE FUNDAMENTALS Debbie Towndrow	SERVICE SKILLS WORKSHOP Shari and Kevin Curran	TRACKING BASICS 101 Denise McClure
5-7pm	VACCINES & TITERS Ronald D. Schulz, PhD		EUROPEAN STYLE SIEGER EVALUATIONS Denise Dean	
TUESDAY, MAY 12				
9-11am	LIFE EXPECTANCY & ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS: MAINTAINING BEHAVIORAL HEALTH Andrew Urs Luescher, DVM, PhD, DACVB	CLICKER TRAINING 101: EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW SEMINAR Judy Luther	EUROPEAN STYLE SIEGER EVALUATION Libby Kesner	
12-2pm	PLANNING A LITTER WITH BMDPEDfw	CLICKER TRAINING 201: PUTTING CLICKER TRAINING IN MOTION WORKSHOP Judy Luther	AKC BMD STANDARD Ann & Mark Milligan	
2-4pm	ESSENTIAL OILS Claire Coppola	FREESTYLE 101 Jim Barrett & Sue Wilkinson, DVM	UNDERSTANDING MOVEMENT Marjorie Reho	
WEDNESDAY, MAY 13				
3-5pm	RESCUE ROUND TABLE: Kathy Deyo & Vilma Briggs			
4-6pm	FITNESS MATTERS: Laurie McCauley, DVM, CCRT			
5-7pm	FROM PREGNANCY TO NEONATAL CARE: Marty Greer, DVM●			

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

www.twincitiesbmd.org

Reminder: BMDCGTC's Health & Wellness Day Saturday, March 20th

Location: Stone Mountain Pet Lodge

Time: 9:00 to 2:00 Registration begins at 8:00am

Services Offered:

- CERF Screening
- Microchipping
- Von Willebrand's testing (pre-registration only)
- Demonstration of Berner-Garde and OFA Websites
- Blood draws and cheek swabs for Berner-Garde health studies

Guest Speakers/Activities:

- Heritable Traits and Cancer – 1:00pm – Dr. Jaime Modiano, DVM, PhD, Prof. of Comparative Oncology at the University of MN
- Rally Obedience Demo and practice stations 10:00 to noon.
- Free lunch will be provided

To register, contact Denise McCabe, mickster@baldwin-telecom.net•

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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