



# BerNews

Spring 2011 Volume 8, Issue 1

## Special Interest Articles:

- President's Letter
- Lucy Fund
- 2011 Play Pals
- Club Meeting Minutes

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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)*

As the first newsletter of the new year in a time that is an economic challenge for many, I find myself reflecting on how much we have to be grateful for, and how fleeting those blessings can be.

We have been busy as a club since our last newsletter. We had a wonderful Winterfest in December, once again hosted by Coleen Carroll and Rick Bryan. New Board members and officers were elected. Welcome to Laura Fourre, Sarah Reischel, and our new vice-president, Jennifer Krohn! We were well represented in the conformation ring at the Land 'O Lakes show in January. We also completed our final B match at the Land 'O Lakes show and are now eligible to apply for A matches and take the next step toward AKC accreditation. Our first meeting of 2011 at Stone Mountain Pet Lodge in February combined PlayPals, an introduction to Berner-Garde, a dessert auction, and an awards ceremony. Special thanks to Marilyn Blake for putting Playpals on a regular monthly schedule and bringing in short topics of interest with each PlayPals.

Our club was once again well represented at the Southeast Wisconsin back to back show in early March. However, this show was tinged by great sadness. Sheila Brandner, one of our own club members, fell ill at the show and was hospitalized with a bleeding cerebral aneurysm. She passed away last week. I knew Sheila as a warm, compassionate person who was dedicated to her family, to her dogs, and to the improvement of the breed. She will be sorely missed. As I reflect on how unpredictable life can be, I am reminded not to take things for granted. Focus on things that matter, love your family, and hug your dogs whenever you can.



## **Lucy Fund Wine Tasting and Silent Auction** by Lisa Fosdick and Coleen Carroll

**Lucy** – a beloved BMD who died after a long, brave battle with cancer.

**The Fund** – a wonderful idea brought to fruition by Lucy's owners Shelley Strohm and Steve Boda

**The Goal** - a simple, yet effectual form of support for Bernese Mountain Dog Club members who find themselves facing catastrophic medical expenses for their dogs and need financial assistance.

**Annual Wine Tasting and Silent Auction** - the major way we raise funds.

Each year during the early winter doldrums between the holidays and escapes to warmer climates, a dedicated group of BMD owners come together to share an evening of wine, food and fundraising to support the Lucy Fund. Shelley summed it up best when she stated that many ideas like this get started but few have the support and dedication to keep them going year after year.

This January, 40 people came together to enjoy wines from Oregon and Washington State while sharing stories about dogs and bidding on some truly amazing auction items – thank you Alice and Craig Barry for your auction expertise and for your commitment to keep this going – you have been involved every single year in making this event a success! Big thank yous are also due to Sarah and Jim Tennesen for donating a weekend getaway in their lovely cabin (the perfect Valentines day gift), to Micky Trent for donating several behind the scenes tours of Como Zoo (there was lively bidding over this item!), to Tanya and Michael Altimari for donating two fabulous dinners for eight in their home (if you have never been lucky enough to go on one of these you will want to start saving up now for next years auction). Many others donated generously to the auction as well and there was plenty of action during the silent auction and some serious bidding wars during the live auction as well.

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 the Fund is amazing. And it wouldn't happen without all the bidders. This year we even had bidders in absentia who had sent their top amounts along with proxy bidders who were at the event. And beyond the auction there was the support from many who donated food and sponsored the wines prior to the event. This allows us to put all money raised during the evening directly into the Lucy Fund without having to deduct anything for the expenses of putting on the event.

The event raised well over \$3,000 for the Fund thanks to the generosity of those in attendance. Donations from individuals are also accepted 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 Denise McCabe, 16315 Temple Terrace, Minnetonka, MN 55345 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>.

*Rescue would like to acknowledge a donation of \$50 from Diane Morehouse in memory of Snowbound's Aurora Borealis and Snowbound's Buttercup Baby. Any donations to rescue go to the care and vetting of dogs taken into rescue and rehome. Thank you Diane!*

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## **PLAYPALS UPDATE!**

By Marilynn Blake and Julie Latterell

With the New Year, has come a new PlayPals format! We announced the new format in a previous newsletter, but wanted to tell you more about it after we've had a few months of 2011 under our belt!

The new format combines both fun off-leash "socializing" opportunities for dogs and their humans—while incorporating some educational components too. In addition, PlayPals has moved to a monthly event, held the second weekend of each month.

Here are the terrific PlaysPals events we've had thus far in 2011 and a sneak peek at what else is coming up in the next few months!

### **A Look Back...**

**January** brought us a terrific "urban" PlayPals gathering at the Arlington/Arkwright off-leash dog park in St. Paul, along with an opportunity to learn more about Pack Hiking—a great recreational activity for you and your Berner—plus an opportunity to learn about how to get a Pack Title! Thanks to Marilynn and her friend Julie from the local Greater Swiss Mountain Dog club for putting together such an informative day and introducing people to this fun event!

**February** included a joint PlayPals/Club Banquet and discussion and demonstration about the importance of Berner-Garde—and how you might use it when researching who you're going to get your next puppy from ☺. Julie and Marilynn working together, brought together helpful tips on getting started with using Berner-Garde if you're unfamiliar it—combined with an example with a real live "litter" of puppies (ok, they were stuffed bears!) that demonstrated why it's so important for EVERYONE to enter information on their own dogs into Berner-Garde.

**March** gave us wonderful weather to be at the Burnsville Off-Leash Dog Park as we helped Chester to celebrate his 8<sup>th</sup> birthday on that very day. There was a brief discussion on how some of us have found our dog trainers and the handout was on fun things to do with our dogs that make use of their obedience training skills.

### **A Look Ahead...**

**Saturday, April 9, 10:00 a.m. – Fridley Off-Leash Dog Park** – Topic: 10 Questions to Ask a Breeder and 10 Questions a Breeder Will ask YOU!

**Sunday, May 15, 9:30 a.m.** – Annual walk around Lake Como – check website for updates

**Sunday, June 12** – MSP Airport Dog Park – check website for updates

We hope to see you and your Berner at an upcoming PlayPals event! It's a great place to let your dog get some exercise and to meet new friends!!!

### **Just a few of the ways you can help...**

**Contact Marilynn at [mblake1595@cs.com](mailto:mblake1595@cs.com)**

- Suggest ideas for topics you'd like to see covered
  - Suggest locations for PlayPals to be held at
  - Assist with creating handouts
-

## February Club Meeting, Dessert Auction and Awards Presentation

On Saturday, February 12, in addition to PlayPals, we held our dessert auction and annual awards presentation. The dessert auction raised \$263. There were many wonderful treats!

We also presented awards to the following new title holders:

Ch. Aliehs It's OK to Stare, owner Sheila Brandner  
 Ch. Wynsome's Urban Legend, owner Sarah Tennesen  
 Dou-Hil's a Cold One Michelob, RAE, CGC, owner Denise McCabe  
 Brielle van 't Stokerybos, CD, RN, ANDD, owner Shannon Cihlar  
 AKC/CKC Ch. Chaska van 't Stokerybos, NDD, owner, Shannon Cihlar  
 GCh Cameo's Centerfold, owner Laura Fourre  
 J&N's Morning Thunder, CD, RN, DD, owner Carol Manley  
 J&N's Lilygloves, HCT, CGC, owner Denise McCabe  
 Snowbound's Goodnight Moon, CGC, owner Sarah Tennesen



### *Club Calendar of Events*

April 4 – 9

BMDCA National Specialty, Del Mar, CA

April 9

**PlayPals**

10:00 a.m. Fridley Off-Leash Dog Park

**Topic:** 10 Questions to Ask a Breeder/10 Questions a Breeder Should ask You!!!

April 17

**BMDCGTC Club Meeting**

1 p.m. – Hansen Park, New Brighton  
 Socializing & Beginning Drafting

May 14 – 15

Indianhead KC Show, Eau Claire, WI

May 15

**PlayPals**

9:30 a.m. – St. Paul, MN Annual Walk around Lake Como (check website for updates!!)

May 28 – 29

Key City KC Show, St. Peter, MN

June 4 – 5

Fargo-Moorhead KC Show, West Fargo, ND

June 11 – 12

Lake Minnetonka KC Show, Jordan, MN

June 12

**PlayPals**

Minneapolis/St. Paul Airport Dog Park

June 18

**BMDCGTC Club Meeting**

TBD

June 24 – 26

Anoka Co./Cambridge KC Show  
 Cambridge, MN

**NOTE:** For the most update to date info on upcoming Club events check out the Club events calendar at [www.twincitiesbmd.org](http://www.twincitiesbmd.org)

**BMDCSEW**  
**Tracking Certification Day with Mini-Seminars**  
**Sunday April 17, 2011**  
**9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

Join us at Hartman Creek State Park in Waupaca for a full day of Tracking Certifications with AKC Judge Lois Ballard.

A limited number of Certification tracks are available on a first come first serve basis.

This event is open to BMDCSEW members only through February 28. Any available tracks after 2/28 will be open to non-members.

### Mini Beginner-Seminars (open to all breeds)

Morning Seminar with Annie Evarts, AKC Judge applicant – New to tracking? This 2-hour workshop is for you! Never tracked? No equipment is needed. Learn how to start your dog and train on your own to compete in the AKC tracking events. Morning seminar attendees are encouraged to watch the afternoon certification tracks. Lunch is included.

Afternoon Seminar with Lois Ballard. Looking to continue on in VST training? Lois will offer a couple practice tracks and host a question and answer period for people interested in adding Urban work to their training.

Cost \$10 includes lunch. (after April 1 \$20/person)

Enjoy the full day or just join us for one of the seminars.

Please note this event is held inside a state park. – State park sticker is required. Event is held rain or shine. We have rented a heated shelter in event of inclement weather (no dogs allowed inside the shelter per state park rules)

This event is outdoors at a State Park. The brush can be high and prickly footing can be muddy. We recommend long pants and boots. We also recommend your dog be current on whatever tick protocol you use as this is tick season.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Certification Track \_\_\_\_\_ Seminar only \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Your status for a certification track will be advised via e-mail prior to the event. Limit one certification track per person. You will be advised if additional tracks are available after April 1, if you are interested in multiple entries.

Send your registration to: Paige Hess; 7492 Quigley Rd; Omro, WI 54963 Make checks payable to BMDCSEW. You will be advised of your status for a certification track via e-mail in early April. Registration closes Wednesday, April 13.

Have questions? Contact Brycie Marine 920/235-0131 or Paige Hess 920/582-4615

# Save The Dates!!

## **BMDCGTC Regional Specialty**

**August 26, 2011**

in conjunction with the  
St Croix Valley Kennel Club  
and Northstar Working Group

**4-day show cluster**  
**August 26-29, Lake Elmo, MN**

Regular and Inter-sex Classes:  
Puppy and Veteran Sweepstakes:  
Junior Showmanship:

Mark Milligan  
Jessica Briggie  
to be determined

*Join us for our Post-show **Banquet**  
and our fabulous **Raffle***

Sharon Kranz, chair,  
[trikrew@q.com](mailto:trikrew@q.com)

## **TWO Draft Tests**

**October 22-23, 2011**

(pending AKC approval)  
More information on our website  
Denise McCabe, chair  
[dlp124@comcast.net](mailto:dlp124@comcast.net)





Winterfest at the home of Rick Bryan and Coleen Carroll



February 12 club meeting.

**Bernese Mountain Dog Club of the Greater Twin Cities  
Minutes: General Membership Meeting  
Coleen Carroll/Rick Bryan Home  
December 18, 2010**

Call to Order at 3:15 P.M. Quorum: Yes

Committee reports and approval of the minutes and treasurers reports were tabled until the February 12, 2011 meeting due to weather conditions.

President Micky Trent introduced the Board of Director candidates to be voted on today:

Vice President- Jennifer Krohn  
Secretary-Karen Johnson  
Director-Laura Fourre  
Director-Sara Reischel  
Director-Sarah Tennessen  
Director-Theresa Schwarten  
Director- Shannon Cihlar

This slate was voted on by the membership, and all of the above were voted in. Micky also thanked all of the committee chairs and board members for their contributions in 2010.

Lisa Fosdick talked about the upcoming Lucy Fund Wine Tasting Party at her home on January 15.

The Minnesota Pet Project was also discussed. It is a program to help people keep their pets who are facing tough financial times and how we can help.

A new membership application was received for Deb and Jim Gilroy of Minneapolis.

The next Club meeting is planned for February 12, 2011 at Stone Mountain Pet Lodge.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Karen Johnson, Secretary





## Wisconsin Back-2-Back Regional Specialty

By Shannon Cihlar

The Wisconsin back to back regional specialty is held every year in March. It is two days of shows including conformation, obedience and rally. This year the BMDCGTC was represented by many club members. The following are results of those club members participating.

### Sweepstakes

*6 to 9 month puppy dogs:*

Wemja Woods Northern Defender, owner Darwin Missling, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> both Friday and Saturday

*15 to 18 month dogs:*

Bugziere's Jetten To The Top, owner James Coleman, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> both Friday and Saturday

Shepherdspatch Mr. Fibber McGee, owner Julie Latterell, placed 4<sup>th</sup> both Friday and Saturday

*6 to 9 month puppy bitches:*

Wemja Woods Zest for Life, owners Jen and Brian Heriot and Darwin Missling, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> on Saturday

Wemja Woods Gabriella La Bonita, owners Darwin Missling, placed 4<sup>th</sup> on Friday

*12 to 15 month bitches:*

Wynsome's Shot in the Dark, owner Shannon Cihlar, placed 4<sup>th</sup> on Friday

Fanaberne's Thelma Toulouse, owner Sheila Brandner, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> on Friday and 3<sup>rd</sup> on Saturday

### Veterans

*7 to 9 year dogs:*

Ch. Country Wings No More Credit, owner Doug Hildre & Ondy Hildre, placed 1<sup>st</sup> on Friday

*7 to 9 year bitches:*

AKC/CKC Ch. Chaska van 't Stokerybos, NDD, owner Shannon Cihlar, placed 1<sup>st</sup> on Friday

*11 years and over bitches:*

Abbey Roads Penny Lane, owner Lenorah Horn, placed 1<sup>st</sup> on Friday

*Best Veteran in Sweeps:*

Ch. Country Wings No More Credit, owner Doug Hildre & Ondy Hildre

### Regular Classes

*6 to 9 month puppy dogs:*

Wemja Wood Northern Defender, owner Darwin Missling, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> on Friday and 4<sup>th</sup> on Saturday

*12 to 18 month dogs:*

Bugziere's Jetten To The Top, owner James Coleman, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> on Friday

Shepherdspatch Mr. Fibber McGee, owner Julie Latterell, placed 4<sup>th</sup> both Friday and Saturday

*Bred By Exhibitor Dogs:*

Northfork Name of the Game, owner Karen Stromgren-Johnson and Jerry Johnson, placed 1<sup>st</sup> on Friday and 3<sup>rd</sup> on Saturday

*6 to 9 month puppy dogs:*

Wemja Woods Northern Defender, owner Darwin Missling, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> on Friday and 4<sup>th</sup> on Saturday

*15 to 18 month dogs:*

Bugziere's Jetten To The Top, owner James Coleman, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> on Friday

Shepherdspatch Mr. Fibber McGee, owner Julie Latterell, placed 4<sup>th</sup> both Friday and Saturday

*Bred by Exhibitor Dogs*

Northfork Name of the Game, owners Karen Stromgren-Johnson and Jerry Johnson, placed 1<sup>st</sup> on Friday and 3<sup>rd</sup> on Saturday

*6 to 9 month puppy bitches:*

Wemja Woods Zest for Life, owners Jen and Brian Heriot and Darwin Missling, placed 4<sup>th</sup> on Friday

Wemja Woods Gabriella La Bonita, owners Darwin Missling, placed 4<sup>th</sup> on Saturday

## Wisconsin B2B continued...

### 12 to 18 month bitches:

Fanaberne's Thelma Toulouse, owner Sheila Brandner, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> on Friday and 1<sup>st</sup> on Saturday

Shepherdspatch Nala, owner James and Laura Coleman, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> on Friday

### Open Bitches:

Avalon Mist Lady of the Lake, RN, owner Micky Trent, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> on Friday

Wynsome's Miera Miera on the Wall, owners Darwin Missling and Shannon Cihlar, placed 4<sup>th</sup> on Friday

Wynsome's Sheza Brickhaus, owners John and Nancy Mayer and Shannon Cihlar, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> on Friday

## Non-Regular Classes

### Veterans 7 and under 9 years dogs:

Ch. Country Wings No More Credit, owners Doug Hildre and Ondy Hildre, placed 1<sup>st</sup> both Friday and Saturday

### Veterans 9 and under 11 years dogs:

Merlin the Magi, RA, owner Micky Trent, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> both Friday and Saturday

### Veterans 7 and under 9 years bitches:

AKC/CKC Ch. Chaska van 't Stokerybos, NDD, owner Shannon Cihlar, placed 1<sup>st</sup> both Friday and Saturday

### Veterans 11 years and over bitches

Abbey Roads Penny Lane, owner Lenorah Horn, placed 1<sup>st</sup> on Friday

### Brood Bitches

AKC/CKC Ch. Chaska van 't Stokerybos, NDD, owner Shannon Cihlar, placed 3<sup>rd</sup> on Saturday

**Best of Breed:** Ch. Country Wings No More Credit, owners Doug Hildre and Ondy Hildre on Friday

**Best of Opposite Sex:** GCh. Ch. Cameo's Centerfold, owner Laura Fourre, on Friday and **Select Bitch** on Saturday



Doug and Cash in veteran class

## Regular Rally

### Excellent B (16" jumps)

Dou-Hil's a Cold One Michelob, RE, owner Denise McCabe, qualified and placed 4<sup>th</sup> on Friday

Castlemtn's American Camelot, RA, owner Micky Trent, qualified both Friday and Saturday

### Advanced B (16" jumps)

Dou-Hil's A Cold One Michelob, RE, owner Denise McCabe, qualified both Friday and Saturday

Castlemtn's American Camelot, RA, owner Micky Trent, qualified both Friday and Saturday

Avalon Mist Lady of the Lake, RN, owner Micky Trent, qualified both Friday and Saturday

## Club Officers

### President

Micky Trent  
651-639-0483  
[President@TwinCitiesBMD.org](mailto:President@TwinCitiesBMD.org)

### Vice President

Jennifer Krohn  
641-236-5437  
[VicePresident@TwinCitiesBMD.org](mailto:VicePresident@TwinCitiesBMD.org)

### Secretary

Karen Johnson

### Treasurer

Denise McCabe

### Board Members:

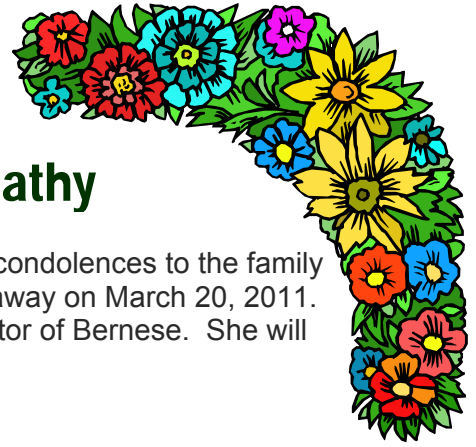
Shannon Cihlar  
Laura Fourre  
Sarah Reischel  
Sarah Tennessen

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We're on the Web!

See us at:

[www.twincitiesbmd.org](http://www.twincitiesbmd.org)



## With Deepest Sympathy

The club wishes to express our condolences to the family of Sheila Brander, who passed away on March 20, 2011. Sheila was a breeder and exhibitor of Bernese. She will be greatly missed. ●

## 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.

Graphics courtesy of Dawn Gabig, Classique Graphics

Send to:

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### BMDCGTC

C/O SHANNON CIHLAR  
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