

August/September 2019

The Berner Blatt

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Nashoba Valley

THE CLUB FOR NEW ENGLAND BERNERS & THEIR FAMILIES




ANNUAL
BERNER INC.
ISSUE
pages 5 - 9


*This issue is BernerBlatt's annual
Rescue Issue, dedicated to
BMDCNV's rescue arm, Berner,
Inc. The beautiful Berner Inc.
Ambassador Daisy enjoying the
shore breeze in her fur. Owned &
Loved by Paul Maguire*

inside this issue...

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BMDCNV *Calendar of Events*

~ 2019 ~

October 19 & 20

Fall Draft Tests

Bolton Sports & Fairgrounds Field

Bolton, MA

October 27

OFA Clinic

Suffield Veterinary Hospital,

Suffield, CT

November 7-10

Retreat Weekend • *Oceanwood, ME*

December 6

Supported Entry

Champlain Valley Kennel Club,

West Springfield, MA

FMI: www.bmdcnv.org/events.html

HOLIDAY PARTY 2019 - UPDATE

Due to unfortunate timing issues, Nashoba Valley will not be holding a Holiday Party in 2019. The Boxborough Regency was only able to offer the club dates that were too close to Christmas or space that was not conducive to our club members and their dogs.

We are most appreciative of our members who have volunteered to chair and donate their time and efforts to past Holiday Parties, and to those who have provided items for the raffle table and the sale table! It is a great event enjoyed by so many of our members and their Berners!

As we begin planning events for 2020, if any of you have suggestions for good locations at reasonable prices that allows dogs, please share this with the Board. In the meantime, we will contact the Boxborough Regency early to try to set a date for 2020.

ANNUAL ELECTIONS

The Board of Directors of the BMDCNV has appointed the Nominating Committee for open Board positions:

Chairperson: Linda DeCelles (phdog6@gmail.com)

Members:

Marge Bumen (margebumen@gmail.com)

Mimi Englander (mimi@mountain-dog.com)

Alternates:

Steve Grega (stephegrega@gmail.com)

Gib Otten (phdog6@gmail.com)

Open Positions:

President: **Jean Michael** *is seeking another term*

Treasurer: **Bruce Hallden** *is seeking another term*

Secretary: **Patricia Buickerood** *is seeking this position*

Director: **Steve Diers** *is seeking another term*

Director: **Carol Jensen** *is seeking this position*

If you are interested in running for an open position or would like to suggest a candidate, please contact a member of the Nominating Committee before February 23, 2020. If you contact by email, please include the word "Nomination" in the subject line.

The BMDCNV board of directors

PRESIDENT

Jean Michael
president@bmdcnv.org

VICE PRESIDENT

Susan Mahan
vicepresident@bmdcnv.org

SECRETARY

Carol Jensen
secretary@bmdcnv.org

TREASURER

Bruce Hallden
treasurer@bmdcnv.org

DIRECTORS:

Patricia Buickerood • director_buickerood@bmdcnv.org

Steve Diers • director_diers@bmdcnv.org

Heidi Henderson • director_henderson@bmdcnv.org

Carolyn Massey • director_massey@bmdcnv.org

Anya Wittenborg • director_wittenborg@bmdcnv.org

**SAVE
THE
DATE!**

Fall Fun Day



**Saturday,
September 28, 2019
10am - 2:30 pm
Westford 4H Fairgrounds
Westford, MA**

10:00am Registration Starts- *sign up for
Puppy Parade & Conformation Match!*
11:00am-Noon Ear & Paw Trimming
with Celeste
11:00am Draft Demo (tentative)
11:30am Berner-Garde Demo with
Diane Smith

Noon: Potluck Lunch
Noon: Not So Spooky Halloween Puppy
Parade
12:30pm: Potential Puppy Owner Info
Session with Laurel Wood
1:00pm: Raffle
1:30pm: Conformation Match

*Puppy Play Corral,
Raffles and more!*

*Great Family Fun with your
Bernese Mountain Dog!*



Back-to-Back Draft Tests

**Sat. & Sun., October 19 & 20, 2019
Bolton Sports and Fairground Fields
600 Main St.
Bolton, MA 01740**

Event Chair: Anya Wittenborg
awittenborg@comcast.net

JUDGES:

SUE VAN OCKER & SARA STEELE

ENTRY DEADLINE:

Wednesday • Oct. 9, 2019 • 6:00 pm

FMI and premium list:

http://www.bmdca.org/Draft/pl/dPL_201910_nashobavalley.pdf



from the President...

Now that Summer is almost behind us and with Fall and cooler weather right around the corner, I want to remind our members of upcoming events that they will hopefully wish to take advantage of! I know that my two dogs are very much enjoying the cooler temps and it has put some pep in their steps and they are feeling energized and ready to go!

Please save the following dates for our Annual Fall Fun Day on Saturday, September 28 th , our Back-to-Back Draft Tests on Saturday, October 19 th and Sunday, October 20 th in Bolton, and the Fall Retreat Weekend from November 7-10 th in Oceanwood, ME with an option to stay for the weekend, one overnight, or for the day! Please look through the following pages for more detailed information, we can use the help of volunteers for these events and I would ask that you contact the event chairs if you are able to lend a hand!

I also want to give a huge THANK YOU to our members who step up to chair/volunteer for our events, we couldn't do it without your support! I would also like to thank those who submit photos of their beautiful Berners whether they are participating in a trial or test, or simply just looking pretty for the Blatt! Please keep them coming and I would also encourage submission of interesting articles to our Bernerblatt Chair to share with your fellow members!

Thank you all and we look forward to seeing you or watching you working with your beautiful Berners at our upcoming events!

Your very appreciative President, Jean Michael

New Members

Showcase



Are you a new Member?

Tell us about yourself in our New Member Showcase. Click on this link...

<http://bmdcnv.org/newmember.html>

Complete the quick summary, hit submit, email your pic and you're done! Please complete your submission by the 20th to be included in the next issue of the Berner Blatt.

We look forward to meeting you!

•• SAVE THE DATE ••

BMDCNV Supported Entry

Friday, December 6, 2019

Champlain Valley Kennel Club

Eastern States Exposition Grounds

1305 Memorial Ave. West Springfield, MA 01089

Closing Date: Wednesday, November 20, 2019

JUDGE: MRS. MARY ALICE ESCHWEILER

The BMDCNV chairpeople

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Vacant

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TROPHY CHAIR

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volunteers@bmdcnv.org

WAYS & MEANS

Bill & Stephanie Freeman
shop@bmdcnv.org

WEB MASTER

Mimi Englander
web@bmdcnv.org

These dedicated chairpeople provide essential services to you, our membership. Please feel free to contact them with your questions, concerns, suggestions, requests for help or offers of help. Our mission is to provide the best for Berners and their families.

Bully Boys & Frightened Females: A Rescue Year

by Linda DeCelles, *BERNER, Inc. Rescue Chair*

Rescued Berners

We had an almost equal number of males and females come into rescue this past year. The predominant type of male Berner surrendered remained the same: high energy “boys” in need of training. The under-socialized girls came into rescue with stranger fear, a continuing pattern.

BERNER INC. took in 2 female puppies, 1 male puppy and 1 young Berner girl from the BMDC-Chattahoochee Valley. BMDCCV placed, with the help of BMDCA rescues, over 50 Berners and Bernerdoodles seized in a raid on a notorious Aiken, South Carolina puppy mill.

Our Berner rescues came with a range of health and behavior issues. Our capable and dedicated fosters and experienced adopters have been working successfully to solve these problems. But there were several Berners we could not take into our rescue program. As I was writing this report, I received a call from a man who wanted to rehome his 3-year-old male Berner (purchased as a puppy on-line). This call was similar to many other rehoming requests I responded to last year. They concerned poorly bred male Berners who had grown from hard-to-handle puppies into moody adults with many behavior problems. These abnormal Berners had menaced and bitten family members and others, had terrorized other dogs, and had been banned from daycare, kennels and grooming shops. These unpredictable, high-risk Berners cannot be rehomed. An anti-social dog is essentially a fearful, unhappy dog. Sadly, the loving spirit of the typical Berner often shows through the abnormal aggressiveness of these poorly bred dogs, making it hard for their owners to accept that they have dangerous, unadoptable dogs.

Education and Outreach

As puppy mills and other for-profit breeders continue to produce Berners and sell them to anyone who will pay for them, our critical mission to educate the public about the risks of buying a puppy from irresponsible breeders continues. We inform the public about the risks of buying a puppy from a bad breeder. We stress that their purchase of a Berner puppy from a bad breeder contributes to the continued suffering of breeding Berners in puppy mills and back yards. *We need the help of all Berner people to get the word out about the for-profit-only breeding industry.*

NALA (Photo: Nala)

By Shirley Derrico

My husband, Joe, and I were very lonely and missing my son's BMD, Bastion, when they relocated to Oregon. We set out to adopt an older BMD. After many months of trying, we gave up and to our surprise Linda DeCelles called saying they had a Berner in need of a home. Nala was 3.5 years old when she came to us. She was very frightened of people, especially children and would run away a when I rolled a ball toward her. She was very jumpy on walks whenever she heard noises.

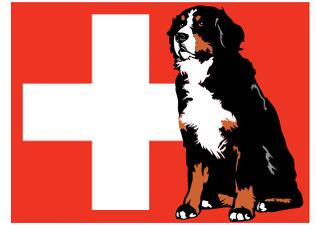
Three and half years later, she is as feisty as a Berner can be. She goes up to neighbors to be patted and even allowed a child to pat her.



She pounces on the balls when she is in the mood and even goes to the dentist with us while getting a cleaning. Our dentist also rescues and understands. The women at the senior center love seeing her and Nala enjoys going there.

Nala has made a huge difference in our lives and we are thankful that we are able to make a difference in hers. Thank you for all the dedicated work you do.

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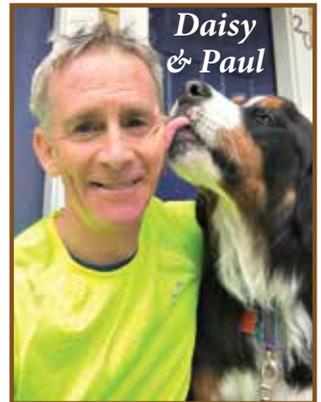
Daisy, Berner Ambassador

By Paul Maguire

Daisy joined our family two years ago as a Berner Inc rescue. She was a gentle best friend to our dear cat Dude who recently passed this spring. They were quite a sight walking the sidewalk together.

Daisy has been an ambassador for the breed and has encouraged some friends to take steps towards Berner ownership. But she relishes the role of mayor of our neighborhood: greeting everyone with a smile, a wag and making the rounds to say hello on porches after work and evenings on the beach.

Whether we're at the beach or in town or the dog park, Daisy engages people with her eye contact, affection and grounded presence. She made many impromptu visits to the nursing home in my aunt's last years of her life. Staff and families all asked us to come back anytime. The stories and connections are too numerous to count. Daisy is a joyful dog, as well as a joy multiplier!



My Name is Izzie

By Berner Inc.'s Isadore (With Tom & Ellie)

Hello, I'm Izzie. I adopted Tom and Ellie after I stayed with them for foster. I've taught Tom some tricks to do when he feeds me. I take them shopping at the good stores that welcome dogs.

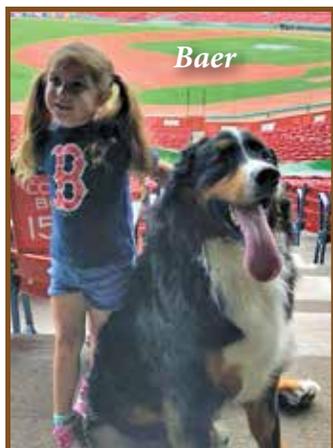
My main job is to manage the house and keep everyone (even the cat) company and happy. They think I'm really good at my job and I know I am. Thank you Berner Inc for taking me in and giving me my own people to manage. Love, Izzie (aka Berner Inc.'s Isadore)



BAER MAXIMUS, Everyone's BBF

(Best Berner Friend)

By Karrie Kapoor

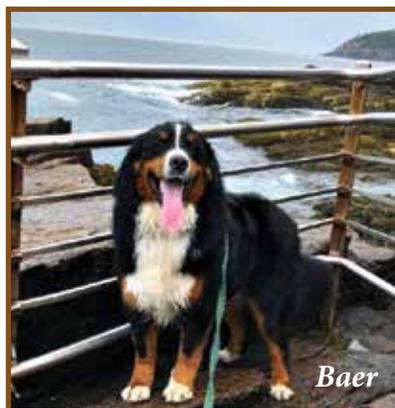


I reached out to BERNER INC after I lost my first Berner, Brea, to lymphoma at 11 years old. I had been a member of the BMDCNV for 10 years and I thought fostering would help lift our spirits, especially those of our other Berner, Gus. Sadly, Gus passed 4 months before he could meet the rambunctious "tweenager" known as Baer Maximus.

Baer Maximus arrived late in the evening on Tuesday, September 27, 2016 after a relay of volunteers transported him from Vermont.

His previous owners did not have much time for a puppy, and when he was diagnosed with osteochondritis dissecans (OCD) in both shoulders, they decided to surrender him to BERNER INC at 8 months old. The next day after he arrived I scheduled a veterinary appointment, and within 2 weeks he had surgery and was on his way to recovery. We officially adopted him and now at three and a half years old, he is doing great!

Baer is an absolute love. He is wonderful with adults, children and other animals. He sleeps with our youngest daughter every night. Everyone loves Baer, even people who "do not like dogs." He has an Instagram following. The UPS driver even leaves treats for him if we're not home. No one can resist the smooth sashay of Baer Maximus.



BERNER INC. Rescue Chloe: Alert! Berner

By Dawn Flaherty

Chloe came to us at 16 months old as a foster dog. We just fell in love and adopted her through Berner Inc. She is now eight years old and we continue to be on an amazing journey together!

Chloe is in her third year working with me as a diabetic alert dog. I have Type 1 Diabetes and run a risk of hypoglycemia that could lead to seizures and unconsciousness. Chloe has always been very nosy in more ways than one and naturally follows me everywhere, so using her nose and olfactory sense to detect when my blood sugar begins to drop below normal range is a perfect job for her! I also utilize medical technology such as a continuous glucose monitor sensor, but Chloe's scent detection has been a great back up as she often alerts me before the sensor alarm or when the technology fails.

Chloe and I got started with diabetic alert dog training through a formal medical detection scent work program developed by Debbie Kay out of West Virginia. Prior to starting and throughout the

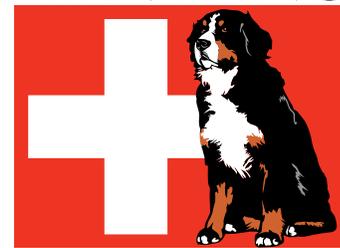
training process with Chloe I collected saliva samples using dental cotton when my blood sugar level was 70 or lower. The saliva scent samples work well because the scent is also present in human breath and sweat and are sources that are readily available to a dog. The samples were placed in labeled collection containers and then stored in a freezer.

We began training by pairing the scent sample contained in a tin that has multiple holes with a food treat reward. Initially, I held the tin in my hand, as Chloe explored and sniffed the tin on her own, I gave her a treat. In the first week of training we did one thousand repetitions of this exercise to build odor recognition! We also practiced in different locations in our home. To be sure that Chloe truly recognized the odor of the scent sample I soon added in a "blank" second tin with clean dental cotton. As Chloe demonstrated success with this proofing exercise I added in more blank tins. She earned a treat for every correct response so was always very enthusiastic about training and continues to show such enthusiasm to this day while "on the job"! Our training progression also included developing a sit and pawing alert behavior and introducing other more complex variables such as hiding the scent sample on different parts of my body while sitting, standing, kneeling, and lying down and eventually adding movement such as walking. We also practiced in a variety of indoor and outdoor environments at different times of the day and night. Outdoors was particularly challenging due to many other distracting odors. Chloe was taught to use a specific pattern to check areas of my body that would provide stronger scent concentration such as ankles, back of knees and waist. As she has gained experience, Chloe's "checking" often includes other body areas such as my forearms and neck (if she is close enough!).

About eight weeks into training, Chloe began to perform "live alerts" without a sample present. Chloe approached me while I was doing laundry and touched my thigh with her paw to let me know she had detected scent. I then did a quick blood glucose meter check and had reading of 70 and found Chloe was correct! She enjoyed a really yummy treat while I ate a couple glucose tablets to raise my blood sugar. I have been so very grateful for Chloe's help! During the first two years, I typically had about six or more episodes per week where Chloe detected my blood sugar approaching the low range. In the last year, I have been using a new insulin pump and other strategies that have helped decrease the incidence of my blood sugar falling into lower ranges. Nevertheless, Chloe still has a job but she's not quite as busy as she used to be! Forever adored and loved by Dawn and Jerry Flaherty-Plymouth, MA.



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Rescue Notebook

BOREAS, Adopted by the Malcolmson Family

One July afternoon, Anya delivered an adolescent boy for a short stay. Boreas leaped into our house, laps and hearts. Of course he stayed!

CODY, Adopted by Michelle & Jay Larson

I'm so happy in my "failed foster home" with my 3 sisters. I knew from the start this was going to be my "forever home". I love going for walks in the park and wading in the Salmon River. My Mom and Dad say I'm a bull in a china shop but they still love me anyway.

EARNIE, Adopted by Cheryl & Bob Amey

Earnie is a happy little extrovert. He wakes up every morning anticipating another wonderful puppy day with a contagious enthusiasm. He loves (and kisses) everyone he meets and has no doubt that they love him, too. Sharing toys with friends, porch naps with a good pillow, and rides in the car are among his favorite activities.

ELVIS, Adopted by Steve & Judy Pavlosky

Life in Lenox is great. So happy my 3rd (and forever) home is here on East Elm Farm. Having my Lab girlfriend and playmate, Taffy, here is a blast. My new owners are keepers too!

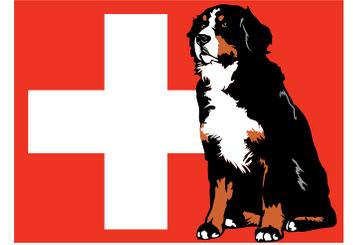
GEORGIA, Adopted by Judy & Matt Hartman

Georgia will be 7 months old on July 17. She is a pretty, goofy, smart, and loving puppy. She makes us laugh every day and is adored by her big brother, Sampson.



Clockwise from Top Left:
Boreas, Georgia, Cody, Earnie, Elvis

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BERNER INC. ~ June 2018 - June 2019

RESCUE STATISTICS:

Number of Berners rescued: 13
Owner surrenders: 7
Shelter surrenders: 2
Received from other Berner rescue (BMDCCV): 4

Males surrendered: 7
Females surrendered: 6

REASONS FOR SURRENDER:

Too much energy/not enough time: 4
Divorce: 1
Eviction: 1
Owner deceased: 1
Move; dog cannot adapt: 1
Rejected by resident dog: 1
Puppy mill raid: 4

AGES WHEN SURRENDERED:

8 weeks-9 months: 4
1-4 years: 6
6-10 years: 3



STATES WHERE SURRENDERED OR RESCUED:

Connecticut: 1
Georgia: 5
Massachusetts: 1
Maine: 2
New Hampshire: 3
Vermont: 1

Rescue Notebook

HARPER Adopted by Geri and Steve Holdsworth

I arrived at my forever home as an 18 month old pup. Sometimes I sit on the warm deck and listen to the owl hoot or the woodpecker peck on a neighboring tree. At night I like watching the fireflies and feeling the cool breezes from Turtle Pond. I feel special!

LANDO Adopted by Colleen and Gary Grebus

Lando came with a military family to Georgia, where he couldn't adapt to hot, humid weather. In Germany his favorite thing was hiking in the Alps. He now lives in Temple, New Hampshire with his brother, Great Pyrenees Winston. He is very happy but wishes he could still get food from the dinner table!

ROSIE Adopted by Judy and Mick Beck

Rosie was approximately a year old with 13 puppies when she was rescued. She is now a happy foster fail. She loves being around other dogs, although she is still very cautious with people, especially men. But even as she backs away, she has a smile and a wagging tail. That's progress!

STAR Adopted by Hilary Taylor

I used to live in a shelter. I love my new home! I can lie by Hilary in her studio and help her work on her silver. I like to run in the yard and play with my squishy ball. At our summer place I can lie by the lake and roll around in the grass. Life is good!

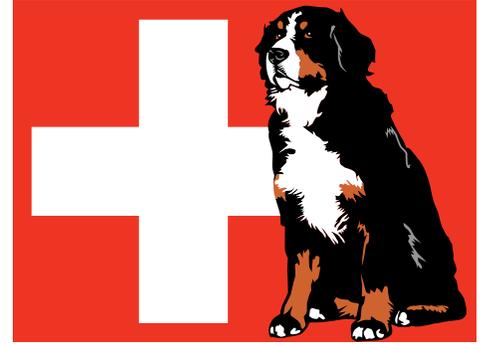
TESSIE Adopted by Geri and Steve Holdsworth

I arrived at my forever home as an 8 week old puppy! Each day brings lots of fun. My sister Harper keeps me busy and shows me fun tricks to play on mom and dad. We especially like hiding their shoes!! They tell me every day that I am special.



Star

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Rosie



Harper



Lando



Tessie

HONORING OUR FOSTERS

BERNER INC could not do our rescue work without our foster homes. Foster parents provide a safe haven for Berners who have been given up by their owners or released to rescue by shelters. These dogs are often confused and scared by the deep disruptions in their lives. Fosters take them into their homes and give them the care and attention they need. Because of the fosters' dedication to these needy Berners, the dogs get ready to move on to their new, permanent homes. *Thank you, fosters, for all you do for rescued Berners!*

BERNER INC is always looking for foster homes. If you'd like to help a rescued Berner get ready for adoption, please contact: Linda DeCelles, Rescue Chair, phdog6@gmail.com.

BERNER INC FOSTERS from June 2018-June 2019:

Judy and Mick Beck
Barry Berthaume
Mark & Cindy Giannelli
Susan & Tim Grant

Michelle and Jay Larson
Elizabeth Malcolmson
Gib Otten & Linda DeCelles
Anya Wittenborg

MANY THANKS to:

Amy Matthieu, who transported a Berner from Pennsylvania to Massachusetts this year and for her continued support and services for our rescues.

Judy and Matt Hartman, who transported 3 Berners from Georgia to Massachusetts.

Steve Grega and Cleo for their continued assistance with shelter visits and general assistance for BERNER INC.

IT TAKES A BERNER, INC VILLAGE!

BERNER INC is deeply grateful to a dedicated group of volunteers who gave their time and resources to rescuing and caring for a special needs Berner:

Bruce Hallden, Vicky Fallin, Penny Petrone, Gary Cimmino, Carol Holden, Carol Jensen, Fran and Phil LaFlamme.



OUR FEATURED FOSTER: BOREAS

BOREAS: Famous Last Words!

By Elizabeth Malcolmson

“You can call him whatever you want; he’s not staying!”

Last July, Anya Wittenborg got in touch with us to see if we could help foster an adolescent boy she was going to collect from an animal rescue in Portland, ME. House guests were leaving, various visitor dogs had just finished their time with us and there was a brief lull in the craziness of our lives. Sure, we could foster a dog.

Poor “Dug” had been surrendered by his original family to an animal shelter. They had placed him, but he was back again within a week. This time they asked for help from our club and thus Anya was headed over to pick him up and then drive south to drop him off with us.

Our house was still filled with people who were getting ready to leave, so Dug arrived to a bit of chaos. He appeared not to mind, and leaped onto laps and into hearts. Anya could barely tear herself away from so much happiness all in one place. This dog was clearly not going to suffer from a lack of affection here!



Dug had a history of being destructive and aggressive. Rather than using a crate, he had been contained in certain spaces and then simply chewed and wreaked destruction in whatever place he was left. First order of business, therefore, was to introduce a crate. For never having been contained in one regularly, he put up no more fuss than one would expect from a puppy’s first night. We assured him he was a good boy and praised and treated whenever he began to accept this situation. That night he slept in the crate and there was no problem.

The aggression piece of the equation quickly became evident. He could not handle being corrected or scolded for misdemeanors. He responded with flashing teeth and angry barking. Guiding him by the collar was a life skill he needed, so we played with his collar and praised him, assuring him that he was a wonderful boy. Misdemeanors? He is a complete kleptomaniac! Every day is spent trading things. We burn through a LOT of mini Milk Bones. Pillows and dish towels are a favorite, along with anything on the counter like toast, paper towels and snack food bags. And we have lost a few throws, two comforters and several duvet covers from times when he was left unsupervised, however briefly.

The trading trick was applied so frequently and consistently that he will readily hand over anything immediately for a cookie. So far, it doesn’t STOP the behavior! One day, after trading couch pillows for cookies repeatedly, I switched to the spray bottle to discuss how I would like the pillows to stay on the couch. After this discussion, he stole yet another pillow. I reached for the spray bottle. He actually returned the pillow to the couch! Unfortunately, that was not a breakthrough, but it was a cute moment.

What about his name? “Dug.” The very first day we tried it out on him: Nothing. Completely no reaction. It seemed much more likely that he thought his name was “No, NO, BAD DOG!” The sentiment was good — “Dug” is the name of a dog in the Pixar movie “UP” in which dogs have been fitted with electronic collars that enable them to appear to speak English. Dug meets the main characters and immediately announces, “I just met you and I love you!” That was true enough for this dog.

But no dog in our house was ever named so simply and my husband suggested that we could call him “Boreas.” (Long story involving astronomers and Greek mythology...) And that’s when my famous last words were uttered: “You can call him whatever you want; he’s not staying!” Rule #1 here has always been NO BOY DOGS. We dog sit for several and the boys have always reinforced our feelings on the subject. They pee on

themselves. They pee on everything upright. They pee in the house. They can’t just go for a walk because they have to leave their mark every few feet. They are often dopey. They will ask to come in and then stand at the open door looking vacant and uncertain until you close the door, at which point they will immediately bark to come in again. Ugh. But Berner #9 in our house was going to change our minds.



Boreas quickly realized THIS was his real name and came to it readily as it was used to call him out of trouble all day long. Every time he received yet another cookie, so this was a great trick. “Bore-ee-US! Good BOY! Have a cookie.” And: “If you’re going to steal that pillow then you at least have to bring it to my hand. No, not drop it on the floor, put it in my hand. GOOD boy. Have a cookie.”

Before you worry that he will soon be as wide as a coffee table due to all the cookies, he was severely underweight when he arrived. Not getting enough to eat was part of his poorly managed early months. And we know from past experience that when a dog discovers hunger, they also discover counter surfing. He may yet train us to keep clean counters, but I’m STILL leaving the oven mitts out because I was just going to use them again in a minute, but first I have to retrieve them from Boreas who has already stolen them. “Good OUT. Have a cookie.”

As a result of poor breeding, insufficient nutrition and early neutering, Boreas is lightly coated, long-legged and thin with sloping front pasterns and a raised tail, but no leg-lifting. He can use his ridiculous legs to good advantage, however, as they place his nose very conveniently to the counter and he has found two occasions to get his entire self onto the dining room table!

So in spite of all this, WHY did he stay?

First and foremost was THIS:

Back in 1994, Pat Riley, a breeder in Revere, CT, told me about boys vs. girls in Bernese Mountain Dogs. She said, “The girls will say, ‘I’m here! Love ME!’ and the boys will say, ‘You’re here! I love YOU!’” Boreas is a champion snuggler and love bug. He is sweet and adorable. He is desperate for love and returns the affection given to him in kind, with closed eyes, wagging tail and blissed-out expression. He smiles a LOT.

Whatever happened to him in those early months created a reflex anger response to being corrected. If we forget in a moment of frustration (such as when he tries to steal a piece of garlic bread off our plate while we’re still eating!), and say those words, “Bad dog!” we are quickly reminded how Boreas ended up at the shelter. But it is a behavior we can understand. He forgives us for forgetting, we forgive him because we know he can’t help it. And he stays because we could not bear for him to be rejected again when he only wants to be loved and treated kindly. The right answer is always to kindly set him up for success by not placing him in a situation where he is sure to make a bad choice.

During his first several weeks with us, Rescue Chair Linda DeCelles TRIED to suggest that we did not have to keep him. We really worried about where this busy, energetic, mischievous oversized puppy would head to next. And finally, when I was certain everyone in my family just wanted him to stay right here, I sent an email to Linda officially asking to keep him. Eventually, I will get around to registering him with the AKC as “Nashoba’s Keepin’ Boreas” as he follows in the pawprints of our beloved “Nashoba’s Keepin’ Amanda.”



Birthdays, Congratulations and Brags...



Birthday Boy!

Happy 6th Birthday to GLENMEGAN'S
MCKINLEY ON TOP OF THE WORLD, CGC:
You are the most handsome boy ever, snarky
attitude and all. You make us laugh.
— Carl & Liz Bohlin; Sagamore Beach, MA



Beach Birthday!

Newly two year old Bear Burke loves
the ocean.
— JoAnne Burke; Wayland, MA



Birthday Girl!

Ruby (COUNTRY ROAD'S HEART &
SOUL) turned 9 on 08.31.19.
— Amy & Mark Matthieu;
Brimfield, MA



Double Trouble!

Ajax (BACKCOUNTRY TRAILBLAZER) and
Nikki (MAINE'S JARDIN DES FLEURS)
each earned their first two AKC titles at
the BMDCNV Farm Dog Test held in
Killinton, VT in August: Canine Good
Citizen and Farm Dog Certification.
— Terry Spies; Phoenicia, NY



New Versatility Dog!

Jon and Judy Cons finished Cash's
Championship last week, he now meets
all the qualifications for the BMDCA
Versatility Award, all completed at just over
3 years of age. He is now CH. SPELLBOUND-
SOUTHWIND RING OF FIRE CD CAN CD
RE NDD "Cash" Bernergarde #132657.
— Dayna Merrow; Burr Ridge, IL



Super Six!

George (GCHS MARBEN'S A TRUE
SOUTHERN GENTLEMAN) turns 6 on
9/27!!!
— Owned and loved by Kym Dekker-
Collins and Tiggie Gerli; Danubry, CT



TO OUR BERNER INC SUPPORTERS: Thank you for everything
you do to help us rescue Berners!

Mimi Englander, for technical support for the critical task
of transmitting adoption applications, keeping our electronic
communications working, and much more.

Jane Boas, for donating her crafting skills to items for fundraising for
BERNER Inc.

Pat Long, for a generous donation from Long Shots Photography
from pictures taken during the National Specialty with her assistants,
Joye Neff and **Bob Bechtel**.

The numerous donors who honored Paulette Nieman of Simsbury CT.
Discounted treatments and supplies for our foster Berners from
veterinarians and veterinary clinics:

Dr. Sharon Doolittle, Smithfield RI

Muddy Creek Animal Care Center, Rowley MA

Port City Veterinary Referral Hospital, Portsmouth NH

Tufts Veterinary Hospital, N. Grafton MA

To Donors of monetary gifts and Donors of supplies for our fosters
and to our supporters who donate through AmazonSmile and iGive:
THANK YOU!

BMDCNV Fall Retreat Weekend

OCEANWOOD CAMP & CONFERENCE CENTER • OCEAN PARK, MAINE
November 7-10, 2019 • oceanwood.org/facilities

STILL TAKING RESERVATIONS!

*Pricing: 2-3 nights \$250 per person all meals included.
New this year: day rate of \$45 and one day plus one night for \$100.*



DETAILS HERE:

<http://bmdcnv.org/events.html#retreat>

REGISTER ON-LINE:

<http://berner4.wixsite.com/bmdcnv/fall-retreat>

For more information please contact Nancy Bard at bardnancy@gmail.com.

For those who have already made reservations and deposit: Final payment is due October 1st . Your deposit will be refunded if you need to cancel prior to October 1st . The club will retain the deposit if you must cancel anytime thereafter. Any outstanding balance not paid by October 15th, will forfeit their reservation and deposit.

For reservations made after October 1st: entire payment is due at time of reservation.



BMDCNV Seminar & Panel Discussion: Fertility in the Bernese Mountain Dog

Location: Broadview Animal Hospital 134 Ten Rod Road, Rochester, NH.

Date: Saturday, November 16, 2019

Time: 10:00am - 1:00pm

Broadview Reproductive Clinic in conjunction with BMDCNV is offering this fabulous seminar. Dr. Michael Norris and Dr. Heather Berry will share information from a national reproductive conference held in Savannah, Georgia this summer where they learned that Fertility issues in the BMD are a problem throughout the United States.

Refreshments would be available during a break. The cost is \$30.00.

To Register:

603-335-2120

Ask for Mikaela or Calla to register.

\$30.00 non-refundable pre-registration required.



BMDCNV

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Contact

Memberchair@bmdcnv.org

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