

April / May 2021

# The Berner Blatt

## THE NEWSLETTER OF THE Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Nashoba Valley

THE CLUB FOR NEW ENGLAND BERNERS & THEIR FAMILIES



Introducing SNOWPAWS GALE FORCE WIND - called Nor'easter (Nor<sup>2</sup>). We are over the moon excited to welcome this little one into our home and join Penny (Landseer) and Acadia on their adventures!  
Regina, Larry, Penny, Acadia; Freeport, ME

*inside this issue...*

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# BMDCNV Calendar of Events

~ 2021 ~

June 26

**Farm Dog Trial**

Timber Lost Farm • Ashburnham, MA

July 17

**BMDCNV Supported w/ Sweeps**

Tunbridge Fairgrounds • Tunbridge, VT

September 18 - 19

**\* Regional Specialty & Supported Entry**

Cape Cod Fairgrounds • Falmouth, MA

September 25

**Fall Fun Day**

Westford, MA

October 23 - 24

**Draft Tests**

44 Littleton County Rd, Harvard, MA

**\* AKC PENDING**

**Note:** Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, all upcoming events are tentative and subject to change.

FMI: [www.bmdcnv.org/events.html](http://www.bmdcnv.org/events.html)

Find us on  
Instagram  
[@bmdcnv](https://www.instagram.com/bmdcnv)



[instagram.com/bmdcnv](https://www.instagram.com/bmdcnv)

## Welcome! New Members

Alyssa Breton &  
Steven Doucette;  
Bethel, ME

Donna Smith;  
Orleans, MA

Sandra Chadwick;  
Danvers, MA

Jeff & Tracy Deharo;  
Billerica, MA

Kathleen Perez;  
Cape Neddick, ME

**Returning Members:**

Rebecca & Harry Davis;  
Freeport, ME

Pamela Giroux;  
Lewiston, ME



## Submitting Info to the Blatt is EASY!

The BernerBlatt is your newsletter and we love your submissions! Birthdays, memorials, brags, and anything you think is interesting to the members is not only easy, but it's also recommended and encouraged. Type your message in the body of an email and attach your favorite, high-resolution jpeg photo.

Be sure to include complete name(s) and city, state where you live. That's it! We'll do the rest.

**Berner Blatt Editor: Carolyn Massey**

**Submissions Email: [bernerblatteditor@gmail.com](mailto:bernerblatteditor@gmail.com)  
or [bernerblatt@bmdcnv.org](mailto:bernerblatt@bmdcnv.org)**

## The BMDCNV board of directors

### PRESIDENT

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**Patricia Buickerood** • [director\\_buickerood@bmdcnv.org](mailto:director_buickerood@bmdcnv.org)

## 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!*

## New Members Showcase



### Gina Zalewski

Cohasset, MA

I've wanted a Bernese my whole life and when I found out I would be permanently working from home. I jumped at the chance! She has brought such fun and love to our entire family but has been especially amazing for our kids. As my son says.. "the sickness brought us Luna.. so it wasn't all bad!"

## •• SAVE THE DATE ••

### BMDCNV 2021 Regional Speciality & Supported Entry

September 18 & 19, 2021

Cranberry Cluster Dog Show  
CAPE COD FAIRGROUNDS

1220 NATHAN S. ELLIS HWY • FALMOUTH, MA

**Closing Date: Wednesday, September 01, 2021**

BREED JUDGE: JOANNE GEROW

SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE: LILIAN OSTERMILLER

Share photos & videos of your Berners!  
Join the Facebook group at



[fb.com/groups/BMDCNVMembers](https://fb.com/groups/BMDCNVMembers)

## The BMDCNV chairpeople

### BERNER BLATT EDITOR

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### HEALTH LIAISON CHAIR:

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### PUBLIC EDUCATION

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### SOCIAL MEDIA CHAIR:

Vacant

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### WEB MASTER

Mimi Englander  
[web@bmdcnv.org](mailto: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.*

# 40th BMDCNV Annual Meeting

## from the President...

As we enter the club's 40th year, I would like to begin by thanking all of our members who attended the 39th Annual Meeting of the BMDCNV held via Zoom on April 18th. Our meeting began with a wonderful presentation by Stephanie Borns-Weil, DVM, DACVB from Tufts Behavior Service, a nationally recognized animal behaviorist. Her presentation was on target and timely about dogs and their relationships with their owners during the past year with the COVID-19 pandemic. Thank you to Patricia Buickerood for setting this up for us!

During our meeting, we announced our slate of officers and welcomed longtime club member, Julie Mott, to fill the role of Club Secretary, and Patricia Buickerood for filling the position vacated by Carolyn Massey who has agreed to step up as Blatt Editor! We also recognized our 20-year members and our volunteers. We can't say enough about those who continue to support our club by lending a hand in all our club activities. As always, we continue to seek assistance from new and old members who are interested in helping but don't know where to begin. We encourage you to reach out to the Board or Committee Chairs if you are willing and interested, no experience needed in most instances just a willingness to learn!

At the annual meeting, we also received a rescue report from our Rescue Chair, Linda DeCelles, and a financial report from our Treasurer, Bruce Hallden, and



we recognized new title holders for 2020. The meeting wrapped up with a review of upcoming events by Heidi Henderson; we encourage you to check the Club's website and FB page for information on current events.

It is with great sadness that we note the recent passing of one of Nashoba's long-time members, Jon Cons. Jon was President of the club for 10 years and served in many other capacities as well. Jon, along with his wife Judy, chaired and competed in many events over the years including conformation, draft, and obedience, to name a few, and were well-respected breeders and mentors. Jon was also a talented musician, who sang and played the guitar, and I am happy to have had an opportunity to watch him perform at the 2018 BMDCA National hosted by Nashoba in Sturbridge! Jon will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

In closing, thank you all for being a part of our great club and we look forward to seeing you all at some of our upcoming events!

Please feel free to contact me or any one of our Board members or Chairs with any comments, questions, or suggestions that you may have for events, education, or anything else you think the club can provide!

— Jean Michael, BMDCNV President

## BMDCNV By the Numbers...

### MEMBERSHIP

421 Active Members  
296 Active Households

### SOCIAL MEDIA

2,172 Facebook Likes  
209 Facebook Group Members  
567 Instagram Followers

### FINANCIALS

\$34,907 Cash on Hand  
\$12,545 Membership Renewals

### BREEDER REFERRAL PROGRAM MEMBERS

13

### THE BERNER BLATT MONTHLY DISTRIBUTION

31 - Mailed  
436 - Electronic

# 40th BMDCNV Annual Meeting

## 20-Year Members



What were you doing in 2001? In addition to [noteable 2001 events], these fine folks were joining the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Nashoba Valley! To celebrate being part of our club for 20 years, they have each received a special commemorative pin signifying 20 years of BMDCNV membership and memories:

Mary Allen  
Lois Banta  
Cathy Estes  
Michelle Keck  
Lisa Lichtenfels

Susan Mahan  
Megan Moussa  
Chai Moussa  
Dorothy Poppe  
Valerie Seaman

Linda Seaver  
Anita Silvey  
Dan Starbird  
Mark Teitelbaum  
Deborah Tharp

## VOLUNTEER

### Awards

#### Bells Awarded to 2020 Volunteers:

- **Beth Atkinson;** *Draft Clinic Instructor*
- **Jon Cons;** *Draft Clinic Instructor*
- **Barb Gibson;** *Draft Clinic Instructor*
- **Anya Wittenborg;** *Draft Clinic Volunteer*
- **Jeff Nowak;** *Draft Clinic Volunteer*
- **Marge & Joe Bumen;** *Draft Clinic Hospitality*
- **Deb Metcalf;** *Draft Clinic Instructors*
- **Anya Wittenborg;** *Draft Clinic Volunteer*
- **Stephanie Freeman;** *Draft Clinic Hospitality*
- **Buffy Bell;** *Draft Clinic Instructor*
- **Dan Bell;** *Draft Clinic Volunteer*
- **Celeste O'Malley;** *Draft Clinic Volunteer*
- **Steve Grega;** *Draft Clinic Volunteer*
- **Martha Phelps;** *Draft Clinic Volunteer*
- **Mary Durham;** *BMDCA By-Laws Committee*
- **Mimi Englander;** *New Website Design/Webmaster*
- **Nancy Hoyt;** *40th Anniversary Logo- Art and Design*
- **Marjorie Cottle;** *Nominating Committee Chair*
- **Karen Fox;** *OFA Health Clinic Chair*
- **Therese Spies;** *OFA Health Clinic Volunteer*
- **Amy Mathieu;** *OFA Health Clinic Volunteer*
- **Sam Sirico;** *OFA Health Clinic Volunteer*
- **Tina Sirico;** *OFA Health Clinic Volunteer*

## BMDCNV Celebrates Title Earners

| Dog Name   | New Titles in 2020     | Owned By:                               |
|--|------------------------|---|
| Thorncreek's Syncopated Rhythm                       | Trick Dog Intermediate | Erin Spanos                             |
| Thorncreek's Syncopated Rhythm                       | Rally Novice           | Erin Spanos                             |
| Ledgewood's In the Nick of Time                      | Canine Good Citizen    | Cindy Forlenzo                          |
| Thorncreek's Syncopated Rhythm                       | Community Canine       | Cindy Forlenzo                          |
| Boreal Breeze Northern Lights, TKN                   | Champion               | Karen Fox, Leslie Joannis, Jonathan Fox |
| Boreal Breeze Northern Lights                        | Trick Dog Novice       | Karen Fox, Leslie Joannis, Jonathan Fox |
| Tennescott Green Mtns Summer Rain, CD RE FDC CGC TKI | Champion               | Buffy Bell                              |
| Tennescott ADK Otter Creek RN TKN                    | Trick Dog Novice       | Carolyn Massey                          |
| Trailbound's Jumpin' Jack Flash                      | Champion               | Michelle Keck, Christine McLean         |

# Dog Day Afternoon Picnic



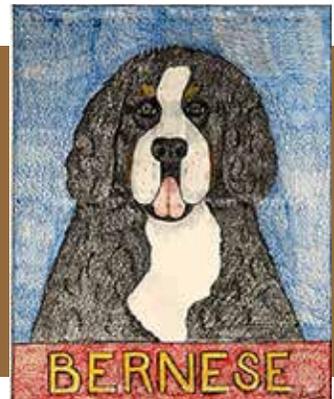
**Dog Mountain**  
143 Parks Rd  
Saint Johnsbury, VT  
**July 31, 2021 at 10am- 3pm**

*Come and join us for a fun-filled day with your Bernese Mountain Dog at Dog Mountain!*

Come to relax; take in the sights; visit the gallery; enjoy a walk...all on the 150 acres of dog friendly property.

There are hiking trails, dog ponds and of course - the world famous Dog Chapel!

It's an off leash haven for all! Dogs are welcome in the Chapel and in the Gallery.



## Itinerary

- 10:00-12:00** Arrivals – get acquainted with the grounds and take a nice short walk to upper area
- 12:00-1:30** Barbeque, you bring it and we will have a grill master standing by the grill to help Please bring a side dish for the table and your own drinks. We will have paper products
- 1:30-3:00** Group Photo is planned. I will offer Individual Photos at the most scenic spot in Vermont!
- 2:30** Blessing of the Berners in Dog Chapel
- 3:00** Wrap it up and say good bye!

Please check out the website [www.dogmt.com](http://www.dogmt.com) for hotels and campgrounds in the area. A personal recommendation from Dog Mt. is the Fairbanks Inn located in St. Johnsbury, Vermont.

Outdoor cover is limited to the chapel and the gallery so shade tents are a good idea. Also bring a chair for yourself or a picnic blanket to lounge on. There is access to water for dogs to drink, but bringing it is a good idea as well.

Please RSVP to Heidi Henderson  
[snowpawpass@yahoo.com](mailto:snowpawpass@yahoo.com) or call  
802-422-3084



**DOG MOUNTAIN**  
Home of Stephen Huneck Gallery

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## Unisex Long Sleeve: \$25.00

M, L, XL, XXL

Color: Navy 

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with purchase of any two shirts



5" x 5" indoor/outdoor sticker  
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Order online at:  
**Paws and Shop**

<http://bmdcnv.bigcartel.com/>

Order any two shirts and get a  
5" x 5" vinyl decal of the  
beautiful 40<sup>TH</sup> logo for **FREE!**

\*SHIPMENTS will be delayed due to the National Specialty.  
Orders will be shipped June 10th.

Proceeds of sticker sales go to  
**BERNER INC.**

# GOODBYE TO OUR FRIEND

## ANITA O'NEIL

By Linda DeCelles, Rescue Chair

Anita passed away after a valiant bout with cancer on March 22, 2021. A longtime member of BMDCNV, Anita had many friends in the Berner world. A retired social worker, Anita had a way of putting people at ease. She was bright, kind, warm and generous.



I became friends with Anita when she adopted Dolly from BERNER, Inc. Dolly had been an impulsive pet store purchase. She lived for a year in an isolated backyard on a 6-foot chain all day and alone inside a small utility room all night. She was afraid of everyone. Ellie and Tom Kittler fostered her for several months, socializing her with people and other dogs. When Dolly was ready for adoption, we agreed that Anita would be a good match (with a high recommendation from Sue Mahan). Anita was patient, calm, and experienced with Berners. Her Berner Basel was a

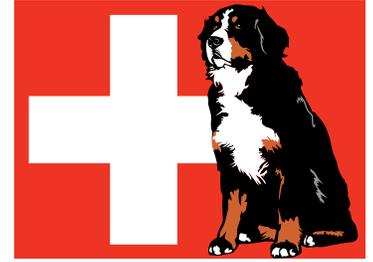
good canine companion for Dolly and helped build her confidence in her new home. Anita, Basel, and Dolly were an active and popular part of their neighborhood dog circle.

I promised Anita before she passed away that BERNER, Inc. would make sure that Basel and

Dolly were placed in a good home. Martha Phelps, Basel's breeder and Anita's friend of many years, suggested BMDCNV members Barbara and Terry Higgins as an ideal home for the dogs. Basel and Dolly quickly became part of their family and now have a lifelong, loving home.

We'll miss Anita very much, but she passed away content knowing that her beloved Berners would be safe and loved.

# BERNER INC



EDUCATION & RESCUE  
WE ARE THE RESCUE ARM OF THE NASHOBA CLUB  
[bernerinc.org](http://bernerinc.org)

## Rescue Report, Annual Meeting, April 18, 2020

Linda DeCelles, Rescue Chair

### Rescues:

Rescue Intakes, June 2020-April 18, 2021: 10, age-range 9 months-8 years (more details about our rescue dogs will follow in the next Rescue Issue of the Blatt).

### Covid Effects:

We're doing all of our dog evaluations, dog introductions, adopter interviews, and home visits outside only. Normally, these are done inside and outside homes. Because that's not possible with pandemic safety guidelines, we're placing all surrendered dogs in foster-to-adopt arrangements to make sure that the right match is being made. So far, 100% of our foster-to-adopt arrangements have or will result in permanent adoptions.

We're getting a higher than a normal number of applications for adoption. Our volume of emails and calls to our hotline for adopting a Berner has also increased. Most applicants have no Berner experience. Most are interested in acquiring puppies.

Since we rarely get young puppies in rescue, we refer the callers to the BMDCNV puppy education resources volunteers. We also reply to emails and calls with education and information about adult Berners and living with a Berner.

A concern is the possibility of an influx of requests for rehomes of year-old Berners, bought online as puppies from mills and brokers during the pandemic. This is already trending across the country. I got my first call to rehome a puppy bought during the pandemic this weekend.

### Foster Homes:

We always need foster homes. We especially need fosters with experience in handling behavior issues in Berners. These range from basic manners training (like jumpy-mouthy) to serious issues like separation anxiety and fear aggression. We need our club members to get the word out to anyone who might want to foster for us, especially people who are qualified to work with behavior issues.

### Rescue Webinar:

Anya Wittenborg and I were the presenters at a webinar organized by Linda Seaver. We got positive feedback from the people who attended.

## The BERNER INC board of directors

**PRESIDENT & DIRECTOR** - Alise Burbridge  
**TREASURER & DIRECTOR** - Tom McKinney  
**CLERK & DIRECTOR** - Dawn Flaherty

**DIRECTOR** - Anya Wittenborg  
**DIRECTOR** - Linda DeCelles  
**DIRECTOR** - Sue Nowak

## NEW PUPPIES!



### Lincoln

Introducing Lincoln - our newest addition. He's our 3rd Berner and related to our 2nd Berner.

We're so thankful for Susan Mahan and her kindness throughout the puppy selection process. He's already 40 lbs and growing fast! Lincoln loves to chew, hide in the bushes and play!

— Heather Litman; Westborough, MA



### Nor'

Introducing SNOWPAWS GALE FORCE WIND - called Nor'easter (Nor'). Part of the Snow Litter!!! We are over the moon excited to welcome this little one into our home and join Penny (Landseer) and Acadia on their adventures!

— Regina, Larry, Penny, Acadia; Freeport, ME



### Lyra

We are "extremely" happy to introduce the newest member of the Bates Family.

This is Lyra, TRAILBOUND'S MORE THAN WORDS. We love our new little Rockstar wholeheartedly.

— Linda, Nancy, & Trinity Bates; Dedham, MA



### Makai

Introducing FOUR SEASONS BY THE SEA "Makai". DOB 1/21/2021 Violet/Oz baby. With FOUR SEASON BOX OF CHOCOLATES "Forrest".

— Kim & Mel Clauson; York, ME



### Trevor

We are new members of the BMD CNV. We adopted our boy on January 4, 2021, at 10 weeks old from Dorri Poppe. His name is Trevor (full name Trevor Rutabaga; Rutabaga 'Ruti' was his birth name) and he's is 6 months old as of the end April.

— Mike & Maria Horsman; Georgetown, MA



### Wesley

Welcoming Wesley (FOUR SEASONS VIVALDI'S BELMONT DREAM) to our family. DOB 1/21/2021. He's a joy to us and most of the time to his big brother, Winston.

— Pam & Charles Swearingen; Belmont, MA



### Luna

Introducing my pandemic puppy! Luna (FOUR SEASONS LUNA LOVE YOU TO THE MOON) 10 months old. Bred by Sue Mahan. Luna is such a love.

— Gina Zalewski; Cohasset, MA



### Sephira

PEACEFIELD'S UNIQUELY UNTOUCHABLE. My Eragon's daughter... DOB 1/11/2021. One of the Sweet 16 puppies.

— Cathy Sullivan Neves; Corinna, ME

# Birthdays, Congratulations and Brags...



## Happy Birthday 5th birthday to Agnes!

4.20.2016. Anges sends woofs to her ten littermates and especially to her mother Moriah and breeders Buffy and Dan Bell.

— Christine & Andre Navez, Hopkinton, MA



Our Merlin, who was one of 11 pups, turned 4 years old on May 3.

— Sandra Walker; Stow, MA



## Happy 8th Birthday Rogue!!

TENNESCOTT ADK OTTER CREEK RN TKN. 5.26.2013. To Whatever End. To my heart dog Ro Ro, I love you 3000.

— Carolyn Massey & Luna; Billerica, MA



MYOTIE'S WATCHING AND WAITING "Chloe" turned 12 on April 15.

Proudly owned & loved by Neal & Carol Jensen; Cromwell, CT



## New Veteran Trinity!

Betruf Celtic Trinity says turning 7 is a piece of cake!

— Linda Bates; Dedham, MA



Buster will be 11 on May 27!

MYOTIE'S YOUR WILDEST DREAMS "Buster" lives in a house full of Seniors with Neal & Carol Jensen; Cromwell, CT



WINDBEAM'S NORTHERN LIGHT "Willow" turned 9 on April 6th.

She lives with 3 other senior Berners and Neal & Carol Jensen; Cromwell, CT

Congrats...



Our Lucy (18months) passed her Canine Good Citizen test!

— Jean & Joe Bambara; North Kingstown, RI



## 8 is Great!

Callie will be EIGHT on April 23!

— Barbara Morss; Rochester, MA

# Birthdays, Congratulations and Brags...



WINDBEAM'S THUNDERCLOUD "Marco" turned 9 on April 6. He lives with his mother Chloe, his sister Willow, and his Uncle Buster with Neal & Carol Jensen; Cromwell, CT



HAPPY "4TH" BERNER BIRTHDAY TO DREAM OF ERAGON'S SWISS KISS "Eragon" Mommy's Gommy Love, Mommy, Daddy..Treasure and daughter Sephira.

— Cathy Sullivan Neves; Corinna, ME



**Happy 1st Birthday Archie!**  
"CHARLESTON PLACE EGGSTRA SPECIAL" turned 1 on 4.12.2021. Happy Birthday BIG boy.

— Jo Ann Broussard; Baton Rouge, LA



## New Veteran!

Happy 7th birthday, MTN RIDGE'S LIGHTNING BOLT ROCK STAR "Jerry" 4.23.2014.

— Lorie-Ann Noyes; North Haverhill, NH



## BMDCNV Supported Entry With Sweepstakes

**Saturday, July 17, 2021**

Green Mountain Dog Club  
Tunbridge Fairgrounds Route 110 • Tunbridge, VT

**Closing Date: Wednesday, June 30, 2021**

**REGULAR CLASSES JUDGE:** MR. RICK BLANCHARD

**SWEEPSTAKES JUDGE:** MRS. ALISE BURBRIDGE



# *In Remembrance*



**KODIAK**  
**FOXFIRE'S KODIAK BLUE'S BROTHER**  
**8/24/08 - 5/3/2021**

Forever in our hearts.  
Thank you BMDCNV for so many fun times over the years and  
the wonderful memories we have of Kodi at all the Fun Days and  
other Nashoba Valley events.

— Fran & Phil LaFlamme; Salem, CT

## **BMDCNV**

69 Willow Grove Road  
Brunswick, ME 04011



Contact  
[Memberchair@bmdcnv.org](mailto:Memberchair@bmdcnv.org)  
to receive an electronic color  
issue of the Berner-Blatt

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