



TRBMDC Incline

Official Newsletter of the Three Rivers Bernese Mountain Dog Club

Special Points of Interest:

- A Note from our President
- 8/13/23 Meeting Minutes
- 8/13/23 TRBMDC Summer Picnic Photos
- 9/20/23 Draft Practice
- K-9 Idol Show - Saturday, October 7
- Berner Brags - Way to Go, Margo and Julia
- BMDCA Regional Clubs Draft Test Deadlines Fast Approaching
- Senior Submissions (10+ yrs.) to the BMDCA Alpenhorn due by November 1
- Berners Enjoying a Walk on the Course
- Summer Fun is Wrapping Up
- TRBMDC Calendar

TRBMDC Officers and Board of Directors

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Board of Directors:

Joyce Frey
Cathy Barth
John Millburn
Denise Reardon
Mary Sparks

We had a great time at Settlers Cabin in August for the TRBMDC Summer Picnic. There were a couple of puppies at various ages, which was tons of fun. The weather was very nice for August, not too hot! We all had a laugh at the games. We played "Will your dog eat this?", "The sock race", and "Is this your dog". There is nothing funnier than seeing a Berner run in socks. Well maybe watching the owners encouraging their dogs to run in socks! People were pretty good at recognizing their dogs or maybe the blindfold wasn't tight enough?

Fall will soon be upon us; and it will be time for our second K-9 Idol event. This event for our dogs is very similar to a dog show, but the classes are a little different. There will be classes like wiggliest tail, longest tail, dog tricks and even a costume contest. You can enter your dog in one class or all classes for free! You still have time to practice learning a trick or two with your dogs. We hope you will join us on Saturday, October 7 at Northmoreland Park - Pavilion 7 at 1:00 pm.

In the spring and fall tick activity increases, so I did some reading on ticks. I want to avoid those little buggers. Ticks are small parasites that are related to spiders, not bugs (insects). I didn't know that. They are most active in the spring and fall when the adult females need a blood host. Yuck! The females will climb tall grasses or plants in fields or the woods and wait for you or your dog to pass by. Using their front legs, they grab on, hitch a ride, and then feast. Ugh! Once it gets down to 37 degrees, they go dormant. In our area, we are concerned with Lyme disease in both people and dogs. My goal is to lower the risk for both me and Poco. In Pennsylvania, between 40% to 50% of the ticks are infected with Lyme. Ticks go through 4 stages, adult, egg, larva & nymph that becomes an adult and the cycle goes on. Many animals and birds are hosts to ticks. It's the mice that actually transmit the Lyme bacteria to the ticks and then the ticks pass it on. Ticks will lay their eggs in a gooey mass in the host animal's nest, so the eggs can survive on the nest's material. Ticks like warm, grassy, or wooded areas with leaf litter. YIKES! That's where our dogs love to be! It's helpful to keep the grass trimmed and leaves picked up. We sold "tick tubes" at our meetings that can be placed in your yard to kill the ticks on the mice. The tube has cotton balls in it that the mice will take to their nest. There is chemical (permethrin) on the cotton balls that will kill the ticks on the mice or in their nest. They can be placed in flowerbeds, bushes, wood piles, stone walls, and sheds. If you are hiking, wearing light colored clothes, and tucking your pants and shirt in will make the ticks easier to spot. Remove your clothes and wash them in hot water. There are also several creatures that eat ticks. The two who are the best are opossums and Guinee fowl! The opossums eat the ticks like a vacuum cleaner! You will have to check your local residential ordinances to see if you are permitted to have Guinea fowl! I plan to look into it!

Hope to see you soon.

Karen Artuso





Three Rivers Bernese Mountain Dog Club Meeting Minutes

Location: Settler's Cabin Park - Iroquois Pavilion - Date: Sunday, August 13 (2:00 p.m.)

The following members and visitors were in attendance: Julia Airgood (Remi/Margo), Karen Artuso (Poco), Paul/Andrea/Ethan (Heidi Jo), Richard/Caroline Cannon (Lucy), Bert/Linda/Hanna Klei (Nelly & Enzo), John/Donna/Madisyn Millburn (Lexi), Gus McBride/Tracy Sweeny (Ursa), Dale/Mary Sparks, and Bill Stayduhar. Visitors in attendance were: Randy/Gigi Lough (Quest), and Terry Timm/Roman - Terry's grandson (and Marty).

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: President, Karen Artuso

Karen welcomed everyone and had everyone do a brief introduction to recognize visitors. She also provided a brief overview of the day's events (Lunch followed by Berner Games, Raffle, Can You Guess the Biscuits, and Summer Photos)

REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT: Vice President, Donna Millburn – No report

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: Treasurer, Amy Lindenfelder

Checking Account Balance \$ 3,976.53 Rescue Account Balance \$ 358.00

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY/ELECTIONS: Acting Secretary, Donna Millburn

Members and visitors were reminded to sign the attendance sheet. Visitors were asked to provide their email addresses to be included on our newsletter, "The Incline", mailing list.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

AKC CORRESPONDENCE: Secretary - No report **AWARDS:** Karen Artuso – No report

FACEBOOK: Emily Nebiolo - No report **HEALTH:** Emily Nebiolo - No report

INSTAGRAM: Amy Lindenfelder - No report **MEMBERSHIP:** Amy Lindenfelder - No report

NEWSLETTER (TRBMDC INCLINE): Donna Millburn - Always looking for your photos and/or articles for *The Incline*. Please email .jpg images to Dmillb@comcast.net.

PUPPY REFERRAL: Karen Artuso - We continue to receive puppy and breeder requests. We have received 8 requests in last several months. Several have resulted in new puppy owners.

REGIONAL CLUB COUNCIL: Joye Neff - No report

RESCUE: Julia Airgood

- Julia communicated the Berner Garde Fundraiser being coordinated by Joye Neff, She discussed the importance of funding for their blood draw biopsy research to assist in Histio Cancer research. Donors get raffle tickets for great Berner raffle items. TRBMDC planned to make a donation to this valuable cause.
- Julia held a raffle to benefit the Club's Rescue. The winner of the Berner puppy picture was Rick/Carolyn Cannon. The winner of the raffle basket was Paul/Andrea Bowman. And the winner of "A Dog of Destiny" book was Gus McBride/Tracy Sweeny. A total of \$110 was raised for TRBMDC's Rescue account. Thanks to all who participated.

SUNSHINE: Gwen Geis – No report

TRBMDC WEBSITE: Denise Reardon - No report

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mary Sparks is chairing the K-9 Idol to be held at Northmoreland Park on Saturday, October 7 starting at 1:00 p.m. Last year, the event was held with great success. Looking forward to another fun time! Watch *The Incline* for details.
- TRBMDC selected a Nominating Committee Chair, Karen Artuso. Karen and her committee will be working hard to put together the slate of candidates for the open positions for 2024. Karen reminded attendees of the importance of considering volunteering to serve as an Officer or on the Board of Directors. The Committee will be responsible for presenting nominees for Treasurer, Secretary, and 3 Board positions at the October meeting.
- Berners of Pittsburgh will be holding their annual Pittsburgh Walk on 8/27 starting on the North Shore across from Stage AE. Check out their Facebook page for further details.

NEXT MEETING:

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Mary Sparks and seconded by John Millburn. On with lunch and the picnic!

Respectfully Submitted, Donna Millburn, Acting Secretary



TRBMDC Picnic ... Let the Games Begin!



The Great Sock Race



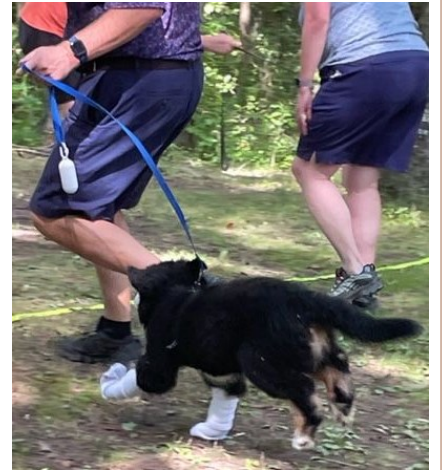
... and the winners were





TRBMDC Picnic ... Let the Games Continue!

*And the winners of The Great Sock Race were ...
the oldest Berner - Nelly and the youngest Berner - Quest!*



Your Berner eats WHAT?





TRBMDC Picnic ... Let the Games Continue!



Can You Identify your Berner, while Blind-folded?



Gus & Ursa



Rick & Lucy!



TRBMDC Picnic ... Let the Games Continue!



Madisyn & Lexi!

**Great job - 3 out of 3 guessed right!
Guess we know our Berners**





A fun time was had by all!



Three Rivers Bernese Mtn. Dog Club

Invites **YOU and Your Berners**

to a **Draft Practice**

(Visitors Welcome)

Meadow Park

Wednesday, September 20 (5:30 p.m.)

Address: 2 Meadow Park Lane (O'Hara Twp.)
Pgh., PA 15215 (off Kittanning Pike at Harding Road)

*Anyone interested in teaching your Berner to pull a cart or
earn a Draft title should attend!*

Drafting is a great bonding opportunity for you and your Berner!



**RSVP to Dmillb@comcast.net no later than 9/17/23.
Pizza will be provided by TRBMDC.**

Your Berner could be the winner of the TRBMDC "K-9 Idol" Trophy

What: TRBMDC "K-9 Idol" Show

When: Saturday, October 7, 2023

1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Registration for K-9 Idol
1:30 - 2:00 p.m. TRBMDC Meeting
2:00 ... Lunch and K-9 Idol Events Begin

Where: Northmoreland Park - Pavilion 7
280 Markle Road, Apollo, PA 15613

Who: All Member and Non-Member Bernese Mountain Dogs

What's Involved:

- Owners will register their Berner(s) in any or all of the following events at No Charge:
 - Best Costume
 - Best Trick
 - Best Hotdog Catcher
 - Longest Tail
 - Most Overall White
 - Best "Leave It"
 - Most Sits in One Minute
 - Waggiest Tail
- Placement ribbons will be awarded in each event and all participants will receive a ring favor
- An overall "fan favorite" will be awarded the "TRBMDC K-9 Idol Trophy"
- A special award will be presented to the oldest Berner (in attendance)



Refreshments: Chicken, pierogies, drinks and paper products will be provided by TRBMDC
Please bring a covered dish to donate to the luncheon



Please RSVP to Dmillb@comcast.net no later than October 2



Here are a few more details from our K-9 Idol Chairperson, Mary Sparks:

- There is **NO CHARGE** for participation in any of the K-9 Idol events
- You are encouraged to register your Berner(s) for as many categories as possible
- Owners will register their Berner(s) at the event and receive a numbered armband that the owner will wear for each category of the show
- There will be a Judge for each category, who will award a ribbon to each of the 1st through 4th place winners
- Every registered participant will receive a ring favor for each category that they participate in
- The eight categories are as follows:
 - Best Costume
 - Best Trick
 - Best Hotdog Catcher
 - Longest Tail
 - Most Overall White
 - Best "Leave It"
 - Most Sits in One Minute
 - Waggliest Tail
- Once all categories have been judged, all 1st place winners will come forward and the audience will vote by ballot for the Overall Fan Favorite "K-9 Idol Winner"
- The K-9 Winner will receive an engraved trophy, plus a special prize
- A special award will be presented to the oldest Berner (in attendance)

The K-9 Idol Show is sure to be a great, fall outing for you and your Berners. All member and visiting attendees are invited to register their Berners for lots of categories and enjoy the "K-9 Idol" Show!

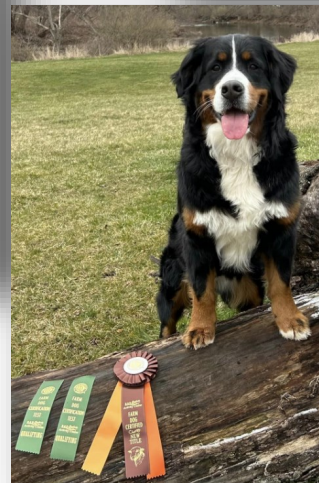


Berner Brags - Way to Go Margo and Julia

Talk about an over-achiever! Margo got mail. She earned her AKC Novice Therapy Dog title. Bigger yet, this makes her eligible for the BMDCA Active Dog Award. And, she is only two and half years old! Love this dog and her working ability. She picked me from looking at the litter of pups. She was right. So proud of her!

Julia Airgood

Oleka's zoom flying high at Hartwood CGCA, FDC, BN, RN, TKI, NAP,,NAFP, OAJP, ATD,TDN





Deadlines Fast Approaching for BMDCA Regional Club Draft Tests

Buckeye Bernese Mountain Dog Club (Sept. 30 & Oct. 1) - Columbus, OH

The Buckeye Bernese Mountain Dog Club invites you to join them for their draft tests being held on September 30 and October 1, 2023. These back-2-back all breed draft tests will take place on the grounds of the Columbus All-Breed Training Club, which provides ample parking on asphalt and the use of a climate-controlled building which includes a kitchen area and restrooms.

The theme for this year's test is "Let It Ride", and our "lucky" judges are Phil Atkinson and Julie Bacon, with Apprentice Judge Jill Shaeffer. **Closing date for entries is September 20 at 4 pm EST.**

Premium List can be found on the "Upcoming Draft Events" section of the new BMDCA website - bmdca.org/draft. Any questions? Please send an email to either Tim Thompson (draft tests chair) or to Becky Caesar (Draft Tests Secretary). Email addresses can be found in the Premium List.



Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Watchung (Oct. 6 & 7) - Bethlehem, PA

The Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Watchung will be holding their 48th and 49th BMDCA Draft Tests on October 6 & 7. There will be a Draft Match - Run Through on Thursday afternoon, 10/5. **Entry deadline for the Draft Tests is September 20 at 4 pm EST.**

Test Site: Lehigh Valley Hotel, Surestay Collection by Best Western 300 Gateway Dr, Bethlehem, PA 18017 Phone: (610) 866-5800

The judges for the tests are as follows:

Friday Judges: Eden Jonas, Creedmoor, NC & Jan Burgan, Clear Spring, MD

Saturday Judges: Eden Jonas, Creedmoor, NC & Susan VanOcker, Perkasie PA

Premium List can be found on the "Upcoming Draft Events" section of the new BMDCA website - bmdca.org/draft.



Heart of Michigan (Oct. 14 & 15) - Chelsea, MI

The Heart of Michigan Bernese Mountain Dog Club is holding their BMDCA Draft Test on October 14 & 15.

Test Site: 2023 Waterloo State Recreation Area Chelsea, Michigan

The judges for the tests are as follows:

Saturday, October 14 - Larry Bohlig & Ruth Nielsen

Sunday, October 15 - Larry Bohlig & Ruth Nielsen

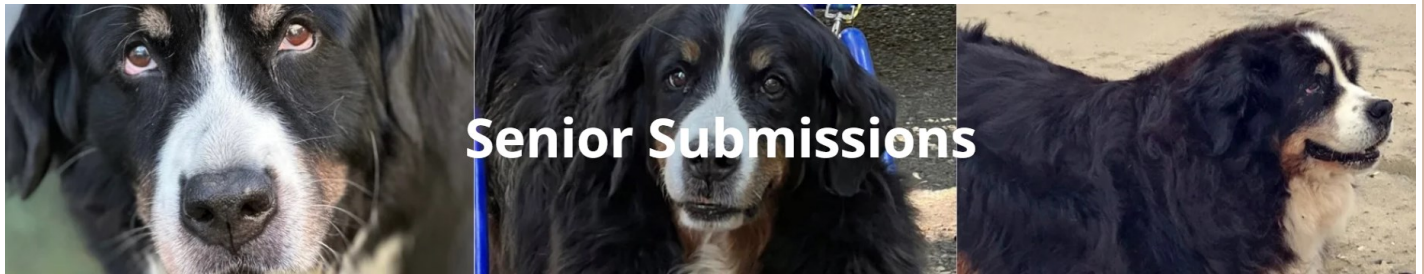
Entries close Wednesday, October 4, 2023 at 4:00 pm EST.

Premium List can be found on the "Upcoming Draft Events" section of the new BMDCA website - bmdca.org/draft.





Time for Senior Submissions to the BMDCA Alpenhorn



Honor your Senior (10 years old +) Berner with a Senior submission and photo for free. Submission is open to any Bernese Mountain Dog who will be 10 years old or older by December 31, 2023. Membership in BMDCA is not required; however, your Berner must be entered into the Berner-Garde database.

To enter your Berner into Berner-Garde, visit <https://bernergarde.org/DB>

For more information and entry form, visit <https://www.bmdca.org/senior>



Happy Birthday to ?



Does your Berner have a Birthday in September or October? It's hard to believe that none of our Club Berners have a birthday coming up soon. If your doggie does, let us know at Dmillb@comcast.net, so we can add you to our Birthday listing. Please provide Berner's name and DOB.



Berners Enjoying a Walk on the Course

According to CNN, “Padraig Harrington walks with his dogs, Wilson and Setanta, during the Pro-Am prior to the Irish Open at The K Club in Straffan, Ireland. The duo looked entirely at home on the fairways, tongues lolling and tails wagging as they bounded around Kildare’s K Club in pursuit of Harrington, drawing plenty of attention as the golfer signed autographs for fans following the end of the event.”

“It went surprisingly well, they like all the attention and kept themselves generally confined to the shady tree areas,” the 52-year old added to the post.

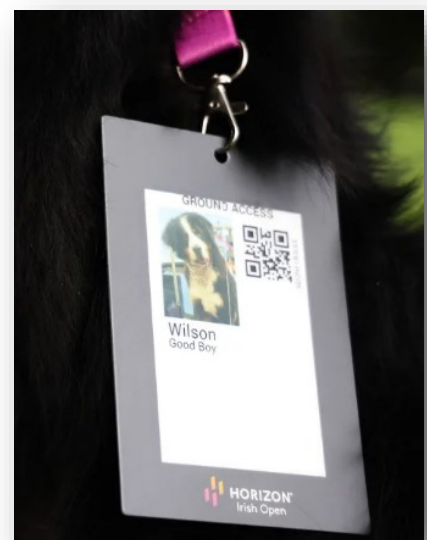
As you can see, Wilson is sporting a security pass complete with his photo!

Later in the day, Harrington supposedly posted that the excitement of the day eventually caught up with the pair as they were sprawled across the kitchen floor.

Gotta love our wonderful breed!



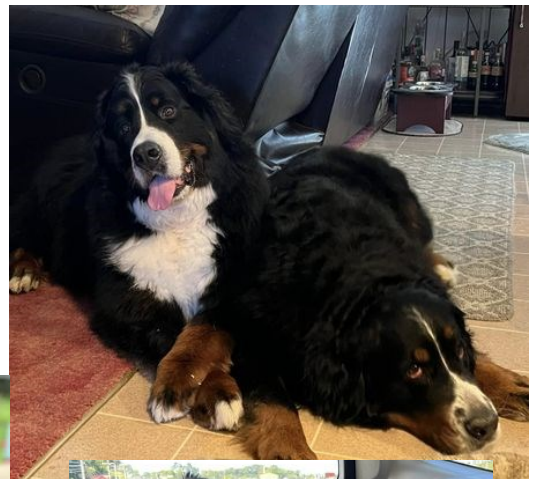
Ref. CNN - 9/6/2023





Summer Fun is Wrapping Up

Yappy Hour at The Olde Spitfire Grill in Greensburg. Dr. Brian Hougentogler from Kvet Animal Care and Dorey Jean, Digital Creator from WCVWOT were bartenders and Admiral was Top Dog Representative for their team. Yay, Admiral and Emily!





Berner Brags and Summer Fun





TRBMDC 2023 Calendar

See you on Saturday,
October 7 for
K-9 Idol

TRBMDC 2023 Calendar:

- | | |
|--|--|
| Sunday, February 12 (1:00 p.m.) | Meeting & Winter Dog Walk at Hartwood Acres
(Meet at Central Elementary School Parking Lot) |
| Sunday, April 23 (1:30 p.m.) | Meeting & Educational Talk on Canine Genetic Testing
by Dr. Bert Klei
(Ringers Pet Dog Training, Natrona Heights, PA) |
| Friday, June 9 (5:00 p.m.) | Meeting, Memorial Tribute & Grooming Tips
(Monroeville Park West - Pavilion 1) |
| Saturday, July 22 (2:30 p.m.) | Informal Get Together at Greenhouse Winery -
The Main Winery (2155 Gracin Lane, Irwin, PA 15642) |
| Sunday, August 13 (2:00 p.m.) | Meeting & Summer Picnic
Settlers Cabin Park - Iroquois Pavilion
608 Ridge Road , Pittsburgh, PA 15208 |
| Saturday, October 7 (1:00 p.m.) | Meeting & TRBMDC K-9 Idol
(Northmoreland Park - Pavilion 7) |
| Saturday, December 2 (1:00 p.m.) | Annual Meeting, 2023 Awards Celebration & Holiday Party
(Location - TBD) |

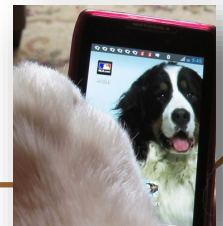
TRBMDC's Social Media

Facebook (Emily Nebiolo)

The TRBMDC Facebook name is "Three Rivers Bernese Mountain Dog Club". If you would like to post something on Facebook (a club announcement, Berner picture or achievement), email your write up with pictures and attachments to threeriversbernesemtn@gmail.com. In the Subject line, please type **"For Facebook Post"**; and it will be reviewed prior for posting. We are looking forward to increasing activity on the site, so please be sure to send your input and photos to ["threeriversbernesemtn@gmail.com"](mailto:threeriversbernesemtn@gmail.com).

Instagram (Amy Lindenfelder)

The Club's Instagram name is **"TRBMDC"**. Since it is the Club's site, please send pictures and/or videos in a text message to Amy Lindenfelder at 617-462-3655. Amy is the Administrator of the TRBMDC Instagram site and is anxiously awaiting your adorable Berner photos and/or videos to share with our followers.



Thanks to our contributors: Karen Artuso, Donna Millburn (Incline Editor), Joye Neff, Mary Sparks, the TRBMDC Board of Directors, www.BMDCA.org, and our wonderful Club photographers.