



July - August 2024

TRBMDC Incline

Official Newsletter of the Three Rivers Bernese Mountain Dog Club

Special Points of Interest:

- A Note from our President
- 6/8/24 Meeting Minutes
- 6/8/24 TRBMDC Meeting Photos
- Recap of the 6/8/24 Geriatric Berner Discussion
- A Tribute to Nelly and Lexi as they Cross the Rainbow Bridge
- **TRBMDC Summer Picnic - Saturday, August 17 hosted by Mary & Dale Sparks**
- 7/14/24 Gathering at the Greenhouse Winery
- Berner Brags and Happy Birthday to our Berners
- Summer Fun
- TRBMDC Calendar

TRBMDC Officers and Board of Directors

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Board of Directors:

Cathy Barth
Bert Klei
Joye Neff
Denise Reardon
Mary Sparks

In June, our meeting was held at Harrison Hills Park in Tarentum. I had never been there and enjoyed what I saw of the park. I'm going to head back there to do some exploring. Donna and Julia led a discussion on potential health issues with Geriatric Berners, and suggested things we can do to help them at that stage of their life. Many members also shared input based on their experiences. Julia demonstrated exercise equipment that can be used by geriatric dogs to keep their older muscles and joints more flexible.

Joye Neff did a fabulous job organizing a TRBMDC Rescue Raffle in June. She encouraged members and prospective members to participate in the online raffle and raised \$1,530.00 for our club's Rescue account! We are thrilled to see our rescue fund grow ... knowing it can be expensive to help even one dog. In addition, we continue to raise funds for Rescue with raffle baskets during our club meetings and events. Thanks to all of you for supporting these efforts.

We had a hot day for our Doggie Day at the Greenhouse Winery in Irwin. Some dogs came and others stayed home in the air conditioning. We had a group of 21 people made up of members and guests, four brave Berners and three other pups.

TRBMDC has some fun events coming up! On August 17, we will have our annual summer picnic. This year, it will be hosted by Mary and Dale Sparks. Be sure to mark your calendars! (See page 13 for details.) And get ready for some fun, doggie games.

I found that I forgot a few things about living with a puppy! My breeder gave me a great article with suggestions about the "shark teeth" those sweet fluff balls come with.

- **KEEP IT FRIENDLY** – When Dolce bites me so it hurts or bleeds, I say a cheerful "oops", stand up, turn away from her for 5 to 10 seconds. I am removing my attention when she bites hard. Keep your relationship kind and friendly. No yelling or yelping. They learn from repeating, so be willing to do this several times in a row, it will come.
- **TOLERATE LESS PAINFUL BITING** – When Dolce is calmer, I am willing to let her mouth me. This may change to biting, so I walk away. They explore their environment with their mouths.
- **LET THE KIDS/GRANDKIDS PLAY WITH THE PUPPY DURING HER QUIET TIMES** – Learn your pups times in the day when they are biting less and calmer. Take them for a walk to wear them out. Let the kids play with the pup then, supervised!
- **REDIRECT YOUR PUP TO AN OBJECT** – Have a good chew toy in each room. Have a Kong in the freezer. Make a flirt pole. A pole with a string tied to it and a toy on the other end. Great to get the puppy's attention.
- **TEACH "FIND IT!"** – Have treats in your pocket or in each room in your house. When dressing, putting on shoes or being ambushed, toss a treat and say, "Find it!". This game can be expanded when they are older. *Karen Artuso, President*

(Reference: 2012 article "Shark Attack?" from Whole Dog Journal)



Three Rivers Bernese Mountain Dog Club Meeting Minutes

Location: Harrison Hills Park - Rachel Carson Pavilion

Date: June 8, 2024

The following TRBMDC Members, Visitors (and Berners) were in attendance: Julia Airgood (Remi), Bob Albert (Mia & Scarlet), Karen Artuso (Dolce), Cathy Barth/Jim Meyer (Leisel), Bert/Linda Klei (Nelly & Enzo), Donna Millburn (Lexi), Mary/Dale Sparks (Jackson), Marty Sutton (Roxey), and visitors, Andrew Shaw (Jet).

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT: President, Karen Artuso Karen welcomed everyone who came to the meeting and discussion on Geriatric Berners. She said that Donna Millburn will be leading the discussion based on her experience with Berners over the last thirty years. Everyone is encouraged to share their input based on their personal experiences as well.

REPORT OF THE VICE PRESIDENT: Vice President, Donna Millburn We have the following activities and meetings planned for the remainder of the summer: Sunday, July 14 - Doggie Day at the Greenhouse Winery starting at 1:00 p.m. (Watch for the flyer to be emailed soon) and Saturday, August 17 - TRBMDC Summer Picnic hosted by Mary/Dale Sparks starting at 2:00 p.m. (Details will be shared in the Incline.)

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY / ELECTIONS / MEMBERSHIP: Secretary – substituting for Amy Lindenfelder was Donna Millburn – No report

REPORT OF THE TREASURER: Treasurer, Ralph Artuso – May 31, 2024 Report 2024

Checking Account Balance \$ 3,316.93

Health / Rescue Account Balance \$ 663.59

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP: Secretary, Amy Lindenfelder/Donna Millburn – A membership application for Scot/Barbara Gordon (Messy) and family was received by TRBMDC. After attendance to a second meeting, the Gordons will be voted upon. In addition, an application has been received from Elaine & Denny Hester (Cali). They will be voted on at the August meeting.

AKC CORRESPONDENCE: Karen Artuso No Report

PASSIVE RESCUE: Julia Airgood An online Rescue Fundraiser is currently underway to raise much needed funds for our Rescue account. Joye Neff is coordinating the raffle. Please support, if you are able.

REGIONAL CLUB COUNCIL: Joye Neff No Report

PERFORMANCE EVENTS: No Report

TRBMDC WEBSITE: Denise Reardon – Karen reported that Denise has added a link to the TRBMDC website for BMDCA. Be sure to check it out.

FACEBOOK: Amy Lindenfelder – Keep an eye out this week for photos from today's meeting and the Geriatric Berner discussion

NEWSLETTER (TRBMDC INCLINE): Donna Millburn

Please forward your favorite .jpg photos from today's meeting to Donna Millburn at Dmillb@comcast.net for inclusion in the Incline. In addition, I am always looking for Berner photos, brags, and articles for the bi-monthly newsletter.

PUPPY REFERRAL: Karen Artuso Karen reported that she received one request for a breeder that had been forwarded to her by Amy Lindenfelder.

AWARDS: Julia Airgood .No Report

SUNSHINE: Gwen Geis No Report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

TRBMDC Rescue Fundraiser:

Karen reported that Joye Neff has setup an online fundraiser for TRBMDC Members and Prospective Members, since our balance has gotten very low. This makes it very difficult to help the various dogs we are contacted to try to help. We are a "Passive" Rescue Club; however, Julia Airgood is continually contacted to help, since she has made many contacts over the years as Rescue Chairperson. If you have not had a chance to "spend" your "free" tickets and donate, please do so. Monday, June 10 is the last day.



Three Rivers Bernese Mountain Dog Club Meeting Minutes (Cont'd.)

UNFINISHED BUSINESS (Cont'd.)

2025 BMDCA National Specialty in Gettysburg, PA (Sunday, April 27 - Saturday, May 3, 2025):

Karen reported that we were contacted by Finger Lakes Bernese Mountain Dog Club (Sue Brightman) to see if TRBMDC would be willing to join them to help with the 2025 National Specialty Raffle. The National Specialty is held annually, but the location changes annually to different zones of the United States. A consortium of Regional Clubs volunteer to assist in organizing and running the annual Specialty. There are 11 Regional Clubs hosting the Specialty In 2025 from Zone 1 (Comprised of the East Coast and South Regional Clubs). The 2025 BMDCA Specialty will be held in Gettysburg, PA at the Eisenhower Hotel & All-star Events Complex, where it has been held a couple of times before. Finger Lakes is taking the lead on organizing the raffle and collecting the raffle baskets from Vendors and Regional Clubs. Finger Lakes (in New York) is a small Club like ourselves; and they have ask for our help to volunteer time to help man the Raffle Table. Typically, the raffle is held daily from 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. It will be so amazing to see all of the Berners competing in all kids of events. Plus, it will be fun to meet other Berner lovers like ourselves. We would like the Club's agreement to assist Finger Lakes with the 2025 BMDCA Raffle. Our responsibilities would be to accept raffle baskets, assist at the raffle table taking ticket orders and counting out tickets, communicate ticket sales to the person at the register, pass cash/checks/credit cards to the person at the register, encourage people to purchase tickets, and help to hand out raffle items and baskets after the winners have been announced on Friday afternoon.

Do you agree as a club that we should support Finger Lakes in this endeavor? A discussion was held and the Club attendees agreed that TRBMDC should definitely help with the Specialty Raffle as detailed above. Karen will contact Sue Brightman and inform her that we are willing to help them. So mark those dates on your calendars for 2025. Gettysburg is a 3-1/4 hour, scenic drive across Pennsylvania ... a perfect getaway for you and your Berner(s).

NEW BUSINESS:

A raffle basket for rescue was donated today by Jim Meyer and Cathy Barth. Thanks to them, as well as, those who plan to buy tickets today.

NEXT EVENT / MEETING:

Sunday, July 14 - Doggie Day at the Greenhouse Winery starting at 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, August 17 - TRBMDC Summer Picnic hosted by Mary/Dale Sparks starting at 2:00 p.m.

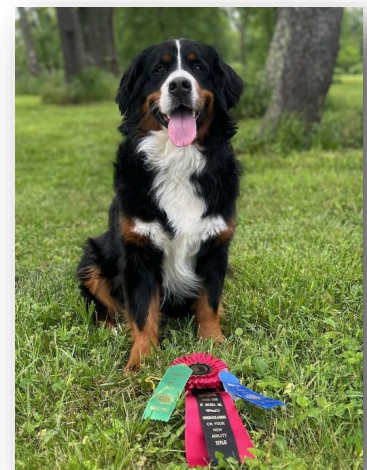
BERNER BRAGS:

Margo Airgood earned her Rally Excellent title and first place in Fast Agility. Also, Remi Airgood achieved her third leg in Rally Masters. Ten are needed to title. These girls are certainly over-achievers! We are so proud of both of you and your Mom!

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made to adjourn by Mary Sparks and seconded by Julia Airgood.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Millburn in the absence of Secretary, Amy Lindenfelder



Margo proudly displaying her ribbons



A Great Day at Harrison Hills Park (6/8/24)





And the Fun Continues





A Recap of the Geriatric Berner Discussion *(by Donna Millburn)*



On June 8 at Harrison Hills Park, TRBMDC held a discussion on Geriatric Berners. Many of us have been fortunate to have had our Berners in their senior years. Based on our personal experiences, breed education and lessons learned through the years, we have gained some valuable information that we thought could be insightful to members and friends with younger Berners. Although none of us have been formally trained in veterinary science, we shared knowledge and tips from our hearts. We have been asked to provide a summary of the discussion, since some members were unable to attend the discussion.

So ... When is a Bernese Mountain Dog considered old age? It really depends on the individual Berner. For competition in the Veterans Class, the American Kennel Club classifies veterans those males or females seven years of age or older. However, health conditions (such as arthritis, blindness, degenerative joint disease, etc.) can impact younger dogs as well. Genetics has also proven that there is a link to longevity within breed lines.

There is an old Swiss saying that says ... *Three years a young dog, three years a good dog, and three years an old dog. All else is a gift from God.*"

Noticeable Changes

Appearance:

You will notice that older Berners often have facial fur that begins to turn gray. They also have a tendency to gain or lose weight more easily. Older Berners show a general slowing down and possibly accompanied by a loss of appetite.

Behavioral:

In addition to physical changes, there are some behavioral changes that might begin to appear. You may notice changes in the social relationships between your senior dogs and other pets or family members. Sometimes your normally active Berners becomes more content to chill. This can be caused by mobility changes. Also, eating and drinking habits may start to change. Many older Berners develop a fear of thunderstorms, fireworks or loud noises later in life. The use of a thunder coat, a t-shirt or even a calming supplement (such as Calming Moments by Nature Pets) might help. You may find that your Berner heads to a room without windows to avoid the flashing ... maybe even hide behind the curtains. Sometimes it is helpful to raise the volume on the TV or the use of a sound machine might help to drown out the scary sounds.



After noticing the general appearance and behavioral changes, sometimes other health issues might rear their ugly heads.

Health Related Issues:

Arthritis – Arthritic changes can occur from “normal” or “abnormal” wear and tear on the joints. Supplements such as Glucosamine, Chondroitin, buffered Vitamin C for dogs (called Bio C), etc. can reduce the rate in which arthritis progresses. They lubricate the joints for better function. In addition, exercise (such as hydra-therapy, swimming and moderate exercise) can firm muscle tone and help to provide support for the joints. Like humans ... if you don't use your muscles, you lose them!



A Recap of the Geriatric Berner Discussion (cont'd.)

Exercise:

Julia Airgood shared an Exercise program set up through Steel City K-9 Rehabilitation (998 Perry Hwy., Pgh., PA 15237 - www.steelcityK9rehab.com) for her Berners. Meredith Wille, Licensed Vet Tech - LVT, Canine Certified Rehabilitation Practitioner - CCRP, and Certified Canine Fitness Trainer (CCFT) helped to set up the program.



Therapy:

In addition, Steel City K-9 Rehab administers Physiotherapy, Hydrotherapy, Ultra Sound, Electrostimulation Therapy, and Class IV Laser Therapy to stimulate growth of healthy cells by providing oxygenated blood to aid the healing process. Our Bentley had a diagnosis of Spinal Stenosis and a Herniated Disc at age 8. He persevered with the help of Hydrotherapy and Laser treatments for nearly two years.



Pain Management:

When therapy and exercise is no longer a possible option, Linda Klei shared that their beloved Nelly benefited from Pain Management. She was placed on an Osteo-arthritis drug named, Librela. It was administered by a monthly injection given by the vet tech. She was on it for about three months, but in addition to her arthritis, she had some nerve problems. The Kleis didn't give Nelly many supplements, because she had some low grade Hepatitis and a mass on her spleen.





A Recap of the Geriatric Berner Discussion (cont'd.)

Other Recommendations to Help Your Arthritic Berner:

Here are a few other suggestions to keep your elderly Berner, with joint issues, comfortable.:

- Provide a comfortable, padded, orthopedic dog bed
- Provide a ramp for getting in and out of cars, beds, or bathing station
- Put down floor runners or mats on slippery floors
- Add Coconut oil to food. Melt 2 teaspoons in the microwave and add to food to help reduce inflammation, IBS, colitis, and/or constipation
- Invest in a "Help'Em Up Harness" or a sling



Cancer – Unfortunately, many of our older Berners are diagnosed with a variety of forms of Cancer. Much research is going on relative to Histiocytic Sarcoma, as well as other forms of Cancer. A recent study found that 50% of Bernese Mountain Dogs would develop some form of Cancer. And, 25% of them would die from it. The most common forms in Bernese Mountain Dogs are:

- Histo Sarcoma
- Mast Cell Tumors
- Osteo Sarcoma (Bone Cancer)
- Hemangio Sarcoma (Cancer of the Blood Vessels)
- Lympho Sarcoma (Cancer of the Lymphatic System)
- Soft Tissue Sarcoma

We lost Kodi at 3-1/2 years to Hemangio Sarcoma. It is an inherited type of Cancer in the blood vessels, where the tumor fills with blood and a rupture can be immediately life threatening. Kodi had a tumor beside his heart that we were unaware of. We had an autopsy done, since he was so young and we had two other Berners at the time. Kodi's brother, Dawson - owned by Ken and Bev Cechman, also died of Hemangio Sarcoma near his liver about a year later at age 4-1/2 years. It is indeed a silent killer of both young and old Berners.

Dementia – Some Berners lose their cognitive function as they age. About 28 percent of dogs 11-12 have symptoms of Cognitive Dysfunctional Syndrome (CDS). There is no cure, but there are some specialized diets, meds, and supplements can be beneficial. Signs of Dementia in older dogs are disorientation, whining or barking for no reason, pacing, bathroom accidents, standing in corners and/or abnormal sleeping habits.



A Recap of the Geriatric Berner Discussion (cont'd.)

Degenerative Myelopathy (DM) – DM is a progressive disease which eventually causes paralysis in older dogs. It is an inherited disease. Good breeders have their dogs tested for the genetic mutations as a consideration prior to breeding. Early signs are back paws turning under.

As shared by Dr. Bert Klei, DM is the dog equivalent of Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS, Lou Gehrig's Disease). This is a devastating disease for both dogs and owners. Luckily, most of us do not have to deal with it since the prevalence is low and it is a disease that occurs in older dogs. DM affects the neurological system and leads to lameness in the rear quarters. This affects not only the legs, but also the bladder and bowel functions. In BMD, two mutations have been identified that affect the function of the gene (SOD1) involved in DM. Both copies of the genes (paternal and maternal copies) must contain at least one of the mutations for the dog to be at risk for DM. By testing for the mutations, breeders can avoid breeding dogs that would be at risk. Potential puppy buyers should ask their breeder whether the parents have been tested and whether breeding at risk off-spring has been avoided. If the parents' status is not known, puppies can be tested to determine their risk status.

We lost our very first Berner, Oakley, at 10 years old to Degenerative Myelopathy and a tumor in his lung. We found that padded foot protectors were helpful for his DM, because he kept dragging his back paws causing his nails to bleed. Make sure the booties have rubber on the toe area to serve as a barrier to rough pavement, as shown below. In addition, a Help'EM Up Harness would have also proven beneficial



Vision Loss – Vision loss can be caused by Cataracts, Glaucoma, Retinal Atrophy or Degeneration. You might notice one or more of the following: bumping into things, avoidance of steps, anxiousness in new places, and/or cloudy or redness in eyes. It is important to keep pathways clear, put bells on other pets, safety proof home, and use voice cues (like step), etc.

Hearing Loss – Hearing loss can be due to degeneration of nerves leading to the ear. There is no real cure for deafness. You might notice one or more of the following: not responding to commands, not noticing when people enter the room, not waking until touched and not responding to sudden noises. If your elderly Berner suffers from hearing loss, try using hand signals, vibrations, turning lights on and off, staying in their line of sight, securing your yard since they can't hear danger, and always keep an ID on your senior dog.

Loss of Appetite or Upset Stomach – My dog stopped eating now what? There is nothing more frustrating than trying to get your elderly Berner to eat. We have tried everything. Here are a few ideas from Club members.

- Try adding a bit of "pure" pumpkin (not pumpkin pie filling). If diarrhea is present, there is a powdered pumpkin, so not to add more moisture.
- A topper like "Stella and Chewy's" dehydrated raw may help. It is okay to add dehydrated raw with dry kibble.
- A high quality brand of smelly, canned food (like Fromm) can sometimes entice them.
- Rice and cooked chicken or browned and rinsed ground beef helps with diarrhea.
- Michele Albert has cooked beef roasts; and we have smoked brisket, cut in small pieces as a topper.
- Bev Cechman used to make them a peanut butter sandwich and feed bite by bite.
- Although not an issue with old Berners, we recently learned that a hunger strike could be a symptom of a false pregnancy! Luckily that passes, but can last several weeks.
- An herbal digestive supplement with slippery elm helps if the issue is intestinal. It calms the digestive tract.
- Daily Probiotics (such as Provable or other brands) can help.
- Call the vet, if all else fails.



A Recap of the Geriatric Berner Discussion (cont'd.)

End-of-Life Assistance

When is Telehospice Care appropriate? When is Hospice Care Appropriate? How will you know the right time? Should I choose In-Home Euthanasia or Euthanasia at your vet's office? Parting with a part of your family is so difficult, but a respectful option. At least we can put our pets out of their pain.

Grieving the loss of a pet is a very personal experience ... we all handle it very differently. Listed below are some of the in-home agencies that provide end-of-life assistance in the Pittsburgh area. In addition, your Veterinary office provides in office euthanasia services.

Pittsburgh Area End-of-Life Assistance:

- “Lap of Love” – Veterinary Hospice, In-Home Euthanasia, and Support Groups (lapoflove.com) 844-525-3060
- “Pet Loss at Home” – 45 minute radius of Pgh. (pghpetsathome.com) Mary Ann Bender, Vet 877-219-4811
- “Mobile Vet” – Bridgeville, PA - Euthanasia and cremation services (pghpetsathome.com) 412-346-1177
- “Gentle Journey Veterinary Hospice” Pgh. 15209 - In-home hospice care (gentlejourneyvet.com) 412-801-1071
- “Angel Wings Vet” Beaver County – Monaca, PA (angelwingsvet@gmail.com) 724-506-6070

Resources:

The Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America (BMDCA) website is a great source for all kinds of information related to our breed, including Geriatric Care. (www.bmdca.org) You do not need to be a BMDCA Member to access the website and reference materials.

From the Homepage, click on “About Berners”, “Info Series”, “BMD Health and Care”, “Geriatric Care” or “End of Life Care”.





Crossing the Rainbow Bridge



A Tribute to Ch High Oaks Not In Time Hash, BG# 100621

“Nelly”

The Klei family is sad to announce the death of Nelly on July 5, 2024. She was 11 years and 4 months old. We got Nelly as a 9-year-old on July 4, 2022. Some of you may know that we adopted two, 9-year-old girls whose owner, Molly Bass, suddenly passed away and homes were needed for her ten Berners. Through Joye Neff and the Bussey’s in Ohio, we adopted Maddy and Nelly. We have also gotten to know her original breeder in Italy, Maddalena. Unfortunately, we didn’t have Maddy very long, as she had cancer. We got Enzo as a pup a few months later.

Nelly was the absolute best Ambassador for the breed that we have ever had. She loved everyone and everything. She has been a willing volunteer at our Three Rivers Bernese Mountain Dog meetings for the past two years. Need a dog to practice grooming on? Want a dog to demo cart pulling, enter a sock race, dress up? Nelly was your girl. We were very lucky to have Nelly enter our lives; and I will always look back on her time with us with a smile. I think Enzo is a better dog having had Nelly teach him some manners.

Ch High Oaks Not In Time Nash, BG# 100621, known to us as Nelly, Nelly Belly, Nells Bells....

Rest in peace dear girl.





Crossing the Rainbow Bridge

A Tribute to Gelbackler's Lexus Pursuit of Perfection

"Lexi" (2/26/15 - 7/25/24)



John and I are heart-broken over the unexpected loss of our Lexi. She had the sweetest disposition, beautiful soft eyes, and had this special sense of understanding everything. She was a certified Therapy Dog and would alert us of her concerns. Lexi's breeder was Bev Cechman, my very dear friend. We bred Bev's Fern to our wonderful Bentley (from Lithuania). Lexi was the only girl in the litter; and the vet allowed Bev and I to help as the puppies were born. Lexi was in my hands within minutes of her birth ... a moment I will cherish forever. She gave us wonderful memories of Bev, Kenny, and Bentley, as well as herself. I have no doubt that Bev was waiting for Lexi with open arms at the Rainbow Bridge.

After treating Lexi for a UTI for several days, we noticed her having trouble peeing and rushed her to our vet and then Blue Pearl. A series of tests showed that Lexi had a large mass blocking her bladder ... most likely malignant, bladder cancer. Besides being unable to urinate due to the mass, her lymph nodes were swollen and there was a nodule in her lung. We made the difficult decision that many of you have had to make. Lexi deserved more than life was able to give to her. She passed laying on the couch with John and I ... with that big, beautiful head resting on her favorite place ... my lap. She was so peaceful; and we are so thankful for the time we shared together that day and for the last 9-1/2 years. Lexi - We all miss you (including Rayne) and love you forever.



Hello everyone!



Rayne with Lexi



Bentley (her Dad) with Lexi





TRBMDC Meeting and Summer Picnic

Saturday, August 17 (2:00 p.m.)

Where: Hosted by Dale and Mary Sparks
1361 State Road 168, Georgetown, PA
15043

Driveway is across from a 45 MPH sign on State Road 168. The Spark's driveway is 3/10 mile long.



There is a fenced in area and an air conditioned dog kennel. Also, a doggie pool and splash pad to keep the Berners cool. A large tent will keeps the humans cool too!

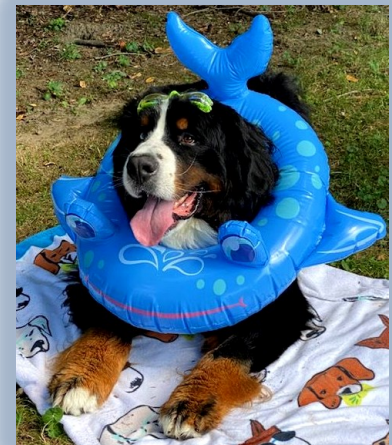


What: TRBMDC August Meeting, Summer Picnic and Doggie Games
Visitors are Welcome - Bring your Berners!

Food: Please plan to bring a Covered Dish or Dessert of your choice
Ribs, Pasta Primavera, Summer Salad, Cheese Cake and Chocolate Cake will be provided by the Sparks ... Yum!!

Activities: Berner Games (Sock Race, Cheers!, Simon Says)
Raffle to Benefit Rescue
Photos

PLEASE R.S.V.P. to Dmillb@comcast.net
no later than Wednesday, August 14,
if you are planning to attend





Gathering at the Greenhouse Winery was a Bit Toasty!



There's just something special about a photo of a Berner with his favorite, little humans.



Congrats to Wendy and Wayne Rambler, who adopted "Casper" (three month old Boxer) the day before the Winery visit. Casper is deaf, but will have the best home ... and gives the best kisses!



Berner Friends are the Best



Leisel enjoyed her trip to the winery with Cathy and Jim ... her new, loving parents.



That's Cathy's bottle of Peach wine ... not mine!



A Great Time ... Despite the Heat



A raffle basket with hand painted wine glasses to benefit TRBMDC Rescue ... plus a bottle of wine, donated by Betsy and Randy Walter, earned \$92 for the Club's Rescue Account.

Thanks to all who graciously supported the raffle. The basket was won by Bob and Michele Alberts.

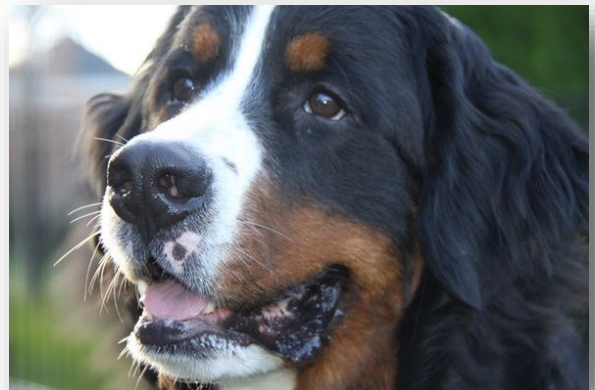




Happy Birthday to Our July and August Berners



"Tank" (7/9/16)
Sue Stonick & Larry Heidenreich



Maine's Joyeful Nathaniel Bear
"Nate" (7/29/19)
Joye & Bill Neff



"Ola" (7/27/15)
Megan Thomas



"Lulu" (8/18/18)
Jeff & Kate Maurin



Brags and Summer Fun



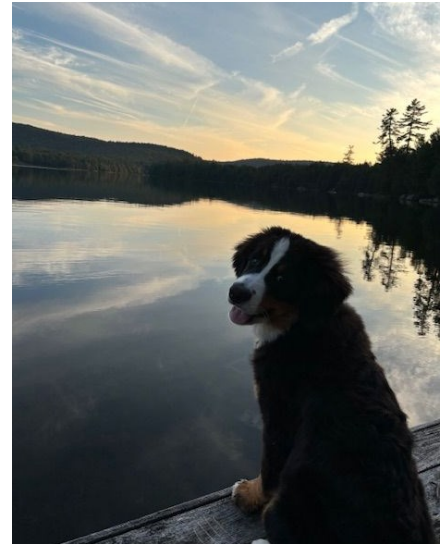
Roxey and Marty's first Therapy visit after Roxey earned her certification

Posing for a photo after Margo and Remi shared some of their Agility tricks with Roxey





Summer Cuteness



*Look what I found in the bedroom
I wasn't supposed to be in!
Do I look guilty?*

Sleepy time



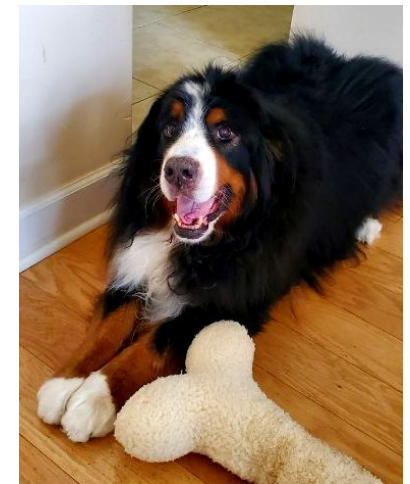
Summer Cuteness



Hey Mom - Do you see the Olympic Torch!



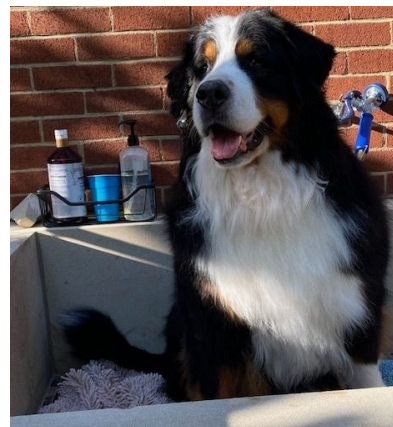
Lexi loved her baths and Rayne!



Sweet Dante (Lexi's brother) still going strong at 9-1/2



Gotta LOVE those crossed Paws!



Go Pirates ... Raise the Jolly Roger



TRBMDC 2024 Calendar

*See You and Your
Berners at the
Summer Picnic on
August 17th at the
Sparks!*

Meetings are held every other month. Programs are held on the off months.

TRBMDC 2024 Calendar:

February 18 (Sunday, 1:00 p.m.)	Meeting & Winter Dog Walk Hartwood Acres Park – Meet at 4100 Middle Rd, Alison Park, PA 15101
March 14 (Thursday, 6:30 p.m.)	(Program) Agility Demo/Workshop (Indoors) Splash ‘n Dash K9 Sports 1901 Sheena Dr. Pgh., PA 15239 (Plum)
April 13 (Saturday, 1:00 p.m.)	Meeting & Farm Dog Practice Monroeville Park West (Pav. 1), 2399 Tillbrook Rd. Monroeville, PA 15146
May 18 (Saturday, 2:00 p.m.)	(Program) Drafting Practice at Artuso’s Farm 2231 Brinkerton Rd, Greensburg, PA 15601
June 8 (Saturday, 1:00 p.m.)	Meeting, Geriatric Berner Discussion - Harrison Hills Park (Rachel Carson) 5200 Freeport Rd., Natrona Heights, PA 15065
July 14 (Sunday, 1 - 4:00 p.m.)	(Program) Dog’s Day at the Greenhouse Winery (closes at 4:00 p.m.) Greenhouse Winery 2155 Gracin Ln. Irwin, PA 15642
August 17 (Saturday, 2:00 p.m.)	Meeting & Summer Picnic – Hosted by Dale & Mary Sparks 1361 State Rd. 168, Georgetown, PA 15043
September 21 (Saturday, 1:00 p.m.)	(Program) Dr. Bert Klei - Berner-Garde (Location – TBD)
October 5 (Saturday, 1:00 p.m.)	Meeting & Rally Demonstration Twin Lakes Park (Pavilion 4), 219 Twin Lakes Rd, Latrobe, PA 15650
December 1 (Sunday, 1:00 p.m.)	Annual Meeting & Holiday Party (Sorry - no dogs permitted) DeNunzio’s Italian Trattoria - 2644 Mosside Blvd. Monroeville,, PA 15146

TRBMDC Web-site (Denise Reardon)

Our Club’s website is <https://www.threeriversbernesemountaindogclub.org>

Facebook (Amy Lindenfelder)

The TRBMDC Facebook name is “Three Rivers Bernese Mountain Dog Club”. If you would like to post something on Facebook , email your write up with pictures and attachments to 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.

Thanks to our contributors: Julia Airgood, Karen Artuso, Linda Klei, Jeff Maurin, Donna Millburn (Incline Editor), Joye Neff, Mary Sparks, Sue Stonick, Megan Thomas, the TRBMDC Board of Directors, and our wonderful Club photographers.