



# YODELS

Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Southeastern Wisconsin Newsletter

## July Specialties and Draft

Get ready for a busy weekend at Waukesha, July 27-30, in conjunction with the Waukesha KC Shows!

Thursday and Friday: **DRAFT TESTS.** Judges: Susan Van Ocker, Mary Alice Eschweiler and Kathy Berge. Check-in on Thursday will be 9:00. Check-in on Friday will be 11:00. All that is needed is for your cart, freight weights, harness, leash and collar to be there in case you are worried about the specialty. Second check-in is available following the open class. Paige Hess is secretary (phhessco@aol.com). New BMDCA regulations are available at [www.bmdcsew.org](http://www.bmdcsew.org) Draft entries close July 17.

Friday: Welcome to the BMDCNI who is having a specialty! Judge for breed, junior handling and 4-6 month puppies is Mr. John

Bink, Sweepstakes and Veteran Sweepstake is Ms. Hunter Caveledge.

Friday evening: Waukesha KC B Match.

Saturday and Sunday: BMDCSEW specialties. Judges: Mrs. Christine Mann and Mrs. Jane Haefner. Sweepstakes judges are Ms. Julie Siefert and Ms. Jennifer Stagg. 4-6 month old puppy classes available.

Sunday: Wisconsin Junior Handler competition.

Friday/Saturday/Sunday: Obedience/Rally indoors, Fast Cat, Dock Diving!

Entries close July 12. MBF (infodog.org) is the Superintendent. There is limited indoor reserved grooming. There will be a tent reserved for BMDs as well as the area to the east of the ring in the

shade. Draft dogs can be in the Arena building next to the draft ring.

Questions: call Mary Alice Eschweiler 414-614-6564 or [sheppatch@aol.com](mailto:sheppatch@aol.com)

Don't forget about the club meeting on Saturday one hour after bernese judging.

**The July Draft tests will be the first tests in the country to be held under the new 2023 BMDCA regulations.**

It is strongly advised that you reserve hotel reservations NOW. This is a busy weekend in Milwaukee with Germanfest and the EAA exposition in Oshkosh. Try La Quinta in Delafield.

June 2023  
Volume 1, Issue 2

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### BMDCSEW EVENTS

**Draft Tests Thurs and Fri  
July 27 and 28 Waukesha**

**Designated Specialties  
Sat and Sun  
July 29 and 30<sup>th</sup>  
Waukesha  
(IL club hosting  
Designated Specialty  
Friday July 28)**

**Draft Test  
Fri Sept 22<sup>nd</sup> & Sat  
Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Nashotah Park**

**Bernerfest  
Sunday, Sept 25<sup>th</sup>  
Nashotah Park**

## It's HOT – should I shave my dog?

The Bernese Mountain Dog is a double coated breed. Temperatures are soaring, your dog is panting, and there's dog hair all over the house. You might be thinking that a good, close shave could help [cool your dog off](#) while eliminating

some of that furry mess.

But is it a good idea?

Read the full article here.

<https://www.akc.org/expert-advice/health/is-it-ok-to-shave-your-dog/>





### Help Wanted

#### **Stewards for the July Draft Tests**

Thursday July 27<sup>th</sup> and Friday July 28<sup>th</sup>. If you are new to draft and want to learn some things this is a great opportunity.

Will train you just need to be present and do one or two things. Contact Karen Borre [kardon2009@yahoo.com](mailto:kardon2009@yahoo.com) or 262-812-3020

#### **Spring Fling Chair 2024**

This year we sadly had to cancel our Spring Fling due to no one stepping up to take on the event.

This has traditionally been an event that the chair can really make their own. We are required to have a meeting but beyond that you can plan a day around your interests! --

Seiger match?

Training opportunity?

Educational topic of interest?

Or a

Big Berner Family picnic potluck?

Make it as much or as easy as you'd like! Get a group of friends together and form a committee.

Please consider volunteering to bring back this great event.

Contact Sue Wellenstein with questions or ideas. [bugziere@gmail.com](mailto:bugziere@gmail.com)

### Help Wanted

#### **Hospitality for judges at the 2024 Back to Back Regional Specialties.**

Would love to get several people so that we can split the work load. Driving to and from the Airport which is about 45 min to the show site. Taking judges to dinner, Thursday, Friday and Saturday. Driving judges from the hotel to show site and back. This is a great opportunity to meet people who are knowledgeable in the breed who are not local, usually good conversations and you can learn about dog activities and issues that are happening in other parts of the country or even the world. I would co-ordinate and take care of hotel reservations.

If you are interested but have questions, please contact me. Thank you. Karen Borre [kardon2009@yahoo.com](mailto:kardon2009@yahoo.com) or 262-812-3020.

### BERNERFEST

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 24, 2023

#### **NASHOTAH PARK**

10:00am - 3:00pm

#### **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO HELP RUN**

GAMES FOR BERNERS AND THEIR FRIENDS

FACE PAINTING

FOOD

AGILITY COURSE FOR FUN- ALL DAY LONG

BERNER PLAYGROUND - ALL DAY LONG

GROOMING 101

CGC testing

BASKET RAFFLE

WE NEED PEOPLE TO WORK 2 HOUR SHIFTS, NO PREVIOUS

EXPERIENCE NEEDED JUST A HAPPY FUN LOVING ATTITUDE

PLEASE CONTACT KERRY

WALTERSDORF 262-397-8622

OR [stoneg8kerry@gmail.com](mailto:stoneg8kerry@gmail.com)



AMERICAN KENNEL CLUB  
CANINE COLLEGE

#### **AKC Canine College**

AKC Public Education and Canine College continues to expand their offerings to provide opportunities for Breeders, owners and exhibitors to expand their knowledge bases, while assisting clubs. "Stewarding at the Dog Show" has been added to the AKC Canine College. This eLearning program is available at no cost to learners and is ideal for individuals interested in stewarding and those currently working as stewards who want to enhance their knowledge and skills. It is also suitable for anyone who wants to learn more about the world of dog shows and the role of stewards in ensuring their success.

We are pleased to share that the video "Meet the Breeds In the Field" has been added to the AKC Canine College and is available for viewing. This video was an effort of AKC's Sports & Events Departments with the aid of the AKC Canine College and features 15 Pointing breeds.



## September Draft Tests

This year our draft tests in September are Friday, Sept. 22 & Saturday, Sept. 23. Our esteemed judges are Ruth Nielsen from Washington & Steve Likevich from Ohio. Test Chair is Carri Lindblom-Borisch. Test Secretary is Peggy Granger. We are again using Nashotah Park for the test site. It is a lovely park with lots of shade for in the ring, ringside for setups, and on the freight hauls. Our tests are open to all eligible dogs with preference to BMDs.

Volunteers are needed. Please consider helping. No experience is

necessary. Some of the jobs are very easy. And you get a ringside seat to watch what draft is all about. If you have been curious about draft, this is a great way to learn. Contact Carri at [tdbmd@comcast.net](mailto:tdbmd@comcast.net) or Peggy at [stormbmd@gmail.com](mailto:stormbmd@gmail.com).

Respectfully,  
Carri Lindblom-Borisch  
Draft Test Chair  
Peggy Granger  
Draft Test Secretary



## BMDCA Info Series spotlight DRAFT

Did you know?

The BMDCA – Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America has a collection of articles on their website dedicated to all things Bernese. There currently 27 different articles on topics ranging from all about the Bernese and topics on buying, regional clubs and rescue, competing in everything from tricks to agility, to healthcare and grooming and recommended testing.

Lots of draft opportunities coming up. Here's more information on draft.

[https://bmdca.org/breed\\_education/pdf/09\\_bernese\\_activities\\_draft.pdf](https://bmdca.org/breed_education/pdf/09_bernese_activities_draft.pdf)

**“Check out the BMDCA website Info Series. There are 27 topics listed with introductory information on a wide variety of topics!”**



### CINDY FALK and Zoli

Zoli has earned AKC FIT DOG bronze, silver, and (pending) gold. This is a relatively new AKC title. The picture is of him and a new friend in the neighborhood.



## A Dog's Best Yard from BHG April 2023

**Detox Landscaping** - Insecticides and fertilizers can make pets sick if they're ingested, so make sure unsafe substances aren't in areas your dog can access. Cocoa mulch is another frequent offender: it has the same compound that makes chocolate poisonous to dogs, says veterinarian Tina Wismer, senior director of the ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center.

**Plant Pet-Friendly** - Before you bring home any greenery, make sure it's not poisonous to dogs by checking the ASPCA Poisonous Plant's database. Consider planting pet-friendly mint, lavender, rosemary, sage, basil, or oregano. And planting other scented dog-safe plants is a great way to entertain your pooch, says Nicole Ellis, certified professional dog trainer (CPDT) and pet lifestyle expert with rover.com.

**Create Zones** – Worried that your dog's poop or toys will get in the way of your enjoyment of the outdoors? Here are two options: you can create a potty spot and leave the rest of the yard open for play or section off a portion of the yard specifically for your dog. “If you don't want your dog peeing on the grass, consistently take him to a potty area on the side of your yard to relieve himself when he first goes outside,”

**Spruce up your outdoor space with dog-friendly ideas that make hanging out in the backyard better – and safer – for you and your dog.**

Ellis says. “Over time, dogs learn that's the spot for going potty.”

**Ward Off Digging** – If your dog's digging drives you nuts, a sandpit might be what you need. To encourage your dog to use it, Ellis recommends demonstrating to your four-legged friend by using your hands to dig in the approved area. You can also hide a tennis ball or other outdoor toy in the sand and encourage your pooch to dig for it.

**Add Enrichment** – Providing a variety of elements for your dog to explore is a great way to stimulate your pup's senses. - Continued page 4





## 2024 National Specialty Merch

Hey everyone check out the fabulous BMDCA 2024 National Specialty merchandise located on the BMDCA website! Or here is the direct link [http://www.bmdca-store.com/2024\\_c\\_59.html](http://www.bmdca-store.com/2024_c_59.html)

If any of our club members would like to join the 2024 National Specialty Checkerboard Facebook group to get all of the current specialty information, as well as fun updates and deals on our 2024 specialty merchandise just let me know!

Brycie Marine

[bryciemarine@gmail.com](mailto:bryciemarine@gmail.com)



## Dog's Best Yard

From page 3

Ellis recommends tether toys that anchor into the ground, puppy playgrounds, and a sprinkler in the summertime.

**Give Them Space** – Ellis cautions against setting up a kennel or dog run outside, as they can become too hot or the confinement can lead to boredom; fencing in the yard is a better option. And add a window to your fence to provide endless entertainment. Your pup can peek through to see what's going on in the neighborhood.

**Paw-some Extras** – Wagging for more dog-friendly tips or other ideas for living with pets? Hover your phone camera here or go to [dailypays.com](http://dailypays.com) for more pet parent info and make you smile pet news.

## Farm Dog Event

On May 13, 2023 we held our second Farm Dog Certification test. We moved the test to the spring to hopefully have better weather!

While the weather was better, though still a little rainy, our entry was not. We had only two club members (one Berner) sign up for the event. We were able to break even on the event due to the number of run-thrus the night before.

We again had individuals from a wide area and unique breeds enter.

We would like to thank our members who volunteered. Lyn Steffens and Lexi and Tim Lau. We would also like to thank non-club member Kate Pfaendtner for volunteering also!

Huge thank you to our Judges, Jean Bernier and Karen Combs for again doing a fabulous job!

Sue Lutz and Paige Hess

**“The future of our Farm Dog Events is questionable due to lack of club interest.” Plan to attend the July membership meeting if you want the club to offer Farm Dog tests.**



This is “Mookie”. A Mudi, Hungarian Farm dog.

Owned by Laurel Stone



**KATHY BOHM and Caesar**

GCH CH Driftless Taking It To The Streets (Caesar) was awarded BOB on Sunday at the Janesville Beloit Kennel Club Show in May. He also made the cut in the Working Group in the same show.



Caesar was also awarded a Group 1 Owner Handler at the Badger Kennel Club Show in May and went on to be awarded Reserve Best In Show OH



## New Berner-Garde Merch – submitted by Brycie Marine

Finally, what everyone has been asking for, Berner-Garde merchandise is now available for purchase online! Fabulous, comfortable and fun T-shirts and sweatshirts, in various colors, to choose from! Click on the merchandise tab at the top right of the home page, or in the middle of the homepage under the 'New Berner-Garde

Merchandise' area, and you will be directed to our store. All proceeds go to help maintain our Berner-Garde website, Bernese Mountain Dog Repository at MSU and also help fund current and upcoming research projects that benefit improvements in the health of our beloved Bernese Mountain Dogs.

Here is the direct link to our home page:

<https://bernergarde.org/home/>

Happy shopping!

**#fortheloveofaberner**

## Rescue Corner - The Surprise Litter -Wendy Kerr

Izzy (a 7 or 8 year old female) was surrendered to me in February of this year. I took her to the vet for an exam and vaccinations. We discovered that Izzy was pregnant! Turns out Izzy was already pregnant when she was surrendered to me and her previous owner didn't bother to mention it. Izzy stayed with me for the 8 week period of raising the pups. Now, mind you, I've never done this before. I didn't know the first thing about raising newborn puppies. Be that as it may, seven puppies arrived April 4. (Unfortunately daddy is not a berner. Sigh.) As any new

“mother” might, each time a puppy cried I was running to see what was wrong. When all pups were fine after my checking on them I eventually learned that they aren't dying if they cry a bit. As the weaning process began the real work was just getting started. Many thanks go to those who helped me, guided me, loaned me puppy play pens and the donation of another pen. Thanks also to my vet of the last 15 years who has been with me through all my rescue “adventures”. The internet was a steady source of information as a clueless person raising a litter. I have a whole new appreciation for those of you who

breed dogs! My hat is off to you! As luck would have it the puppies all survived, were healthy and homes were found for all. I'm very fortunate to have found wonderful, loving homes for these seven little pups.



## Draft Workshop – brrrr....

Our club's annual Draft Workshop was held on Saturday April 22. We had a mix of new and experienced dogs and handlers. A big thank you to Kathy Heun, Peggy Granger and Kay Wendorf for helping everyone attending. As always Wisconsin weather is never predictable. Usually when the workshop is held the temperatures are warm and

sometimes it rains. This is the first time it snowed!!

– Lynne Kurz





**Bernese Mountain Dog**  
**CHARITABLE**  
**FOUNDATION**  
**HEALTH • RESCUE • EDUCATION**

A message from the President of the Bernese Mountain Dog Charitable Foundation

As many of you are aware, in April 2023 the Bernese Mountain Dog Charitable Foundation (BMDCF) pledged \$10,000 and partnered with the BMDCA to help fund an extraordinary rescue of thirty BMDs by the Bernese Auction Rescue Coalition (BARC). Thanks to the teamwork of these three organizations and to the Berner community, these Berners are hopefully on a path to a much better life.

Because of the Berner community's generous support of our past fundraisers for Rescue and ongoing donations to our General Fund, the Foundation funds have grown such that we can expand our outreach to Regional Clubs and their Rescue Programs. We are asking you to share this information with your membership, whether we can be of help to them or they would like to make a donation to the BMDCF so we can continue to support the breed. It is our goal to be able to react to situations with the same expediency and substantial support that we did with BARC. However, to build on our successes we need your assistance to ensure that the funds are readily available. Please visit our website, [www.bmdcf.org](http://www.bmdcf.org), to see how we can help each other.

The BMDCF was the brainchild of Fara Bushnell, a long-time breeder from Kentucky. She and a group of dedicated Berner enthusiasts developed it as a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization. Their goal was to provide a one stop shop for people who love the breed to make tax-deductible contributions for health research, rescue and education. Today, we are proud to have been able to help BARC with its recent rescue effort and look forward to bettering the lives of BMDs by granting funds to projects in all of these areas.

The BMDCF Board of Directors wants to sincerely thank you for your past support and continuing to back our mission by helping us build our endowment. This will allow us to be there when needed in the lives of Berners.

BMDCF Board of Directors:

Tina Brooks, Andrea Bracikowski, Susan Harrison, Doug Harrison, Pat Long, Joye Neff, George Pappas, Bruce Whiteside, Babs Winicur, Anya Wittenborg, Bob Wright

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## BMDCSEW Yodels

Submissions can be sent to  
Paige Hess, Editor  
phhessco@aol.com



### **B M D C S E W**

*Articles written by members of the BMDCSEW on any topic/subject that may be of interest to Bernese members are welcome. Non copyrighted articles or those that can be reprinted with permission are welcome as well*

We're on the Web!

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

## Yodels

The contents of the Yodels represent the views and opinions of the authors, and not necessarily those of the BMDCSEW or it's members, nor does publication constitute endorsement.

The Yodels is published four times a year.

Publication is anticipated the last week of the quarter. Deadline for news and articles is the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month in March, June, September and December

BOARD MEETINGS 2023	GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING 2023
Sat, Jan 21st Webex Meeting 9:00 am	Sun Feb 12th Thunder Bay Grille 1:00 pm
Sat, March 25th Webex Meeting 9:00 am	Sat, June 17th WEB Ex 10:30 pm
Sat, June 17th WEB Ex 9 am	Sat, July 29th Waukesha Kennel Club Dog Show Waukesha County Expo 1000 Northview Road, Waukesha, WI 53188 1 hour after Bernese judging
Sun, Sept 24th Nashotah Park W33N5113 County Road C Nashotah, WI 53058 9:00 am	Sunday, September 24th Nashotah Park W33N5113 County Road C Nashotah, WI 53058 10:00 am
Sun, Nov 5 <sup>th</sup> St Mary's Church 10 am	Sun, Nov 5th St Mary's Church 12:30 pm

## Club Contacts

### **BMDCSEW Officers and Directors**

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### **Committees**

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- Carting / Drafting**  
Kay Wendorf
- Education**  
Kerry Waltersdorf
- Membership Chair**  
Sue Wellenstein
- RCC Representative**  
Paige Hess
- Records/Club Historian**  
Karen Borre

- Rescue Chair**  
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