

The Dog Aging Project: Background, Goals & Data

Sandi Shrager

Tuesday April 29 9:00-11:00a.m.

The Dog Aging Project is the most ambitious study of canine health ever undertaken. The goal is to understand how genes, lifestyle, and environment influence aging in dogs and their human companions. In learning how dogs age, develop illnesses --or don't -- researchers hope to discover how to help dogs live longer, healthier lives. This presentation will describe the study, how Bernese Mountain Dogs can help and participate, as well as how breed clubs may work with researchers to inform their own goals and projects on health and disease. Some breed-specific data will be presented.

Sandi Shrager is a research scientist at the University of Washington and has been working in epidemiological research for 30 years. She is currently working on the Dog Aging Project as a researcher and is the breed club representative for the project. Additionally, she breeds, owns, and shows Malamutes and heads the health committee of the Alaskan Malamute Club of America.