

Checkerboard Times

Monday, April 1st 2024



“There are no strangers here; Only friends you haven't yet met.”

—William Butler Yeats

Monday Happenings

Draft Test #1 at the Working Dog Field

Agility in the Great Hall

Berner U in various locations

Registrations opens at 9 am in the Great Hall

Grooming opens at 3 pm in Gateway Hall

You can access an interactive daily schedule by clicking [THIS](#) link.

Bringing Friends Together Indeed!



Planning a Shower in the Service Center?

The Service Center will be unavailable for bathing dogs or for showering from midnight Monday evening until the conclusion of the Scentwork Trial on Tuesday afternoon.

Greetings from Purina Farms!

The weekend was action-packed with Herding, Farm Dog, and Supported Entries at the all-breed show that was taking place. The Board meeting happened. Berner Peeps were arriving from here, there, and everywhere. Friendship bracelets were exchanged. Easter Eggs (and chocolate) were involved. The Specialty warm-up weekend was hopping.

Word on the street is that Herding had a beautiful location, a great Trial Secretary, an awesome Chair — and challenging sheep. The Farm Dog test was a big success with lots of new Farm Dog titles earned and not a single duck lost. Well done, Farm Dogs!

Purina Farms is beautiful and spacious. It has a real café — with tables! The floor is incredible, and the amenities are outstanding. There is so much space — and grass! Like the earth, however, Purina Farms is not flat. Everyone will be getting their exercise this week.

We have a lot going on today (Monday). Agility will be happening in the Great Hall — they roll out turf for this! Draft will be at the Working Dog Field. Berner U is underway — find Linda Seaver if you want to participate. Don't forget to pick up your registration packet today, and the mad dash to set up grooming will happen this afternoon.

The Breeder Symposium is tonight, and it is NOT just for breeders. Please attend. We have a chance to hear about the progress being made in Histiocytic Sarcoma Care (see additional info in this newsletter).

Have a great Monday, Friend!



The Breeder Symposium is TONIGHT

7pm in the Founders Room (2nd Floor).

Topic: Progress in Histiocytic Sarcoma Care

ALL Berner owners are welcome to attend the Symposium.

Grab dinner and come to listen and learn.

The BBQ Food Truck will take orders from 3:45 pm to 6:45pm. You can find it outside the main door of the Great Hall. There will be dining tables set up in the Founders' Room so you can relax and socialize while enjoying your meal.

Cash Bar will be available in the Founders' Room from 5pm to 7pm.

ALL Berner peeps are welcome to attend the Symposium.

PLEASE and ***THANK YOU***

If you are attending Berner U on Monday with a dog, please do not let your dog relieve itself anywhere in the Service Center area except in the Play Yard (the fenced in exercise area). The Scentwork trial has exterior classes which will be in the areas outside around the Service Center on Tuesday.

Two Happy Farm Dogs



OPENING TOMORROW

The 2024 Ways & Means booth will be open for business on Tuesday at 8:30 a.m.



Please visit to see the wonderful assortment of products. Also, if you Pre Ordered, they will have your order ready for pick up at the booth.

BMDCA President Margie Geiger and her Assistant Genny presiding over the BMDCA Board Meeting.



THE ALPENHORN

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOG CLUB OF AMERICA

***Best of luck
at the 2024
National Specialty Show***

Don't forget to celebrate and commemorate your time in St. Louis with an ad in The Alpenhorn

SPECIAL RATES

Full Color Page - \$150 (\$200)

Half Color Page - \$100 (\$150)

NEW FEATURE

Be the first to see your ad featured online at bmdca.org in the new online ad gallery.



Scan the QR code to place your reservation. Store closes June 1, 2024



SCAN ME

SCRIBE NEEDED

A Scribe is needed for the European-Style Siegel Evaluations today at 9 am.

No experience needed and a great opportunity to learn correct conformation.

Find Linda at Founders Room, 2nd floor of the Event Center

RAFFLE INFO!

Best Seats in the House Raffle!
Get your tickets on Monday at the Registration Desk.

If you are dropping off raffle baskets and items, please note there are short-term loading/unloading zones close to the two main entrance doors of the Exhibition Center.

If you have a raffle question or issue, please contact Nicole Stonitsch at 513.703.0450.

First Timers!

Welcome, New Friends.
We are glad you are here.



CALLING ALL 1ST TIME SPECIALTY ATTENDEES JUST FOR YOU!

The 2024 BMDCA National Specialty Newcomers' Scavenger Hunt
Sponsored by the Berner-Garde Foundation

YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS

How to play:

- 🐾 **Step 1:** Pick up your registration packet in front of the Checkerboard Café *
*(Registration packets will be available at the Holiday Inn Six Flags on Sunday; after Sunday, they will be at the Purina Event Center)
- 🐾 **Step 2:** Look for the **BRIGHT YELLOW** cardstock in your registration packet
- 🐾 **Step 3:** Write your name and contact info on the top of the form
- 🐾 **Step 4:** Follow the instructions and have fun!
- 🐾 **Step 5:** When completed, drop form off at box located at the Berner-Garde Booth before noon on Friday to be entered in a prize drawing

🐾 **Welcome and Happy Scavenging!** 🐾

Important Info for Tuesday's Scentwork Exhibitors

- ⌘ This is a large trial with 113 entries and one judge.
- ⌘ Briefing is at 7:45 AM at the Service Center.
- ⌘ First dog in HD to immediately follow the briefing.
- ⌘ Due to the number of RVs, parking for the Scentwork Trial is limited and so please park as close together as possible. There should be an attendant there to help.
- ⌘ Car crating only.
- ⌘ We will try our best to announce classes as they are setting up on the Specialty Facebook page, but these classes will run quickly.
- ⌘ Ultimately, it is an exhibitor's responsibility to be ready to run when their class is running. We cannot hold classes or reset searches if you miss your class.

Questions or concerns?
Contact Scentwork Trial
Chair (Denise McClure)
at 615-480-8049

The Newsletter Team welcomes
photos, announcements,
suggestions, etc.

Send to Mary-Ann Sontag at
Sontag.ma@gmail.com
or text to 406-369-5293.