



## 2017 CLASS DESCRIPTIONS & FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES ©

Holiday Inn Airport – Portland 8439 Ne Columbia Blvd, Portland, OR 97220 US

### MONDAY APRIL 24, 9 -11 AM

#### **DRAFTING 101**

##### **CHRISTINE MANN**

Ever wonder how to get started doing draft work with your Berner? Come learn how you and your best friend can enjoy carting. Whether you would like to get some help around the farm, to enter the St. Patrick's Day Parade, or train for a BMDCA Draft Test, we can help. We will discuss equipment, training techniques and conditioning. Above all else, drafting is about teamwork and having fun! This is a demonstration class. No dogs are allowed in the room so we might move outside for practical draft demonstrations as the weather allows.

*Christine* saw her first Bernese Mountain Dog in 1974 but it was not until the late 80s that she was able to have a Bernese of her own. CH Alpine Joy's Deerpark Sgt Harpo CD DD HIC TT CGC revealed the wonderful world of Bernese to Christine while becoming one of the first BMDCA Versatility Dogs. Nearly thirty years later, she successfully trains and handles her own dogs in conformation, draft, obedience and therapy work creating seven generations of BMDCA Versatility Dogs and Pet Partner Animal Assisted therapy Dogs. Supporting her deep commitment to the Bernese, Christine became a draft judge in 1993 and a licensed AKC conformation judge in 2009. Breeding occasionally, she has bred Bernese under the Blue Moon kennel name since 1994.

#### **ANIMAL COMMUNICATION**

##### **POLLY KLEIN**

Animal communication is the process of talking directly to your animals through thought. Animal communication is wonderful for gaining insight into problem behaviors because solutions are much more effective when your animal's perspective is taken into account. Communication sessions are very useful for gauging how much pain your animal is feeling. It also helps you to determine when your companion animal may want your assistance to leave their body at the end of their life. During private intuitive sessions, Polly receives pictures, dialogue, body sensations and emotions from your animal. She is also able to relay messages back to your animal using these same modalities. Sessions can be done either in person or remotely by providing a picture of your animal. \* She will be available for private sessions after the class. Please contact her ahead of time at <mailto:paws@tonglenhealingarts.com> to make an appointment.\*

*Polly*, owner of Tonglen Healing Arts for Animals, is a nationally recognized animal communicator and healer. After completing her degree in Psychology with an emphasis on the connection between mind, body, spirit and health, Polly continued her postgraduate training at Bastyr

University and received her certification as an Animal CranioSacral Therapist. In 2013 Polly completed her National Boards and became a licensed Small Animal Massage Practitioner. She received animal communication training from the Assisi Institute. She is also a Reiki Master Teacher and conducts small group Reiki training classes, and practices Reiki with large and small animals. Polly is a consultant to veterinarians and dog trainers.

In addition to seeing private clients, teaches for Bastyr University and The Northwest School of Animal Massage. Polly also has the pleasure to work with MercyVet Veterinary Hospital in surgical recovery providing energy work to their animal clients as they awaken from anesthesia. In Spring of 2013, Polly began working with Erica Anderson, DVM at her veterinary clinic, [Jet City Animal Clinic](#), in Seattle, WA. Tonglen Healing Arts for Animals is based in Issaquah, Washington, where Polly lives with her three dogs, two cats, parrot, pond of goldfish and her children.

## **LYMPHOMA 101 LISA PARSHLEY DVM**

Despite numerous treatment protocols, we continue to lose a significant number of Bernese to Lymphoma. Veterinary oncologist, Berner owner and previous Berner U faculty member, Lisa will cover everything you need to know about the prevention, diagnosis, treatment and care of this common cancer.

Lisa received a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Oregon Health Sciences University in 1994. After working for almost 5 years in basic biomedical research, she pursued a doctorate of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) from Colorado State University. After receiving her DVM, she completed a small animal internship at Cornell University and an Oncology residency with Dr. Barbara Kitchell at Michigan State University. She has been awarded a specialty certification in oncology from the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. Dr. Parshley also has extensive experience in emergency medicine (her other love), critical care, and palliative medicine. Lisa spent her summers growing up in the Puget Sound area and is delighted to have finally achieved her dream: Olympia Veterinary Cancer Center in Olympia Washington.

## **MONDAY 12-2 PM**

### **NATURAL NUTRITION FOR HEALTHY, HAPPY BERNERS: PART 1 KYMETHY SCHULTZ CN**

We welcome Kymethy to a discussion relevant to *all* Berner owners since we all have to make informed choices about how to feed our dogs each day. She will cover the following topics: what foods your dog was designed to thrive on, how to compare diets among kibble, canned and raw, oh my!, how to easily make a variety of healthy homemade meals for your dog, and nutrition for various life stages. Kymethy will allow plenty of time for your questions.

Part 2 continues beginning at 3 PM. See description below, Monday at 3 PM.

*Kymethy* is a Clinical Nutritionist and Animal Health Instructor. She's been a trailblazer in the field of canine nutrition for over two decades. Her nutritional recommendations are endorsed by veterinarians, health practitioners, breeders, and dog people all around the world. Her books are used in teaching programs and published in numerous countries and languages. She has raised large-breed dogs for over 30 years, successfully producing champions, working, service, and therapy dogs and, most important; healthy family companions. For more info: <http://www.kymethy.com>

*\*Kymethy would like to dedicate her presentations in loving memory to Cindy Geisler; cherished friend, dedicated veterinarian, and passionate Berner person.\**

**BEHAVIOR ADJUSTMENT TRAINING (BAT) FOR REACTIVE/FEARFUL/  
AGGRESSIVE DOGS  
LISBETH PLANT**

Introduction to behaviour modification in general, and the BAT-protocol in particular. We will discuss why dogs are reactive and introduce the basics of classical and operant conditioning in general, along with the principles of functional rewards as used in the BAT-protocol. We will then move outdoors to practice the BAT-protocol using non-reactive dogs, for which we will need THREE teams of pre-screened, marginally reactive or young and socially excitable dogs for demo and practice. Demo dogs will be considered on a first-come-first-served basis, but screened for suitability based on a detailed behavior questionnaire. If you are interested in participating with your dog, please email Lisbeth Plant at [billisbeth@shaw.ca](mailto:billisbeth@shaw.ca), indicating "Berner U 2017" in the subject line, NO LATER THAN March 31, 2017.

*Lisbeth Plant* ACDBC UW-AAB KPACTP CBATI is the founder and owner of Cowichan Canine Behaviour & Training Ltd, in British Columbia, Canada and currently lives with three Bernese Mountain Dogs, Cassie, Mickey and Moki, and one husband, Bill. She is an Associate Certified Member in the Dog Division of the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants, holds a Certificate in Applied Animal Behavior from the University of Washington, is a Certified Training Partner of the Karen Pryor Academy and a Certified Behavior Adjustment Training Instructor. She specializes in the behaviour modification of fearful and aggressive dogs, but works with dogs with many different behaviour issues on a daily basis. She advocates for increased professionalism and continuing education for professional dog trainers, and she maintains memberships in multiple professional organizations. From time to time, Lisbeth serves as an expert witness in the Provincial Court of BC in relation to Dangerous Dog cases.

**TELLING TIME: OVULATION, C-SECTION, DUE DATE, FETAL MATURATION &  
GESTATIONAL AGE  
CHERYL LOPATE DVM**

This session will cover the basics of ovulation timing and planning for natural, fresh-chilled or frozen semen breedings. It will cover use of ovulation timing to determine an accurate due date. Planning for an elective or allowing for an emergency cesarean section will be discussed both with and without ovulation timing.

*Cheryl Lopate*, MS, DVM Diplomate, member of the American College of Theriogenologists and Board Certified in Animal Reproduction. Cheryl is currently working at Reproductive Revolutions an equine facility in Aurora, Oregon and at the Wilsonville Veterinary Clinic, a small animal facility in Wilsonville, Oregon.

**MONDAY 3 -5 PM**

**NATURAL NUTRITION FOR HEALTHY, HAPPY BERNERS: PART 2  
KYMYTHY SCHULTZ**

Kymythy will continue the nutrition conversation from Part 1. This session will focus on creating healthier dogs through better nutrition, disease prevention and healing through diet and supplements, specific foods to avoid and finally, treats: the good, the bad and the pizzlies!

*\*Kymythy would like to dedicate her presentations in loving memory to Cindy Geisler; cherished friend, dedicated veterinarian, and passionate Berner person.\**

## **HISTIOCYTIC SARCOMA UPDATE**

### **KAITLIN CURRAN DVM, SHAY BRACHA DVM & HALEY LEEPER DVM**

In this review we will cover the typical clinical presentation of histiocytic sarcoma, diagnostics used to detect and stage this disease, as well as the various treatment options used in veterinary medicine. In addition, we will also discuss current clinical research being performed at Oregon State University in regards to histiocytic sarcoma.

*Katie* is an assistant professor at Oregon State University. She completed her veterinary degree at Washington State University, and her medical oncology residency at Colorado State University. She appreciates providing pet owners with a comprehensive approach to diagnostic and therapeutic options for fighting cancer. Her research is focused on design and implementation of clinical trials.

*Shay* is an assistant professor at Oregon State University. He completed his veterinary degree in Budapest Hungary and his medical oncology residency at Michigan State University and the Animal Cancer and Imaging Center. His research is focused on osteosarcoma and transitional cell carcinoma.

*Haley* is a third year medical oncology resident at Oregon State University. She attended veterinary school at the Western University of Health Sciences in southern California.

## **NOVICE OBEDIENCE 101**

### **LISA BALDWIN**

You've trained your dog, but are YOU ring ready? The most beautiful performances in the Obedience ring happen when both dog & handler work together as a team. This class will cover common handler errors in Novice Obedience. Some of this also applies to Rally, so if you are doing Rally & considering Obedience, this class may be of interest. Partial Novice run-throughs will be available at the end of the class, time permitting.

*Lisa* has owned Bernese Mountain Dogs since 1988 and started obedience training with her first. Due to orthopedic issues, they didn't compete beyond his Novice title. Her current Bernese has multiple Obedience & Rally titles. She has taught obedience classes ranging from puppy kindergarten and basic pet manners through Open obedience. Her favorite classes are puppy and novice handling.

Lisa currently owns an 11 year-old Japanese Chin (URO1 Shire Dark Side of the Moon RA CGC TT), a 9-year-old Bernese Mountain Dog (UROG UCDX Maine's Jump Start CDX RAE CGC TT), and a 2-year-old Rottweiler (Von Marc's Angels Would Fall RN RAT-N)

**MONDAY 7-9 PM**

**\*BMDCA BREEDER SYMPOSIUM\***

## **THE SCOOP ON POOP**

### **DIARRHEA AND OTHER GASTROINTESTINAL ISSUES**

#### **JOERG STEINER DVM**

In this session we will explore the many reasons why a dog could be having diarrhea. We will talk about causes of diarrhea that are within the gastrointestinal tract, but also those that are due to diseases outside the GI tract. We will talk about diagnostic tests that can be used to find the underlying cause of diarrhea. Finally, we will also talk about the management of diarrhea, including the use of diets, probiotics, and others.

*Dr. Joerg Steiner* received his Dr. of Veterinary Medicine degree from the Ludwig-Maximilians University of Munich, Germany in 1992. He did an internship in small animal medicine and

surgery at the University of Pennsylvania from 1992 to 1993 and a residency in small animal internal medicine at Purdue University from 1993 to 1996. In 1996 he achieved board certification with the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine and the European College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. In 2000 Dr. Steiner received a PhD from Texas A&M University for his work on canine digestive lipases and their use for the diagnosis of gastrointestinal disorders in the dog. In 2012 he was recognized as a Fellow of the American Gastroenterology Association. He currently serves as Professor with the Department of Small Animal Medicine and Surgery and the Department of Veterinary Pathobiology at Texas A&M University. In 2016 Dr. Steiner was named the Dr. Mark Morris Chair in Small Animal Gastroenterology and Nutrition. He also serves as Director of the Gastrointestinal Laboratory at Texas A&M University and is involved in a wide variety of research in small animal gastroenterology. He has authored or co-authored more than 230 peer-reviewed articles, 80 book chapters, and 350 research abstracts.

## **TUESDAY APRIL 25, 9 -11 AM**

### **SIEGER EVALUATIONS**

#### **MARY ALICE ESCHWEILER**

Mary Alice, a respected and experienced breeder and judge of Bernese, has offered to evaluate your Berner in the European manner. Mary Alice will closely observe and evaluate over 30 different conformation characteristics while the dog stands in a relaxed, natural pose and then is gaited down and back. She will then give an oral critique of the dog to you and the observing Berner U students. You will also receive a written, signed evaluation of conformation and a Sieger certificate if your dog receives an "Excellent" rating. *Everyone is welcome to come and observe without prior registration.*

*Mary Alice* has owned Bernese Mountain Dogs since 1959, trained and earned a championship with her first Berner and showed the first Berner to earn a Utility Dog title. She has bred eight litters, trained, shown, and enjoyed the sport of conformation, tracking, obedience and drafting. She has served as Board Member and President of BMDCA, on many Specialty Committees, Records Chairman, Judges' Education Chair and member of the Draft Working Committee and Regional Club Council. Currently approved as an AKC judge of Bernese, Junior Showmanship and BMDCA draft tests, Mary Alice appears in the recent educational DVD Breed Panel & Discussion filmed in Seattle, Washington.

### **THE GENETICS OF BEHAVIOR IN DOGS**

#### **CAROL BEUCHAT PHD**

Many behavioral traits are a combination of genetics and environment, and understanding this can allow you to select for the traits you want more efficiently. We will talk about how the heritability of a trait is determined and how breeders can use this information to improve selection for particular traits. We will also talk about behavior and temperament testing, how these have been used in breeding programs, and how informative they are.

*Carol* is a biologist and photographer with a lifelong interest in animals and especially dogs. She is currently the Scientific Director of the Institute of Canine Biology. She has held faculty positions at Colgate University, University of Arizona, and San Diego State University, and has also been a consultant at Hubbs-Sea World Research Institute. She has studied many kinds of animals in both the lab and field including hummingbirds, African sunbirds and sugarbirds, killer whales, pinnipeds (seals and sea lions), frogs and toads, lizards. She has broad expertise in many fields including physiology, ecology, behavior, evolution, and biochemistry. Her interest in canine genetics grew out of her years of photographing show dogs professionally, when she got to work closely with many breeders and learned that many were alarmed by the increasing incidence of genetic disorders in purebred dogs. Realizing that breeders would need both

education and access to expertise to tackle this problem, she founded ICB as an international consortium of canine and population geneticists. ICB now offers many courses specifically designed for dog owners and breeders and also consults with breed groups and individuals about genetic management strategies to reduce and manage the incidence of genetic disorders in dogs.

## **EXERCISE & ITS EFFECTS ON SURVIVAL & TOLERATION OF CANCER THERAPY** **LISA PARSHLEY DVM**

When recommending a treatment for canine cancer, veterinarians must always consider the benefits as well as the side effects. Ancillary treatments, including nutrition, exercise and palliative care must all be thoughtfully integrated and monitored to achieve the sought for remission. The class will focus on exercise and it's contribution to survival for your Berner.

*Dr. Parshley* received a Ph.D. in biochemistry from Oregon Health Sciences University in 1994. After working for almost 5 years in basic biomedical research, she pursued a doctorate of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) from Colorado State University. After receiving her DVM, she completed a small animal internship at Cornell University and an Oncology residency with Dr. Barbara Kitchell at Michigan State University. She has been awarded a specialty certification in oncology from the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine. Dr. Parshley also has extensive experience in emergency medicine (her other love), critical care, and palliative medicine. Lisa spent her summers growing up in the Puget Sound area and is delighted to have finally achieved her dream: Olympia Veterinary Cancer Center in Olympia Washington.

**TUESDAY 12 -2 PM**

## **CANINE BODY LANGUAGE** **LISBETH PLANT**

Have you ever wondered what your dog is thinking? Do you perhaps have a dog that is "unpredictable", or sometimes just does things that you don't understand? Or would you simply like to understand more of your dog's language? This presentation includes live-action video clips to illustrate not only different canine communications, but also show the speed at which these things can change. You will learn how to be a better observer of your dog and to improve your understanding of your dog. The presentation is followed by Q&A session.

*Lisbeth Plant* ACDBC UW-AAB KPACTP CBATI is the founder and owner of Cowichan Canine Behaviour & Training Ltd, in British Columbia, Canada and currently lives with three Bernese Mountain Dogs, Cassie, Mickey and Moki, and one husband, Bill. She is an Associate Certified Member in the Dog Division of the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants, holds a Certificate in Applied Animal Behavior from the University of Washington, is a Certified Training Partner of the Karen Pryor Academy and a Certified Behavior Adjustment Training Instructor. She specializes in the behaviour modification of fearful and aggressive dogs, but works with dogs with many different behaviour issues on a daily basis. She advocates for increased professionalism and continuing education for professional dog trainers, and she maintains memberships in multiple professional organizations. From time to time, Lisbeth serves as an expert witness in the Provincial Court of BC in relation to Dangerous Dog cases.

## **DO MORE WITH YOUR DOG: TRAINING TRICKS TO BUILD RELATIONSHIP WITH YOUR CONFORMATION DOG** **MELANIE KOONS**

This class, offered *exclusively* for Juniors (age 9-17), will teach some fundamental positive reinforcement training principles, introduce use of a clicker or marker word for shaping behavior, and help each participant teach several tricks to their dog. There will be 10 working spots for Junior handler/dog teams and unlimited auditing (JR Handler only). Each working participant will need to bring a dog with a flat buckle collar and 4-6 ft leash, portable crate or x-pen for dog to rest

in when not working, and a water dish. A variety of high value training treats, a clicker, and a bait bag will be provided to each team. If your dog has food allergies, you will need to bring your own treats.

*Melanie* has owned a total of five Bernese. She currently has three dogs, ranging in age from 21 months to 9 years old. She started learning to train about seven years ago with her first dog and has taken many classes since then, learning a lot about how to build relationship with her dogs. She has participated in Draft, Obedience, Rally, Agility, and Conformation. She has learned enough to work two of her dogs through to Grand Master Draft Dog awards, has earned multiple titles in Rally, Obedience and Agility with four of her dogs and feels confident about teaching some useful skills to help juniors in the conformation ring or other dog sports.

## **RESPONSIBLE BREEDING BEYOND THE BOX BOBBIE HEFNER & LINDA SEAVER**

Healthy, thriving four-week old puppies are surely the goal and the glory in your whelping box. However before and after that moment, there's a lot to do to become a responsible and ethical Berner breeder. Consider the necessity to understand genetics, breed type, structure and neonatal care which all begin months prior to breeding, the many hours spent educating prospective puppy owners, planning for families to visit, establishing a good relationship with your new owners, learning appropriate small business practices and choosing avenues of life-long stewardship. These, plus getting enough sleep, are all topics we'll cover in this class. Join this discussion where ideals, ethics and reality cross paths.

*\*Students who stay for the entire class will be eligible to win a photographic portrait of your Berner by Bobbie.\**

*Bobbie* has owned and bred Bernese Mountain Dogs under the top winning Swiss Stars kennel name for nearly 30 years (she was obviously only five when she started). Her photos have long been a staple of the National Photo contest, and her litter pictures are always a treat. She travels extensively, and many of us enjoy her vacations vicariously through her breathtaking photos. She works with Wildlife Rehab and Release and does photographs of the birds. She has also been one of the few people invited to a Navaho reservation preserve to do wildlife photography.

*Linda* is most familiar as Berner University co-creator with Andrea Brin. She is the former BMDCA Breeder Education Chair developing both the Breeder Symposium and the Breeder Mentor Program, the recipient of the 2010 Outstanding Service Award, and continues as a BMDCA Breed Steward and ringside mentor for Judge's Education. She has competed with her dogs in conformation, obedience, draft, agility and rally. Between 1983 and 2012, she bred Bernese under the Tschuggen kennel prefix.

## **TUESDAY 3-5 PM**

### **UNDERSTANDING MOVEMENT MARJORIE REHO**

Do you sit ringside wondering how to evaluate good movement versus poor? Do you understand the relationship between movement as viewed and the underlying anatomy that influences what you're seeing? Do you know how to evaluate your own dogs to determine structure and how to improve it in your breeding program? Can you evaluate your litters for structure to determine movement potential? These topics will be discussed in "Understanding Movement". If dogs are volunteered and approved space is identified, we will use them to demonstrate class material. Don't miss this class – it's our most popular year after year.

*Marjorie* has owned Bernese Mountain Dogs and been active in the BMDCA since 1978. Under

the kennel name of “Dallybeck”, she has bred 24 litters, and has produced some of the top dogs in the United States and Canada. At National Specialties, her own dogs, Dallybeck-produced dogs, and offspring of Dallybeck dogs, have won such prestigious awards as High In Trial, Best of Opposite Sex, Winners Dog, Best of Winners, Award of Merit, first in Stud Dog, first in Brood Bitch, both Best and Best of Opposite in Veteran Sweeps with son and dam, and many class placements in obedience disciplines, and conformation, regular and non-regular, puppy through veteran classes; some of these awards won several times over. Many dogs from her breeding have been Versatility Award Winners over the years. She has produced the BMDCA Top Producer, Conformation Dog. Margie’s active interests in the breed focus on the total dog: structure, soundness, type, temperament, working ability and longevity. She became the first recipient of a Dog World Award for Bernese in obedience, and also placed a Tracking Degree on her bitch. In conformation, she has judged Puppy and Veteran Sweepstakes classes in Canada, and at the BMDCA National Specialty in Colorado.

## **RESCUE 101 & RESCUE ROUND TABLE**

### **KATHY DEYO**

RESCUE 101, the first hour of this seminar, will be a presentation of how Bernese rescue works on both the regional club level and national level. The discussion will enable you to become more aware of the process and perhaps find a way to participate. We’ll review all aspects of running a Bernese rescue committee: working with shelters, finding evaluators we can trust, identifying strategies for both supporting owners and for removing the dogs, attending to legal concerns, evaluating behavioral issues, finding foster homes, finding volunteer transporters, funding the program, using the web to locate and interview potential families - all with the goal of finding forever homes for dogs in need. Anyone curious about rescue is welcome to come.

The RESCUE ROUND TABLE, the second hour of this seminar, offers an opportunity for BMDCA recognized regional clubs, BARC, and people who individually rescue Bernese to share problems, concerns and solutions. We find that when online friends meet face-to-face it allows us to support each other and create an even stronger network for the next time we need to rescue a Berner. Newcomers are welcome to join us for one or both hours as we always appreciate fresh perspectives.

*Kathy* has been blessed with Bernese since 1986 and has bred five generations of Bernese under the Hapi Mtn kennel name. She joined the BMDCA in 1987, served on the BMDCA board in 2001-2002 and again in 2007-2008, and became the BMDCA National Rescue & Rehome Coordinator in 2001 after helping with several Bernese rescue situations in her area. She currently shows in conformation, teaches obedience, showmanship and agility classes, works with 4-H kids, and just enjoys her dogs including Spam, a 3 year old Staffordshire Bull Terrier. She continues to compete and also performs with the family entertainment group, The Superdogs.

## **AKC BMD STANDARD –THE FINER POINTS**

### **FRAN BROWN & GAIL VOGEL**

“First things first” at Berner U means “Know the Standard”. This seminar will cover the basic information about Bernese using the AKC Standard, as well as many of the finer points that only the experienced eyes of longtime breeders and judges might notice. Fran and Gail will share the presentation given to provisional judges but will elaborate, using a new power point for examples of the details that make a truly spectacular conformation Bernese Mountain Dog.

### **FRAN BROWN**

*Fran* has owned, bred, shown and judged Berners most of her life. Her first Berner was a Sanctuary Woods boy, Ch Delsas Andante v Lancer. She was only able to get him because he was very shy, as many were in those days. In 40 years of having the privilege of knowing their gentle souls and their great desire to connect to their



people, she's seen an improvement in Berner character and temperament. Fran believes Berners to be emotionally sensitive companion animals and therefore advocates owning a very small number of dogs in order to give each one the time and attention they deserve.

She has bred or owned about 20 Champions and judged our National Specialty in Gettysburg in 2005 with an entry of 1042! Over the past several years, Fran has also judged many Supported entries and Regional Specialties. Her further service is through Judges' Education as a ringside mentor. In addition to Bernese, Fran has owned Top Winning and Best In Show Sealyham Terriers since 1980. Licensed for eight Terrier and fifteen Working breeds, she has an excellent eye for a dog that she will share with us.

*Gail* is a long time member of the BMDCA and has attended 26 National Specialties, with her first in 1980. She attained her provisional/permit license to judge Bernese in 2007 and approval in 2009. She has judged specialties, supported entries, and sweepstakes throughout the United States. In 2016, she judged a very large entry of bitches at the BMDCA National. She has had the honor of breeding top winning dogs to include National Specialty BISS, and BOW, as well as owning dogs who have won Best in Sweeps, Select Dog, Award of Merit, and Best Veteran Dog. Gail is currently working on the Illustrated Standard for the BMDCA.