



## 2021 CLASSES & FACULTY BIOGRAPHIES

### MONDAY 9-11 AM

#### ELBOW DYSPLASIA 101 JOHN WATERHOUSE DVM BVSC, CCRP

Elbow dysplasia occurs more frequently than most Berner owners anticipate. You can learn all you need to know in a short two hours from this class. Dr. Waterhouse will review the etiology of elbow dysplasia and identify the signs and symptoms as well as the different forms of elbow pathology. He'll discuss how canine elbow dysplasia is diagnosed and both surgical and nonsurgical treatment options. A multimodal approach to elbow dysplasia treatment employs several well-known therapeutic modalities including pharmaceutical, nutraceutical multimodal and rehabilitation exercises will be explained.

Dr. John Waterhouse graduated in 2004 from the University of Sydney Veterinary School in Australia and went into general small animal practice. He furthered his education in veterinary alternative medicine, including Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) and acupuncture. In 2010, John moved to the USA to undertake a fellowship in pain management and rehabilitative medicine under the direction of Dr. James Gaynor with Peak Performance Veterinary Group in Colorado Springs, Colorado. He has also completed an externship in diagnostic musculoskeletal ultrasound with Drs. Debra and Sherman Canapp at the Veterinary Orthopedic and Sports Medicine Group in Annapolis Junction, Maryland.

Dr. Waterhouse is a Certified Canine Rehab Practitioner (CCRP) by the University of Tennessee. With his expertise in the business models and rehabilitation protocols he helped build and open the new Canine Rehabilitation & Arthritis Center in Colorado Springs, owned and operated by Dr. Mike Bauer of the Colorado Canine Orthopedic Group.

In 2014 he became director of Veterinary Teaching Academy. He is an international speaker on the topics of Canine Arthritis and Pain Management in relation to canine sports medicine.

## **FOOD AS MEDICINE - A CHINESE MEDICINE VIEW HOLLY FOSTER DVM**

Want to feed your dog the best food for him/her but not ready or eager to make your own at home? In this presentation Dr. Foster will discuss how you can create personalized food additives for your dog's current diet, tailor your dog's diet to his/her body type, health, condition and stage in life using principles of Traditional Chinese Medicine.

A Denver native, Dr. Holly Foster turned her lifelong love for animals into a career by obtaining her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree from Colorado State University in 1983. She became certified in acupuncture (International Veterinary Acupuncture Society) in 1992, and has studied homotoxicology (bioregulatory medicine) and osteopathy as well. She lives with her spouse, a fifth Berner, and second field setter. She enjoys loving her dogs and competing in rally, obedience and draft.

## **MONDAY 12 NOON-2 PM**

### **WHEN MEDICINE ISN'T WORKING: ALTERNATIVE & COMPLEMENTARY THERAPIES JEAN HOFVE DVM**

Veterinary medicine provides amazing care for our dogs; but drugs and surgery do not always solve the problem. There are many alternative therapies that can be used alongside conventional medicine, or even as standalone modalities, that can help with many ailments. We'll explore acupuncture, herbs, homeopathy, chiropractic/VOM, pulsed EMF devices, Reiki, massage, flower essences, nutrition, and more - what they are and when they are appropriate for your dog.

Dr. Jean Hofve earned her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at Colorado State University and practiced conventional and holistic medicine for more than 25 years until retiring in 2020. She trained with veterinarian homeopath Dr. Richard Pitcairn, is a Reiki Master, and has studied multiple holistic therapies. She is the author of *Paleo Dog: Give Your Best Friend a Long Life, Healthy Weight, and Freedom from Illness by Nurturing His Inner Wolf*, and is a well-known expert on pet nutrition.

### **BECOME A BETTER OBEDIENCE HANDLER SUSAN OVIATT-HARRIS**

Here is your chance to become a better handler and not lose points for handling errors in the ring. Receive tips on handling certain exercises in the ring to help you have better connection with your dog. You will participate in "judging" obedience exercises, and learn why points were deducted.

Susan has been an AKC Obedience judge for over 35 years. She currently owns two Golden Retrievers and one Sheltie. Her pride and joy is her VCCH Champion Trey, who has obtained the Champion Tracker title, two MACH's and two OTCH titles, and was the 10<sup>th</sup> dog in the country and the youngest Golden to obtain the VCCH. He also achieved the Golden Retriever Hall of Fame in both agility and obedience. Susan also holds popular competition obedience clinics which include lots of Berners!

## **MONDAY 3-5 PM**

### **OLD DOGS/NEW TRICKS MARJORIE GEIGER**

The old adage “You can’t teach an old dog new tricks” is inaccurate. There are many tricks our veterans can learn that are both fun and will increase their health. Young or old, tricks are muscle building and relationship bonding.

Marjorie is an educator. She enjoys teaching in varied settings with dogs and their people. Training is a lifelong, creative pursuit and clicker training is the foundational teaching method she uses. The connection it encourages allows her dogs’ learning abilities to grow and their partnerships to flourish. Marjorie has three Berners: Tommy, an 8 year old male, Juby, a 6 year old female and James, a 2 year old male. She enjoys training them in obedience, rally, draft, nosework, freestyle, and conformation.

### **BETTERBRED NATALIE GREEN TESSIER**

Founded in 2016, BetterBred LLC was born of a love for purebred dogs and their devoted breeders. BetterBred was created in response to the glaring need for multiple measurements to help identify, maintain and redistribute genetic diversity in several breeds. It was formed as an outgrowth of a project that led to the development of the Canine Genetic Diversity Test created by world renowned Dr. Niels C. Pedersen, DVM PhD at UC Davis for Standard Poodles. After the release of the Standard Poodle results, breeder and founder Natalie Green Tessier realized that inbreeding was not the only aspect of diversity to consider.

Biodiversity and allelic richness are also major concerns to dog breeds and other species, many of which are under human management. Breeders hold the responsibility to conserve their breeds for future generations by maintaining and addressing loss of diversity due to genetic drift and bottlenecks. BetterBred’s mission is to support all breeders so they can conserve the genetic diversity in their breeds.

Natalie is a mother of six successful adult (or nearly adult) children. She has held many roles in her life and has a natural drive to learn. Once a journalist and editor of a successful newsweekly back when they were printed on paper, Natalie has been a dog breed advocate and leader in the Standard Poodle community for over a decade. After managing sample submissions for and co-authoring the Standard Poodle diversity study at UC Davis, Natalie set out to create an easy to use and innovative online breeding software suite for all breeds. She completed this task by teaching herself to code, reading countless articles and contacting some of the world’s premier conservation experts. She is now a nationally and internationally speaker and enjoys her own Standard Poodles and their occasional litters.

## TUESDAY 9-11 AM

### **CANINE REPRODUCTION: MYTHS & MISCONCEPTIONS** **GREG BURNS DVM**

The last 25+ years of canine reproduction have seen many changes. Long-held beliefs have been found to be untrue through modern scientific research studies. This lecture is written specifically for dog breeders and designed to dispel some of these unfounded beliefs, myths, and misconceptions in canine reproduction, with facts supported by both prospective and retrospective research.

Dr. Burns received his B.S. in Microbiology from Arizona State University in 1991 and his D.V.M. from Colorado State University in 1996. Following several years of private practice, he entered the mentorship program for alternate route training through the American College of Theriogenologists and received Diplomate status in 2009, becoming a veterinary specialist in animal reproduction. In 2019, Dr. Burns became an affiliate faculty member in the College of Veterinary Medicine and Biomedical Sciences at Colorado State University and a full-time faculty member in 2020. Currently, Dr. Burns is an Assistant Professor of Small Animal Theriogenology at Colorado State University with clinical, outreach, teaching and research responsibilities.

### **PARKOUR 101** **AMBER QUANN KPA-CTP, CPDT-KSA**

Parkour for dogs is a fun sport that encourages you and your dog to get outside and play together, with objects you might find in your natural environment! The sport combines canine conditioning and the skills of body awareness, balancing, crawling, paw targeting, and more. In this workshop, we'll cover the foundations of the sport and the skills in the Novice Level. Dog and handler teams will leave the workshop ready to hit the streets with their fun, urban parkour skills!

Amber Quann has been training dogs since age 10, and grew up competing in various dog sports, including rally, agility, obedience, and conformation. She is the owner and head trainer at [Summit Dog Training](#) in Fort Collins, Colorado, and the creator of the [Drink With Your Dog™ Project](#). Amber is fascinated by the bond that grows between dogs and their owners as they adventure together, and promoting this special connection is a significant part of Summit Dog Training's mission. Amber is a graduate and Certified Training Partner with the [Karen Pryor Academy](#) and a Certified Professional Dog Trainer - Knowledge & Skills Assessed through the [Certification Council for Professional Dog Trainers](#). Her current adventure partner and parkour dog is a 1 year-old Papillon named Jameson.

## **TUESDAY 12 NOON-2 PM**

### **PREVENTION AND PROACTIVE TREATMENT OF INJURY AND PAIN JESSICA RYCHEL DVM**

In this session we will focus on the prevention of some of the most common injuries that affect active Bernese Mountain Dogs. Importantly, part of this session will focus on how to evaluate your dog for pain, one of the most critical first steps in catching an injury early. From there, we will expand on what these common injuries are, the underlying cause for them and how to proactively treat them before they become major problems when they are small so that can affect work and play! Injuries covered include cruciate injury, back and neck injury, arthritis and more.

Dr. Jessica Rychel is a veterinarian and diplomate of the American College of Rehabilitation and Sports Medicine. She co-owns a small rehabilitation and integrative medicine practice in Fort Collins, Colorado. Dr. Rychel's career focus has included the development of rehabilitation and pain management in small animal practices. She has spent a large portion of her career educating other veterinary professionals on topics such as acupuncture, rehabilitation, neurologic recovery, orthopedic disease processes and pain management.

Dr. Rychel is passionate about achieving improved quality of life for patients with complex diseases, and maintaining health and longevity for active working dogs. Teaching healthy work environments and bringing wellness back to veterinary teams is also another focus and passion in her private practice.

### **CANNABIS & CANINES THE IMPORTANCE OF TIMING FOR THE SUCCESSFUL USE OF CANNABIS IN ANIMALS DR.CASARA ANDRE**

As the research into the endocannabinoid system (ECS) advances, our understanding of the importance of this system and its role in homeostasis, health, and disease grows as well. Medical practitioners are learning how to utilize the molecules produced by the *Cannabis* plant to reestablish the homeostasis of the ECS....but is there more to cannabis medicine than the molecules themselves? Join Dr. Andre for a 'beyond the basics' look at the science of cannabis in veterinary medicine and particularly, the importance of timing in achieving successful clinical outcomes.

As the Founder of Veterinary Cannabis Education & Consulting, Casara Andre, DVM1~ is dedicated to providing practical education and harm reduction training to the emerging veterinary cannabis field. Dr. Andre firmly believes that scientific curiosity can and will open unexpected, exciting, and hugely beneficial opportunities within this field, but scientific rigor and scrutiny must never be neglected. She also serves the veterinary community as the Owner of Cultivate, a veterinary co-working community; the Director of the Colorado School of Animal Massage; the president of Care for the Healer; and the co-coordinator for Colorado's Veterinary Medical Reserve Corps.

## **TUESDAY 3-5 PM**

### **INTELLIGENT K9 FIRST AID ERIC ROTH**

Students will learn what to do in the event of an emergency involving their dog. The class content covers over 20 emergency issues including: First Aid kits, torn pads, dog fights, seizures, broken bones, electrical injuries, muzzling and bleeding control. There is special attention given to choking, bloat, and poisons. Participants will use actual Canine CPR manikins to learn how to perform "mouth to snout" breathing and compressions. In addition to teaching techniques, one of the most important things the class gives to the students is confidence; confidence that no matter what the situation involving their dog, they will be able to provide the necessary care. In short, Eric takes his experience as a paramedic and shows students how to apply those skills to dogs.

Eric works as a paramedic and owns a CPR training company that specializes in on-site CPR training. Normally, he teaches humans how to do CPR on humans. When it came to dogs, he was amazed to see how much money is spent on toys, food and insurance, compared to how little is spent on caring for them in the event of an actual emergency. Since there is no 911 for dogs, his intention to fill that need has resulted in a fun and educational Canine First Aid class.

### **RESCUE ROUND TABLE            OPEN TO ALL DAWN LETRY**

This will be a presentation/conversation about how rescuing Bernese is accomplished by our many successful regional clubs. We'll review all aspects of running a Bernese rescue committee including working with shelters, finding trustworthy evaluators, 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 Berners in need. The discussion will enable you to become more aware of the process and, perhaps, find a way to participate. Anyone curious about rescue is welcome to come without prior registration.

Dawn has been a member of the BMDCA since 1989 and has bred 16 litters under the kennel prefix, Crystal Creek. She was an active member and officer of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of Southeastern Wisconsin, and after a move to Texas became active in the Lone Star BMD Club. About 10 years ago we started a separate 501c3 for the Lone Star BMD Rescue. As President, Dawn has kept busy ever since. She has actively worked with BMDCA Board members, Rescue Chairs, all breed rescues, shelters and owners who have Berners for rescue.

**MONDAY 7-9 PM**

**\*BMDCA BREEDER SYMPOSIUM\***

**OPEN TO ALL**

**BERNER CANCER RESEARCH RESULTS  
WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED AFTER 10 YEARS OF GENOMICS RESEARCH?  
MATTHEW BREEN PHD CBIOL FRSB**

Dr. Breen is the Oscar J. Fletcher Distinguished Professor of Comparative Oncology Genetics, Dept. of Molecular Biomedical Sciences at North Carolina State University, College of Veterinary Medicine. He is a member of NCSU Forensic Sciences Institute, the Comparative Medicine Institute at NCSU, the Center for Human Health and the Environment, NCSU and the Cancer Genetics Program at the University of North Carolina and the Lineberger Comprehensive Cancer Center. An Associate Member of the Duke Cancer Institute, Dr. Breen is most of all a longtime advocate and devoted friend of the Berner community and works tirelessly to extend longevity in our dogs.