



NEWS AND UPDATES

Happy Fall Everyone!!

We extend a heartfelt thank-you to Joye Neff for reaching the lofty goal of the most recent fundraiser. She volunteers to do this year after year, for various Berner fundraisers, and is always successful.

Congratulations, Joye, you did it again! 🎉🎊 The funds raised will be used for year one of the liquid biopsy research project*.

Of course, the fundraiser wouldn't have been a success if not for each of you who generously donated. It takes a village and the Berner Community is the BEST! Sincere gratitude to all of you for your commitment to Berner Health and for your donations!

A note from Joye to the Berner Community:

"BERNER LOVERS ARE THE MOST BESTEST!"

We not only hit our goal of \$40,000, BUT WE FLEW RIGHT PAST OUR GOAL AND RAISED \$43,763.04, which is 9.5% over our goal!

We couldn't have done it without the people who donated prizes, Bob Torstenson who made our website, the 332 Berner Lovers who donated money, and Bob Reeve who managed the PayPal and credit card donations. **THANK ALL OF YOU!**

Now you can relax and start saving your money for our next fundraiser which will start in mid-October for BERNER RESCUE!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT ~ WE WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR PRESENT AND OUR FUTURE BERNERS!

GRATEFULLY,
Joye Neff

***Note:** The liquid biopsy research is one of two research projects which are about to be launched that are the direct result of the Bernese Mountain Dog DNA Repository. Read about them under the Bernese Research Projects section below.

We have a new information brochure!

Our new Berner-Garde information brochure is located at this link:

[Berner-GardeBrochure Sept2023.pdf \(bernergarde.org\)](#)

Please feel free to download the pdf and have copies available at your next Berner event!! The more sharing the better. You can download and save the brochure to send electronically as well to prospective puppy owners, novice breeders, veterinary clinics, etc.

Bernese Research Projects on the Horizon:

Dr Vilma Yuzbasiyan-Gurkan, Professor and Associate Dean, College of Veterinary Medicine at Michigan State University (MSU) and the MSU Repository Director is working on two research projects that are about to be launched:

- ❖ First one is the second phase of a clinical trial for a particular drug that is very effective in the treatment of Histiocytic Sarcoma
 - This research is funded by the BMDCA through the Morris Animal Foundation
 - Trials will be held in four university veterinary clinics in the United States
 - Additional information will be forthcoming

- ❖ Second project is for a liquid biopsy for Histiocytic Sarcoma (HS) – an early detection tool to identify dogs that may be harboring HS without any actual symptoms
 - Currently, once dogs exhibit symptoms, it typically means the disease has spread so much that it cannot be effectively treated
 - Hope is that with earlier detection, treatments will be more effective

DATABASE CHANGES AND UPDATES:

Berner-Garde is making some changes to the database!

It has been a month since we implemented some database changes which have resulted in the ***last known alive date*** being entered for hundreds of dogs. This also spilled over into many other dogs being added to the database or health updates being added for current dogs. This is exactly what we hoped for! This data truly matters. Thank you for taking the time to do this!

*****Please keep entering your dogs and ALL of their information*****

Look for more changes and updates in the future that we are excited about and that will make submissions easier.

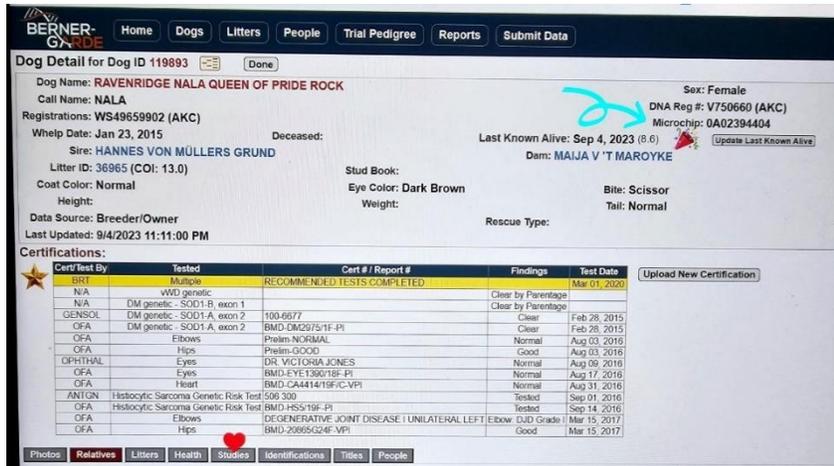
Two new fields were added **to the main dog page**:

1. Microchip Number
2. Last Known Alive Date

1. Why was the microchip area moved?

- ❖ To make the microchip number more visible
- ❖ To make it more apparent that we did, or did not, have it recorded. It is something that we have not made a point of emphasis in the past but recent discussions have brought it more to the forefront
- ❖ During discussions with Dr. Hedan in France at the World Union of Bernese Mountain Dogs Health Symposium, he indicated that **he uses the dog's microchip number as the unique identifier for the dog**. We were exploring ways in which we could further support his research efforts and ways we could provide him with data extracts from the Berner-Garde database. However, for him to be able to "match" our Berner-Garde data with the dogs he already has, we need to provide the microchip number with the provided data

Currently, only about half of the dogs that are in the BG Database that have had the Histo Risk Test have microchip numbers listed. In addition to some internal projects to get microchip numbers on those existing dogs, we are going to be placing more emphasis on capturing this information on new dogs as we add them to the database. This will be reflected on the revised submission forms that we will be introducing in the coming months.

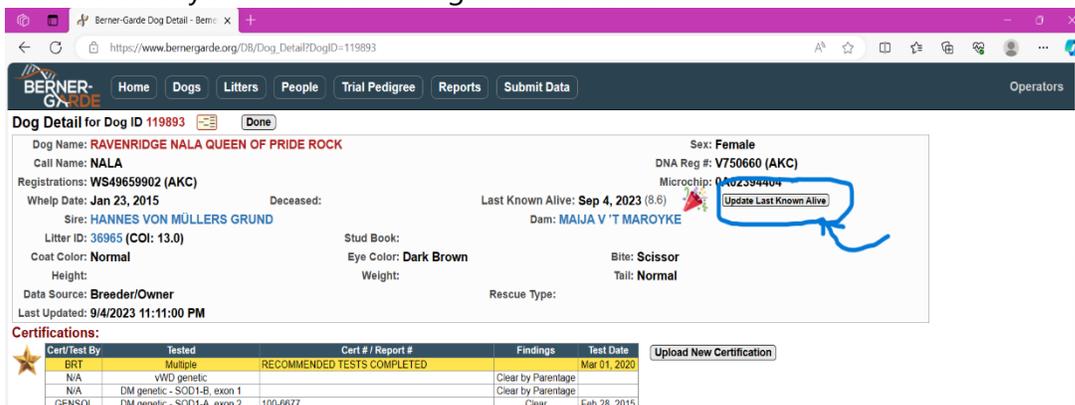


2. Last Known Alive Date:

Note that there are some new graphics that go along with the **Last Known Alive Date** and **Death Date**. The graphics are broken down by age group as described below:

- ❖ 1 rose 🌹 (Date of death (DOD))/check mark ✓ (Last known alive (LKA) date) indicates dogs are from 0-7 years of age
- ❖ 2 roses 🌹🌹 (DOD)/confetti popper 🎉 (LKA date) dogs are from 7-10 years of age
- ❖ 3 roses 🌹🌹🌹 (DOD)/smiley face w/wine 🍷😊 (LKA date) dogs are 10+ years of age

There is a button for you to easily submit a **Last Known Alive date**. **Note:** Once this is submitted, you must wait 60 days before submitting another date.



To make room for the new fields mentioned above, we rearranged some of the fields on the dog detail page. Certifications have been moved to right below the main detail section and before the tabs. This makes things much easier to find and we hope that you all update your dog's information!

Dog Detail for Dog ID 107555

Dog Name: BACKCNTRY'S SMOKE ON THE WATER
Call Name: GENEVA
Registrations: AW536860 (CKC), WS46617002 (AKC)
Whelp Date: Nov 14, 2013
Deceased: Sep 25, 2017 (3.9) 
Sire: INDIAN HILL'S UNLEASH THE DRAGON
Litter ID: 32125 (COI: 4.9)
Coat Color: Normal
Height:
Data Source: Owner
Last Updated: 9/28/2017 10:09:00 PM by Dianne Jones

Certifications:

Modify	Delete	Cert/Test By	Tested	Cert # / Report #	Findings	Test Date	Last Updated	Operator
		OFA	Eyes	BMD-EYE26/10F-PI	Normal	Oct 20, 2014	3/3/2015 6:24:00 PM	Alexis Smith (OFA)
		OFA	Heart	PRELIM	Normal	Oct 24, 2014	11/25/2014 7:44:00 PM	Pat Long

1 rose  (Date of death (DOD)/check mark  (Last known alive (LKA) date) indicates dogs are from 0-7 years of age

Dog Detail for Dog ID 64655

Dog Name: SUMMERS' ANASTASIA CADDIS HATCH
Call Name: CADDIS
Registrations: WS28612209 (AKC)
Whelp Date: Dec 12, 2008
Deceased: Oct 29, 2018 (9.9) 
Sire: TCHOUM DU HARAS DE LA VERGNIE
Litter ID: 16958 (COI: 3.5)
Coat Color:
Height:
Data Source: BG Dog Submission
Last Updated: 2/8/2019 11:41:00 AM by Dianne Jones

Certifications:

Modify	Delete	Cert/Test By	Tested	Cert # / Report #	Findings	Test Date	Last Updated	Operator
		OFA	Elbows	FCP/DJD III UNILATERAL RIGHT	Elbow: FCP/DJD Grade II	Jan 27, 2011	5/7/2011 10:58:00 PM	Esther Wilson (OFA)
		OFA	Hips	BMD-16389G24F-VPI	Good	Jan 27, 2011	5/7/2011 10:58:00 PM	Esther Wilson (OFA)

2 roses  (DOD)/confetti

popper  (LKA date) dogs are from 7-10 years of age

Dog Detail for Dog ID 129431

Dog Name: FRIESIAN'S GRAND O'HIGHLAND'S IRISH LASS
Call Name: FIONA
Registrations: WS50895709 (AKC)
Whelp Date: Jul 19, 2015
Deceased: Last Known Alive: Sep 4, 2023 (8.1) 
Sire: ICON VOM GIPPELFEUER
Litter ID: 39350 (COI: 2.4)
Coat Color: Normal
Height:
Weight: 85 lbs
Tail: Normal
Data Source: BG Dog Submission
Last Updated: 9/27/2017 4:11:00 PM by Renee Jacquier

Certifications:

Modify	Delete	Cert/Test By	Tested	Cert # / Report #	Findings	Test Date	Last Updated	Operator
		OFA	Elbows	FCP/DJD III UNILATERAL RIGHT	Elbow: FCP/DJD Grade II	Jan 27, 2011	5/7/2011 10:58:00 PM	Esther Wilson (OFA)
		OFA	Hips	BMD-16389G24F-VPI	Good	Jan 27, 2011	5/7/2011 10:58:00 PM	Esther Wilson (OFA)

Dog Detail for Dog ID 26683

Dog Name: MISS CLEOPATRA OF MONTANA
 Call Name: CLEO
 Registrations: WSD1870903 (AKC), ERN25001521 (CKC)
 Whelp Date: May 24, 2002
 Deceased: Mar 20, 2015 (12.8)  ←
 Sire: KIELERSTAR ELI V MUIR
 Litter ID: 7347 (COI: 3.8)
 Coat Color: Normal
 Height: 25"
 Data Source: BG Dog Submission
 Last Updated: 4/6/2015 10:51:00 PM by Adam Conn

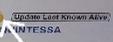
Sex: Female
 DNA Reg #: V620624
 Microchip:

Dam: MOLLIE ANNA OF MONTANA
 Stud Book:
 Eye Color: Brown
 Weight: 70lbs
 Bite: Scissor
 Tail: Normal

Certifications:

Modify	Delete	Cert/Test By	Tested	Cert # / Report #	Findings	Test Date	Last Updated	Operator
		OFA	Elbows	BMD-EL4873F45-PI	Normal	Mar 30, 2006	6/11/2006 12:29:00 PM	Esther Wilson (OFA)
		OFA	Hips	BMD-12642E45F-PI	Excellent	Mar 30, 2006	6/11/2006 12:29:00 PM	Esther Wilson (OFA)
		CERF	Eyes	BMD-3899	Normal	Oct 15, 2006	1/31/2007 1:28:00 PM	Maria Crfasi
		CARDIO	Heart	BMD-NOT REGISTERED	Normal	Oct 15, 2006	9/24/2022 8:00:00 PM	Teresa Godfrey
		CERF	Eyes	BMD-NOT REGISTERED_08_10	Normal	Mar 20, 2010	12/3/2022 8:56:00 PM	Teresa Godfrey

Dog Detail for Dog ID 90127

Dog Name: JURA'S LABOR OF LOVE LEO
 Call Name: LEO
 Registrations: WS41906005
 Whelp Date: Sep 1, 2012
 Deceased:
 Last Known Alive: Sep 1, 2023 (11.0) 
 Sire: ODYSSEUS
 Litter ID: 27535 (COI: 5.4)
 Coat Color:
 Height:
 Data Source: BG Litter Submission
 Last Updated: 9/1/2023 11:20:00 AM

Sex: Male
 DNA Reg #:
 Microchip:

Dam: JURA'S PREMIER VINTAGE ANITRESSA
 Stud Book:
 Eye Color:
 Weight:
 Bite:
 Tail:

Certifications:
 No certifications in the database for this dog.

Full Siblings:

Dog Name	Whelp Date	AKC	Hips	Elbows	Eyes	Heart	vWD	DM
JURA'S LABOR OF LOVE BACCHUS	Sep 1, 2012	7.3	Good	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	A/C Carrier B
JURA'S LABOR OF LOVE JULIET	Sep 1, 2012	6.1	Excellent	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	A/C Carrier B Clear
JURA'S LABOR OF LOVE LEGEND	Sep 1, 2012	8.4	Good	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	A/C Carrier B
JURA'S LABOR OF LOVE LOUIS	Sep 1, 2012	9.9	Good	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	A/C Carrier B
JURA'S LABOR OF LOVE TAVI	Sep 1, 2012	10.9	Good	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	A/C Carrier B Clear
JURA'S LABOR OF LOVE TESSA BELLA	Sep 1, 2012	9.2	Good	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	A/C Carrier B Clear
JURA'S LABOR OF LOVE TIMBER	Sep 1, 2012	9.2	Good	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	A/C Carrier B Clear
JURA'S LABOR OF LOVE TIME TO SHINE	Sep 1, 2012	9.2	Good	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	A/C Carrier B Clear
JURA'S LABOR OF LOVE VAY OF LOVE COVER	Sep 1, 2012	9.9	Good	Normal	Normal	Normal	Normal	A/C Carrier B Clear

3 roses  (DOD)/smiley face 
 w/wine  (LKA date) dogs are 10+ years of age 

The **microchip number** location and the button for updating the last known date alive are now located on the individual Dog's page:

Dog Detail for Dog ID 119893

Dog Name: RAVENRIDGE NALA QUEEN OF PRIDE ROCK
 Call Name: NALA
 Registrations: WS49659902 (AKC)
 Whelp Date: Jan 23, 2015
 Deceased:
 Last Known Alive: Sep 4, 2023 (8.6) 
 Sire: HANNES VON MÜLLERS GRUND
 Litter ID: 36965 (COI: 13.0)
 Coat Color: Normal
 Height:
 Data Source: Breeder/Owner
 Last Updated: 9/4/2023 11:11:00 PM

Sex: Female
 DNA Reg #: V750660 (AKC)
 Microchip: **V750660 (AKC)**  **V02394404**

Dam: MAIJA V T MAROYKE
 Stud Book:
 Eye Color: Dark Brown
 Weight:
 Bite: Scissor
 Tail: Normal

Certifications:

Cert/Test By	Tested	Cert # / Report #	Findings	Test Date
BRT	Multiple	RECOMMENDED TESTS COMPLETED		Mar 01, 2020
N/A	vWD genetic		Clear by Parentage	
N/A	DM genetic - SOD1-B, exon 1		Clear by Parentage	
GENSOI	DM genetic - SOD1-A, exon 2	100.6677	Clear	Feb 28, 2015

Refresher on the Health Information / Health Record Tab

- ❖ Each dog in the database has a health record located under the Health tab on their individual page in BG, take a look and verify your dog's information is correct and current
- ❖ What is the difference between **anecdotal** and **diagnosed health information**?

- **Anecdotal** – Information either the owner or breeder provided without veterinary documentation also being submitted
 - Note: all health/disease information is classified as “anecdotal” until the owner or breeder provides an unaltered copy of a written report (diagnosis progress note or pathology) from a professional in the field
- **Diagnosed** – The owner or breeder provides an unaltered copy of a written report (diagnosis, progress note, or pathology) from a professional in the field
- Going forward, please take a moment to ask your veterinarian to provide you with a copy of the progress notes or pathology reports for any visits or procedures your Berner has so that you may submit the information to the BG database
 - ❖ This classification system helps users and researchers evaluate the dependability of the source

How to *Easily* Update New Health Information for your dog:

The screenshot shows the Berner-Garde website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs: Home, Dogs, Litters, People, Trial Pedigree, Reports, and Submit Data. The main content area displays the dog's details for 'SUMMERS' ANASTASIA CADDIS HATCH'. Below this, there is a 'Certifications' table with columns for Cert/Test By, Tested, Cert # / Report #, Findings, and Test Date. A red heart icon is visible next to the 'Health' tab in the navigation bar. The 'Health Information Records' section shows a table with columns for Diagnosis Date, Diagnosis, Accuracy, Location/Metrical, and a 'View' button. A blue arrow points to the '(Upload New Health Information)' button located below the health records table.

PSST, Do you know that you no longer have to send a health document as an email attachment to update your dog's health info?? For ease, use the **Upload New Health Information** button on your individual dog's health record. This is an easy and quick way to update health information, particularly

any health screening certificates, pathology reports, and necropsy results

- ❖ Click the Update New Health Information button located under the health tab on your dog's individual dog page
- ❖ Fill in the menu selections that appear
- ❖ Choose file you want to upload (could be biopsy results, pathology or necropsy report, diagnostic testing reports, veterinary notes, etc)
- ❖ Add diagnosis and any additional details or treatment information in the menu boxes

We thank you for taking the time to upload documents and keeping your Berner's health information current!

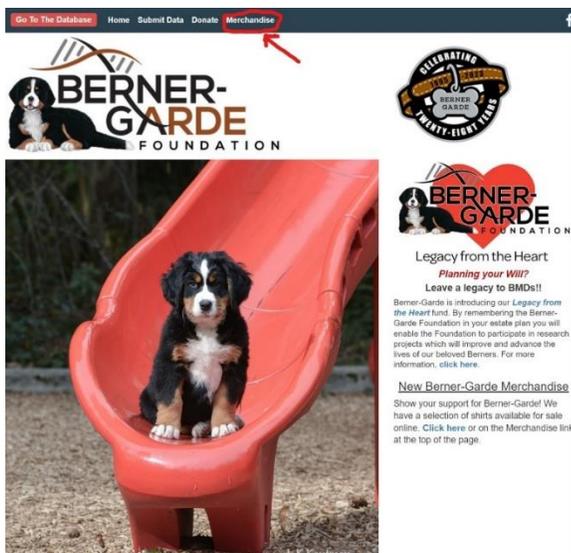
*** Berner-Garde Merchandise Available Online!***

If you are looking for a great, comfortable T-shirt or sweatshirt plus a way to support Berner-Garde too, look no further! Just go to our website www.bernergarde.org and go to our merchandise tab at the top of the page. With every purchase, a generous donation will be made to the Berner-Garde Foundation to help support future health research that will benefit our Bernese Mountain Dogs!

If you would like to know more specifics about the size/fit, please reach out directly under the contact tab on the merchandise page. We do not ship internationally at this time.

You can find the access to our merchandise from our home page. Look for the key word 'merchandise' and click on that area.

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



Thanks for shopping and in turn, donating to The Berner-Garde Foundation! [#fortheLoveofaberner](https://twitter.com/fortheLoveofaberner)

Where to find the latest information about the Berner-Garde Foundation?

- **Website:** [Home Page - Berner-Garde Foundation \(bernergarde.org\)](http://www.bernergarde.org)
- **Facebook Page:** <https://www.facebook.com/BernerGardeFoundation>

If you haven't checked out our facebook page yet, be sure to look it up and "like" to follow us.

If you have any questions about this BG update, please reach out to us via our education committee at education@bernergarde.org or dm us through the Berner-Garde Foundation Facebook page.

Bernerly,

Tracey Keith and Carol Stephenson, Education Committee, Berner-Garde Foundation