Levi arrived in my life the very cold and last Sunday of January, 2010. He was scrawny, he was missing a couple of teeth, and he needed a lot of work. But he was beautiful! And how did I end up with this guy? I exchanged emails with Melissa, told her that I wanted an adult dog who could be alone during the day while I was at work and that, ultimately, I wanted to do therapy work. This was the guy she suggested.

It was clear from day one that Levi had a lot of potential, but had never been taught any skills. We immediately enrolled in obedience class and got to work. He sailed through level I, level II, and then we registered for the therapy classes. Levi enjoyed the work involved and our bond became strong. But he was still a nervous dog – I was his security blanket and if he wasn’t at home, he became visibly agitated. I was nervous about the test – how would he do with the evaluator when I had to leave the room for three minutes? I shouldn’t have worried! We both passed the test and he nailed every single request from the evaluator!

Levi is still a nervous dog. Certain sounds bother him a great deal and large crowds often cause him stress. For this reason, we haven’t gone to many sites to do our therapy work. But we are both proud of how far he has come and the yellow tag the people ask me about adopting an older dog, I always tell them that old dogs CAN learn new tricks!

Article by: Sarah Berger
June of 2008 was like no other. Our children, then ages 12 and 9, had been invited to Disneyworld by their grandparents for a dream vacation. Filled with excitement they left for a week full of fun and adventure. At home, our beloved Manchester Terrier family member began to deteriorate rapidly from the cancer in her spine. Saying good-bye to her while the kids were gone was very tough but the right decision. Being a dog loving family, it wasn’t long before the questions began. “Can we get a puppy?” was asked more than once. Being an active family on the go, it was soon realized that a puppy might not be the best choice at the time. Seeing so many beautiful dogs needing homes we felt it was time to adopt.

On a beautiful fall Saturday in 2009, Mom headed to Wisconsin with a group of women friends to attend a wedding reception. On Sunday, Border Collie Rescue of Minnesota was having a Pet Adoption at Petco and Dad and the kids, after doing online homework, decided to go meet a couple dogs. Dad had his favorite picked out to meet. Our daughter noticed a dog facing the back wall and immediately went to meet her. Shy and a bit nervous, the foster family had to encourage the black and white smooth coated Border Collie to greet our daughter. After a brief glance, the dog nuzzled right in to our daughter. “Dad…come here…look at this dog!!” Dad wasn’t convinced…quite yet. Back home he checked the website and read more about her. Mom immediately got phone calls that a dog was found and that she should return home ASAP to see the Border Collie.

The following Friday a Fun Fair was being held at our son’s Elementary School which we attended but all agreed to leave early so Mom could meet the dog. With no leash, no crate and minimal cash we headed to Petco. Mom reminded all that this was a visit to MEET only. Each of us was formally introduced to Ellie and immediately a long, reaching stretch compared to a hug was given to us from Ellie. Tail wagging and licks were available for the four of us. Within minutes it seemed paperwork was being prepared, the kids were pulling bills and change from the Fun Fair out of their pockets and dad raced to the nearest ATM. We stopped a friend’s house to borrow a crate for the night. Haaaa! Dad had gotten in bed and as Mom finished brushing her teeth Ellie jumped up on the bed and snuggled in by Dad with her head on the pillow. Mom was to put Ellie in the crate but with her eyes closed tight Ellie had found her bed! She slept great all night without a peep.

When Mom’s alarm went off in the morning, Ellie crawled up to Mom and with her tail thumping licked Mom’s ears. How can you not get out of bed on the right side with that morning welcome? From that day forward Ellie loves to give morning kisses and her chosen morning job is to wake up the kids! She knows what time they need to be up better than Mom and Dad. She starts with a little whine at the door and as the door is opened she is on the bed licking and barking as needed!

Ellie is a great family pet. She loves to play, run in our big fenced in back yard, snuggle, go for walks/runs, and enjoy an ice cream cone. She is loyal and protective to each of us. Ellie has energy but is as happy to lie in your lap or next to you. No one ever eats alone at our house. From day one as a meal is being served Ellie is the first to be sitting in a chair up at the table. She sure learned table manners at a young age because she sits up straight and very rarely will a paw or head rest on the table. She is there for table conversation, to keep one or all company and hopefully receive a little taste of the meal!

Ellie will not allow other dogs in our home right now but we find other volunteer opportunities and fit them in the busy family schedule. What better way to see all different dogs and even hold puppies?

Article by: The Pierre Family
Adopted Dogs

Orellanna Family and "Tofu"
Pond Family and "Peyton"
Gloor Family and "Kate"
Wollenburg Family and "Patches"
Styba Family and "Rob"
Kobus Family and "Breezy"
Johnson Family and "Dallas"
Dodge Family and "Austin"
Walikainen Family and "Pippa"
Kumar Family and "Flynn"
Linaelter Family and "Charlotte"
Rouleau Family and "Houston"
Jaeger Family and "Bobbie"
Buxell Family and "Tom"
Odneal Family and "Jack"
Swanson Family and "Fenway"
Engstrom Family and "Jack"
Myer Family and "Flo"
Smith Family and "Bo"
Malecha Family and "Dixie"
Farrell Family and "Andy"
Reiver Family and "Mia"
Albers Family and "Teddy"
Thatcher Family and "Comet"
Waver Family and "Tink"
Nygard Family and "Spooky"
Faragoi Family and "Fire"
Nagal Family and "Tucker"
Schmelzer Family and "Badger"

Adoptable Dog Highlight: Queenie

Queenie is a 2 year old border collie mix. Queenie has offered so much of herself to the world and is now ready to live a great life.

Queenie came into a shelter in KY w/a litter of pups. A different rescue pulled the pups, but didn’t pull Queenie. She stayed at the shelter and ended up raising an additional litter of pups (not her own). Once Queenie was done w/the second round of pups the shelter decided she’d been there too long and was at the top of the euthanize list. This is where BCRMN stepped in.

Queenie has been w/us since May. She is a bigger girl, probably around 55-60#. She is probably a border collie mixed w/a sporting dog (golden retriever?) or maybe even a newfoundland. Queenie is very sweet and likes to play. She is a medium energy level girl. She loves playing w/other dogs and is great w/everyone she meets. Queenie is working on her house training and is doing great on her crate training. She’d be a great pet for an active family who could take her for jogs, play w/her and teach her new things.

All in all, Queenie is an ideal pet for a more active family.

“She stayed at the shelter and ended up raising an additional litter of pups!”
C-CATCH Slate

Huge congrats to Angie Hanson and C-CATCH Slate! Slate is a 6 year old border collie who was adopted from BCRMN about 18 months ago. In that time Angie has taken him to amazing heights in agility by recently completing his CPE Agility Trial Champion status!! This is a huge milestone in any dog's agility career, but to do it in such short time is amazing!

Angie and Slate are a great team and an awesome example of the benefits of adopting an adult dog! I'm sure we are going to see a lot more from this team!! Congrats again, guys!

Renaissance Festival Update

“Angie and Slate are a great team and an awesome example of the benefits of adopting an adult dog!”

BCRMN participated in the Renaissance Festival's Pet Fest on August 27/28 again this year. The weather was great and the new location offered a lot of natural shade! We had a bunch of volunteers help out over the course of the two day span which was amazing!! HUGE thanks to the Peirre family who not only helped out at the event, but helped w/set up too! All in all, BCRMN raised about $2000 that weekend! Thanks guys!!

Winter Agility Classes

Mark your calendars! BCRMN will be offering winter agility classes again this year, at Water’s Edge Dog Center in Buffalo, MN. Details will be forthcoming, but the class will take place on weekend afternoons. Classes will be 1 hour long, per week, for 6 weeks. More info will be posted on the website and FaceBook page as it becomes available. These are widely popular classes that everyone seems to thoroughly enjoy in the winter! If you'd like more info or are interested in enrolling, please email Melissa at cdx@hotmail.com

Dock Diving Day Review

On August 20, BCRMN had it's first ever Dock Diving Fun day at Darcy and Steve Roessler 's place in Elko. We had never done this before, so we weren’t sure how it was going to go! All in all it was a BLAST!! We had 7 dogs attend and all 7 got into the pool (plus a few people too!!) Some were more enthusiastic than others, but everyone had a good time at the level they were comfortable with. Huge thanks to Darcy and Steve for letting us use your amazing pool and to Annie Strobel for coming out and helping assist with the event. Thanks guys!!
Herding Fun Day Recap

On August 6, BCRMN had its 4th annual herding fun day at Kathy Flynn’s farm down in Cannon Falls. We had 15 dogs and handlers come down and try their hats at working sheep. All of the dogs turned on and showed interest! EVERY-ONE had a great time! Huge thanks to Kathy and Steve for allowing us to come down and use their sheep!! Watch for next year’s herding fun day in upcoming issues of Borderlines!

Flyball For All

Do you own one of those dogs whose life revolves around tennis balls? You’ve probably been looking for an appropriate outlet for his obsession for years. Have no fear - we’ve got just the cure.

The sport of flyball has been rapidly growing in popularity since the very first tournament in 1983. It was originally developed as a scent discrimination exercise, with a tennis ball thrown by a person being the reward at the end of the course. Eventually, the human was replaced by a spring loaded “box” that releases the ball when the dog triggers it. The hurdles remained in place, and flyball was born!

It is a team sport consisting of six dogs and handler pairs, although only four race at a time. It’s set up very much like a relay race. The first dog is released by its handler in conjunction with a set of lights (which resemble your typical traffic light). The dog has to run the 51-foot long course, which consists of four hurdles spaced 10 feet apart, and retrieve the ball from the spring-loaded box at the end. The dog then re-turns over the four hurdles, and the next dog is sent to complete the course. The first team to have all four of their dogs successfully complete the course wins! Dogs and handlers can be issued faults which causes them to have to re-run. Examples of these faults include false starts, a bad pass, or if the dog drops the ball before it has completed the entire course. As of today, the world record time for completing the entire course is 15.158 sec., which means each dog completed the course in about 3.7 seconds! That’s incredibly fast!

Flyball is open to ALL breeds and ALL sizes of dogs. In fact, it’s very important to have a small dog on your team, as the jump heights are determined by the smallest dog on your team. The jumps are set five inches below the height of the shortest dog’s shoulders. Border collies are amongst the most common breeds in the sport today, as they are incredibly fast and aim to please. Other common breeds include Jack Russell Terriers (for their small size), Whippets (for their speed), and the good ole’ All-American mixed breed.

Flyball is a fun, fast, and incredibly addicting way to channel your dog’s energy. Rescue dogs often excel in flyball because they’re finally given a job to do… and it’s FUN! It’s a great way to bond and build a relationship with your new rescue. If you’d like to give flyball a try with your dog, locate a club in your area! This can be done by visiting the North American Flyball Association’s website at www.flyball.org. Here, you’ll find a list of all the clubs in North America. All you have to do is contact the club and start training! Most clubs are always open to new member’s, and the flyball community is one of the most welcoming organizations in the world of dogs. So bring out your ball crazy bandit and get started… once you get a taste of the action, you won’t want to stop!

Article By: Kim Pond
HUGE congrats to 3 BCRMN adopted dogs and their accomplishments in the disc dogging world in 2011.

"Siren" (FKA "Kevin") and Tracy Custer attended the 2011 Ashley Whippet Championships in St. Louis, MO in October. They had to qualify for this event and did a great job for only being a team for less then a year! Siren also qualified for the Skyhoundz Disc Dog-athon in Freestyle in Chattanooga! She had a great time showing the world her hops and what a big labby can do! Great job, guys!

"Solar" (FKA "Hitch") and Andrew Ahan also attended the 2011 Ashley Whippet Championships, they also had to qualify and did a great job of representing what rescue dogs can do. Red dogs rule!

Finally, my boy, Tag (who is responsible for the existence of BCRMN) also qualified for the 2011 Ashley Whippet Championships, while we were not able to attend, simply qualifying is a huge accomplishment. Tag also qualified for Skyhoundz Worlds in Pairs. Two World's invites in one year isn't too bad!!

Congrats to all! See you in 2012!

HUGE congrats to 3 BCRMN adopted dogs and their accomplishments in the disc dogging world in 2011.

"Magnet" (FKA "Willie") and Adrian Custer attended the 2011 Skyhoundz World Championships in Chattanooga, TN in September. They WON the 2011 Skyhoundz Light Plastic Xtreme Distance title AND set a new world record! This means Adrian threw a small, puppy sized frisbee, 83 yards for Magnet to snatch it out of the air! What a great season!

"Solar" (FKA "Hitch") and Andrew Ahan also attended the 2011 Ashley Whippet Championships, they also had to qualify and did a great job of representing what rescue dogs can do. Red dogs rule!

Finally, my boy, Tag (who is responsible for the existence of BCRMN) also qualified for the 2011 Ashley Whippet Championships, while we were not able to attend, simply qualifying is a huge accomplishment. Tag also qualified for Skyhoundz Worlds in Pairs. Two World's invites in one year isn't too bad!!

Congrats to all! See you in 2012!

New Volunteer Coordinators

KRISTIN R: I started with BCRMN two years ago. I have a crazy Boxer mix and 3 legged cat at home, that keep my husband and I busy. We hope to start fostering if our dog allows it. I love working with the dogs and all the volunteers at the adoption events and look forward to the upcoming events!

KIM N: I've been with BCRMN for about a year now. I have two dogs. I enjoy fostering for the rescue. I am currently getting into disc and agility. When I do have free time I enjoy horseback riding.
Holiday Cautions

The holidays can be a time of joy and celebration, but it also can bring emergency visits to the veterinarian if pets are not watched closely. There are several items that can be harmful or toxic to your dog during the holiday season.

Halloween is an exciting time getting kids dressed up for the night, but when they return and the days to come, make sure the candy is put high on a shelf and where your dog can not reach. Chocolate has a toxic component called theobromine which calls for immediate medical attention. Even small doses of chocolate can be fatal, so always keep an eye on your children and what they are feeding your dog and what your dog can find.

Thanksgiving brings families together for meals where we all eat more than we should. While it is tradition in a lot of families to have turkey, be careful when feeding your dog bones when eating other types of meats. Chicken bones should never be fed to a dog because they can injure the intestines and cause severe bleeding. Even pork and steak bones should be supervised to ensure your dog is safe and not hurting their mouth or swallowing them too large.

Christmas is a wonderful time of year with lights, Christmas trees, and presents. All of these items can pose potential dangers to your dog, especially if this is your first Christmas with your dog.

Watch for destructive behaviors like chewing on cords or the tree itself. These behaviors can lead to costly veterinarian visits. Other things to consider are what are being wrapped for presents. Wait on wrapping food items or scented items that may peak the interest of your dog and cause unintentional ingestion can lead to a safe holiday celebration for all.

While no one plans for these events among others to occur, always keep the name and phone number of your primary vet and an emergency vet on hand. This can help reduce the hysteria in a stressful situation. Have a great holiday season and stay safe!

Article by: Kristin Ross

2012 BCRMN Calendar

Be the first of your friends to own the new 2012 BCRMN Calendar! Over 200 pictures were submitted and over 80 were picked to be featured! The pictures include adopted dogs and current foster dogs. Plus, all proceeds go to BCRMN’s medical fund which helps dogs in need! The calendars are 8.5 x 11”, glossy finished and spiral bound. Interested? Here are the details!

Pre Sales: Ordered no later then Oct 31, 2011
- $15, plus shipping costs (flat $5 shipping charge; all calendars will be shipped)
- Calendars will be shipped to you, no later then December 1, 2011 (just in time for holiday gifts!)

Regular Sales: Ordered on/after Nov 1, 2011
- $20, plus shipping costs (flat $5 shipping charge; all calendars will be shipped)
- Calendars will be shipped to you with in a week of the order being received.
- Calendars will be sold on a first-come-first-served basis and a limited quantity will be available

**Order your calendar now at: http://bcrofmn.org/shopping.htm**

IN MEMORY

To the puppies who had a terrible disease, but were loved every minute!!
-Bentley, Catelynn, Liam, Maci, Brody, and Carley

Jenkins loved and cared for by his foster family

"Doc" owned and loved by Paul Schmelzer

Quarterly Statement:

July–October 2011

Dogs Received: 46

Dogs Adopted: 29

Returned: 3

Euthanized/Died: 8

NEWSLETTER BY: KRISTIN ROSS AND MELISSA LAMERE

Volume 1, Issue 4

We’re on the Web! BCROFMN.ORG