

HERITAGE SOCIETY

Newsletter

"We should give
back to the
dogs that give
us so much!"

-Georgeann Reeve

*President, Bernese Mountain
Dog Club of America*



The AKC Canine Health
Foundation's Heritage
Society honors donors
who have made a
commitment to the
Foundation through a
planned gift.



IS IT TIME TO UPDATE YOUR WILL?

Did you get married? Do you have a new child or grandchild? Have you experienced a death in your family? Did you acquire or sell a valuable asset? If so, it's time to update your will by following these simple steps.

1. Review the list of assets included in your will. Consider your real estate, personal possessions, cash and retirement accounts. Make revisions if necessary.
2. Review your beneficiaries. (Don't forget to include the AKC Canine Health Foundation!)
3. Review your choice of executor of your will.
4. Seek the advice of an attorney, if necessary.
5. Sign your revised will in the presence of a witness.
6. Store your will in a safe location.

INTERVIEW WITH GEORGEANN REEVE

Georgeann Reeve is a licensed conformation judge and AKC Breeder of Merit (Silver) of Bernese Mountain Dogs. She is president of the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America and is also active with her regional breed club and advocate of the Berner-Garde Foundation, an open access database of health information for the breed. She believes strongly in communicating with fellow breeders to share information and work toward more informed breeding decisions. As many of the pups that she breeds go to companion homes, she says that it is important to have as much information as possible to try to breed as healthy a pup as possible for her families.

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An Interview with Georgeann Reeve, Heritage Society Member since 2012

Q: How did you first learn about the AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF)?

A: A dear friend educated me on the various charities that support canine health and I learned about the important work conducted by CHF from her. Our national breed club holds a health auction each year at our annual specialty. In 2007, she arranged for CHF to be one of the possible charities that donors could designate for the auction. She was looking for ways to facilitate tax-deductible and larger donations to the auction for the benefit of our breed and related health efforts.

Q: What kind of planned gift did you leave the AKC Canine Health Foundation and how was the process of setting up that gift?

A: Both my husband and I have included CHF in our wills. We worked with our financial planner and estate attorney. It was quite easy!

Q: Why did you choose CHF for your planned gift?

A: CHF is a well-run organization with minimal overhead and great oversight. Accountability and transparency are very important to me when choosing a charity. CHF's investment strategy is sound as shared with clubs in their quarterly donor advised fund reports. I also love that we are able to support the Bernese Donor Advised Funds held at CHF.

In addition, dog ownership brings a wonderful community of dog lovers into our lives. Giving to CHF is a great way to support this community and our friends whose dogs may have health issues addressed by CHF-funded research.



Bob and Georgeann Reeve with Truman.

Q: What do you tell others considering a gift to CHF?

A: Invest in CHF because they fund quality canine health research. They are looking for ways to prevent and treat diseases that affect Bernese Mountain Dogs and all dogs. We should give back to the dogs that give us so much! That has become especially apparent during the COVID pandemic when dog ownership gives us a routine and a reason to get up and be active. Dogs are always so happy to see us. Supporting canine health research through CHF helps dogs and people.

For more information about making a planned gift to benefit the AKC Canine Health Foundation, please visit akcCHF.org/heritagesociety or contact Bradford Brady at bradford.brady@akcCHF.org.

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The AKC Canine Health Foundation is dedicated to advancing the health of all dogs and their owners by funding scientific research and supporting the dissemination of health information to prevent, treat and cure canine disease.