



*Rocky Mountain
Bearded Collie Connection*

Beardie Works

October 2024



RMBCC Beardie Works October 2024

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RMBCC Officers	Committee Chairs	
President: Nancy Shock Nashock55@gmail.com	Agility: Kim Krueger	Hospitality: Colleen Fitzgerald Nan Matthews
Vice President: Olivia Lazarus doriswoodsong@yahoo.com	Awards: Kathy Zeschin Olivia Lazarus	Newsletter: Nan Matthews
Treasurer: Karen Deitke KarenDeitke@gmail.com	Constitution/Standing Rules: Nancy Shock	Obedience/Rally: Meg Naylor
Secretary: Deb McAlister dmcmarley@msn.com	Herding: Meg Naylor	Barn Hunt: Olivia Lazarus
Directors: Colleen Fitzgerald Meg Naylor	Therapy Dogs/ScentWork: Norm Lazarus Olivia Lazarus	Membership/Insurance/Taxes Meg Naylor
	Condolences: Laura Tappero	

BEREAVEMENT COMMITTEE CHAIR: Laura Tappero

While my duties as chair might make you believe I am the bearer of bad news, let me reassure you that I can bring good news also. Especially the good news as it pertains to your Beardies' accomplishments. But and this is the biggy, *I can only do this if you, the membership, let me know.*

We all mourn when we lose our beloved pets or a family member. It's important to know how much your sadness at this time is shared.

If you have news for me, good or sad, please e-mail me @ Shanaspre@Q.com



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From Our President, Nancy Shock, October 2024

Happy Fall my dear fellow Beardie lovers,

OK I'll just get it said... I am tired of the 85 degree highs. Luckily in Durango the lows are more in the 50's so that helps. I wish it would start freezing at night and then maybe the local bears would decide to hibernate.

We haven't had bear issues like this for about 15 years. My heart goes out to them as they come into our yard and strip the trees of fruit because there are no natural berries and acorns up on the hillside. Our most frequent visitor I have named Ben, because I'm hoping he will continue to be a Gentle Ben. He's the biggest bear I have ever seen. When he stands up to climb over our fence, I bet he's 8 feet tall. My neighbors had claw marks on their trees at 15 feet. My Sweet Beardie Bear doesn't get to go outside after dark unless I'm with him in the yard with a flashlight and telling 'Ben' to go away. Bear is great at letting me know when Ben comes off the hill and is by the house... He stands on the end table and looks out the windows to keep watch over the property. What a great dog he is.

Thanks to all of you who are organizing Beardie activities and keeping in touch with each other.

I'd like to give a special shoutout to **Mike and Becky Tupa**. They have supported the RMBCC with more articles - the Beardie Minute and Aunt Beardie letters - than I can count. I bet if I had a copy of our original newsletters there would be contributions from them. Thanks to both of you!! And I can't wait to read what you submit this month.

Let's make sure and keep Asheville, North Carolina in our thoughts and prayers. The BCCA has had some wonderful National Specialties there, and I just can't imagine the devastation those kind people are suffering.

In October I am taking a Knitting Tour of Scotland... and wouldn't it be great to see a 'native Beardie'. I'll be one of those tourists that gets all excited and asks if 'I can pet your dog' and of course take a picture.

Take care and hug your pups,



Nancy



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It Was a Dark and Windy Night

A True Story: by Becky Tupa

CH Britannia Abbey Road BN RA SWN FDC CGC TKP has earned far more of our kudos than those titles. Abbey considers it her job to make sure our home and yard are secure mostly from way too many squirrels.

But recently one dark and windy night, Abbey went out in the back yard to take care of business before bedtime. After she came inside, she continued to sit by the door and would not come to the bedroom with me. Assuming she had more business, I went outside with her again. She proceeded to the side yard and stared toward the front yard. From my vantage point I could not determine why she sat focused on whatever it was. I called her, she did not come to me. I asked her my usual question, "What is it, Abbey." She stood up, then sat down but stayed focused on something toward the front yard. By this time, I believed that she was trying to tell me something. I retrieved a flashlight and focused the beam in the direction of Abbey's attention.

Instantly I saw that she was "showing" me the gate was wide open! As I went to close the gate I kept saying "Abbey, thank you, thank you, thank you! Good girl." In my mind I was thanking her not only for alerting me to the open gate, but also for not running through it into the dark night to confront something that surely would have frightened *me* more than an open gate.

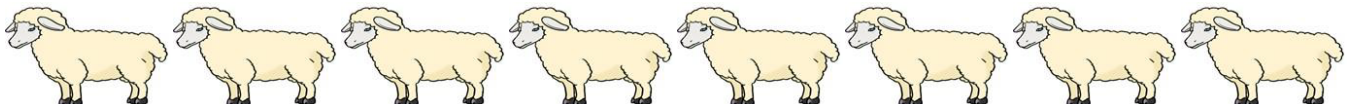
A worker earlier in the day had likely failed to properly latch the gate, and the wind blew it open. Abbey's intelligence, attention to details in her environment, and her commitment to her job of securing her territory were all on display that night.

What a fun dog! What a wonderful breed our Beardies are! It reminded me of watching an episode of "Lassie" as a kid.

HERDING INSTINCT TEST - MAY 23, 2025 - SAVE THE DATE!!

The RMBCC is planning a BCCA Herding instinct Test for Friday, May 23, 2025. It will be at Carrie's Sparks place in Elizabeth, CO. Carrie will also be our judge. This test only requires one test for a Bearded Collie Club herding certificate. Beardies must be at least 6 months old. We will also have "Fun Runs".

Contact Meg Naylor at 303.880.5091 or Naylormk@outlook.com with any questions.



BRAGGS AND WAGGS

Linda Abramczyk – Whiskey



Whiskey finally got his NATCH and Versatility NATCH in NADAC agility in September. I didn't even know it at the time, since I don't keep track of points. Only when I got home to print out results and just check how many Chances points he needed, that's when I found out.

Olivia and Norm Lazarus – Roy



Roy got his Farm Dog Certification Title on September 13, 2024.

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Russ and Janet Kittel – Brennah



Brennah went to her 1st herding trial in September, an AHBA (American Herding Breed Association) trial and, handled by Russ, got her first title, HCT (Herding Capability Tested).



Left to right: Brennah, Rosie, and Roy

Brennah also got a surprise visit from Karen Deitke and her littermates, Rosie and Roy, who got to see her run!

Welcome to New RMBCC Members



Welcome to our new RMBCC joint members, Dana and Chuck Laursen!

The Laursen's are from Erie, CO. They have joined our club to get to know others in the Beardie community and share the love of our breed. They currently have 3 Beardies, Elsa (10 years old), Dani (3 years old), and puppy Jolene (aka JoJo). Karen Deike is their RMBCC sponsor.

We hope to see Dana, Chuck, and their Beardies at upcoming events!



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Beardie Minute - Mike Tupa

Self-Awareness

I always knew I was a dog, the 4-legged kind, with tail, black nose, big teeth kind of a dog. It was an image I carried from when I was a puppy with my litter mates. We all re-affirmed the “dog” fact and our mother reinforced the image that I carried into adult hood. Even my human family stressed/reinforced this image, playing games, offering treats, feeding, grooming, car rides, everything to convince me that I was a D O G.

Now what else could I be?

I think a realization of what else I could be came to me one night. The moon was full, shining in the window, my humans asleep and I was snuggled up on their bed, my back up against one of them feeling their steady breathing and body sounds. I wasn't sleepy and began thinking that maybe I really was asleep, and this was all a dream. You know the moon, warm bed, humans, treats, playing ball, car rides and all. What if the reality of what I thought was real was actually a dream or another state of existence.

Well, as it happens at 3 in the morning, most mornings, it was easy to accept this “awareness” and my brain was willing to expand on the possibility that I was in control of my reality. The world around me was my creation. There for me to create. There for me to experience. There for me to suffer. Those squirls on the back yard fence were my creation, the fence was my creation, and my humans were there to help my created reality grow and provide positive feedback.

My mother, doggy mother, once hinted that we dogs are special. And we know we are special. She said that humans think we are dependent on them. This “I am a dog, I am special” manner was taught to us early as we grew up with our litter mates. Then as we grew up, and just before we left for our new home, Mom would whisper to each of us that we should try to be our special self to teach the humans something new. That there was something special about me as a dog. And the way we teach them is to be dependent on them, loving and playful. But she never told me about being self-aware within a world I create. My dream world.

Mom, how I wish you were here now so we could discuss this.

So, human, know I have created your home. And I am on a mission to see if I can manipulate you and the reality around me. As a dog maybe this might be difficult. The inability to talk or write or use the computer has placed some restrictions on me (although here I am typing away right now). ... Oh Wait. Maybe this Beardie Minute is the alternate reality I was thinking about! Maybe it is here to expand my humans' appreciation for me and for us dogs everywhere.

Gosh, all this at 3am. Well, it all comes down to dogs are special, we know it and you humans better know that we have you in our reality to keep us healthy, fed and entertained. And we love it.



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NOVEMBER 10 – WALK IN THE PARK



Mark your calendars for the 2024 Walk in the Park 10:30 am - ???

Please join RMBCC members and their Beardies for a lovely fall walk in Washington Park on Sunday, November 10.

We will be starting at the south end of the park, so would recommend parking in the South High School lot – 1700 E. Louisiana Avenue, Denver, CO 80210. Cross the street and look for all the Beardies.

Please bring water for dogs and humans and the always necessary poop bags.

We had many humans and dogs for our last walk – and always get lots of attention! Hope to see you there!

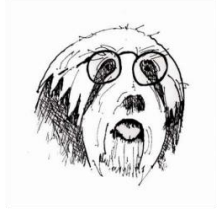
No need to RSVP. If weather is bad, we will reschedule.

Nan Matthews, nan@themattgrp.com
303-843-6414; cell-303-521-9780



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AUNT BEARDIE



Dear Aunt Beardie,

Most of the time it is my pups that have questions for you, but this time it is my own “grownup “Beardie question. I hear my humans talking about Racer, my nephew, a 4-month-old pup. Whenever he starts running around the house for no reason they wonder if he is crazy or possessed. Sometimes Racer barks as he seems to be having fun racing around.

Sincerely,
Spirit

Dear Spirit,

It sounds like you are describing “the zoomies.” I get asked this question often. Pups may suddenly have a need to disperse energy, and they run or zoom around as fast as they can go for a short time. My experts say that the zoomies are a quick way for dogs to release pent-up energy, excitement, or nervous energy.

Sometimes adult dogs get “the zoomies” but usually it is the pups. Although the exact cause is not fully understood, experts believe lack of exercise may trigger zoomies, such as when the humans come home from work and pup has been quiet during the day. Stress, nervousness or being overtired may also trigger zoomies.

My little darlings often get the zoomies after their bath. It may feel good to run to shake of dripping bath water or it may just feel good to release the tension of being such a good dog during the bath. The pups seem to enjoy it. Do not worry; Racer is not crazy.

Sincerely,
Aunt Beardie



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**SAVE THE DATE
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 14**

Please join us for the
**ROCKY MOUNTAIN BEARDED COLLIE CONNECTION'S
ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY**

WHAT: Food, Fun, Gift Exchange and Holiday Cheer

WHEN: Saturday, December 14, 2024

TIME: 11:00- 2:00pm

WHERE: Chuy's
Greenwood Village, CO

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON!!