

THORNCREEK

BERNESE MOUNTAIN DOGS

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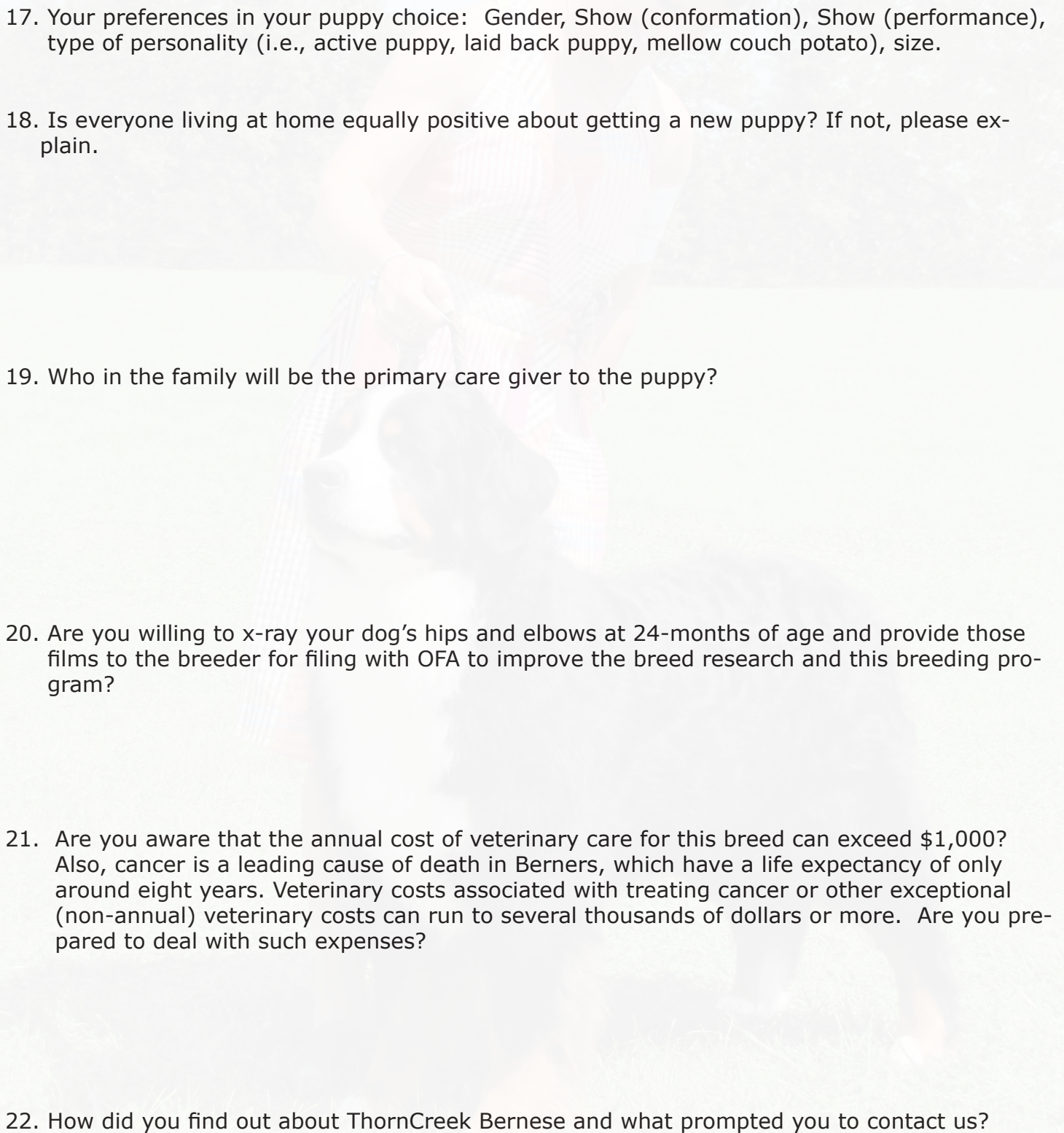
PROSPECTIVE PUPPY OWNER QUESTIONNAIRE

As an owner of Berners since 1998 I know that Bernese Mountain Dogs can make wonderful family companions, but not all puppies are appropriate for every family situation. To ensure that the ideal puppy is selected for your family, please help me by answering the following questions. This is not a test, so there are no right or wrong answers. Your answers will help me match the best puppy to your lifestyle with the goal of ensuring that the puppy has a wonderful home for his entire life. Please understand that completion of this form does not guarantee that we will find a puppy that perfectly fits your situation.

Date: _____

1. Provide your name, snail mail address, telephone number, and email address:
2. Provide a brief description of your family, including number, gender, and ages of any children or elderly adults living at home.
3. Provide a brief description including number, gender, and ages of any pets currently living in the home.
4. Have you ever owned a Bernese Mountain Dog? If so, please provide information as to how long ago you owned the dog, where you obtained the dog (breeder, rescue, pet shop, Internet, etc.), and how old it was when you got it.

5. Have you owned other breeds of dogs? If so, what breeds? How old were they when you got them?
6. Have you ever relinquished a dog before? If so, describe the circumstances under which you gave the dog up?
7. Will the puppy be left alone during the day while you are at work? If so, approximately how many hours per day will the puppy be alone?
8. Where will the dog sleep at night?
9. Do you have or intend to get a crate?
10. Do you have or plan to install a fenced yard or an underground wire containment system (e.g., Invisible Fence)?
11. Please provide a brief description of your home/neighborhood/road traffic (i.e., apartment/townhome/single family home/suburban neighborhood/farm/acreage, own/rent).
12. May we do a home visit prior to placement and after?
13. Have you ever taken a dog to obedience classes? Please explain.
14. Do you have an interest in showing your puppy in conformation, obedience, or agility? Explain.
15. Would you be interested in joining a local or national Bernese Mountain Dog club?
16. Who do you plan to use as your regular veterinarian, and are you a client there now? May we contact your veterinarian for a reference?

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- A woman with blonde hair is smiling and holding a small Bernese Mountain Dog puppy. The puppy is looking towards the camera. The background is a soft-focus outdoor setting with greenery.
17. Your preferences in your puppy choice: Gender, Show (conformation), Show (performance), type of personality (i.e., active puppy, laid back puppy, mellow couch potato), size.
18. Is everyone living at home equally positive about getting a new puppy? If not, please explain.
19. Who in the family will be the primary care giver to the puppy?
20. Are you willing to x-ray your dog's hips and elbows at 24-months of age and provide those films to the breeder for filing with OFA to improve the breed research and this breeding program?
21. Are you aware that the annual cost of veterinary care for this breed can exceed \$1,000? Also, cancer is a leading cause of death in Berners, which have a life expectancy of only around eight years. Veterinary costs associated with treating cancer or other exceptional (non-annual) veterinary costs can run to several thousands of dollars or more. Are you prepared to deal with such expenses?
22. How did you find out about ThornCreek Bernese and what prompted you to contact us?

If you have not already done so, we suggest that you read the "BMD Info Series" available on the Bernese Mountain Dog Club of America's website at www.bmdca.org/. These offer a wealth of information about the breed in several concise 2-page topical pamphlets.