

BOSLEY TICKLES ME PINK

Call name: Bosley

Berner-Garde ID #20345

OFA prelims (at 14 mos. of age): "Fair" hips; "Grade 1" elbows

Bosley became a treasured part of our family on April 23, 2004. He was 15 weeks old at that time and absolutely the cutest sad faced puppy we'd ever seen! My husband, Rick, wanted a large berner boy, so Amy Kessler steered us towards him, whose name was "Goliath" at BARC, saying, "He might be just what you're looking for." Well, that lil' guy, who even at that tender age already weighed in at 41 lean pounds, began to grow—and just kept growing and growing and growing!! He now stands 29.5" at the shoulder and weighs about 120 lbs. He turned 3 just after Christmas, so we're not completely sure he's even finished maturing yet since he spent more than his first year doing nothing but growing straight UP....but we'll see! One long time berner owner commented recently that he "still looks like a teenager"! I've always said he looks more like a miniature show pony than a berner—legs for days—but I think he is handsome beyond measure, just not terribly "typey". When he trots, I'm convinced he has some pony in him somewhere because he prances in such a beautiful and showy manner and is so very graceful!

We have been through a lot with our "big man" since that day in April when we drove to Kansas to make him our own. We spent a year battling the horrible results of whip worm infestation that tore up his colon before finally finding, with Andrea Brin's assistance, what would help him to get his intestinal tract healed and restored to good working order. Then we began fighting issues with his eyes since they are droopy, but NOT ectropion per our ophthalmologist! And while all this was going on, our "big man", Bosley, was growing and changing and suddenly went from being a happy-go-lucky puppy into a quite shy and fearful adolescent!! We were stunned! And we still have no real idea what made his personality change like it did (puberty??), but we just worked and worked with him on it—attempting to expose him to as many different stimuli as possible and to play down his fearful reactions. It has taken these last 2 ½ years of working him in a variety of different ways/areas to help him become the fairly well adjusted boy that he is today. He has made enormous strides in this area, but is still what I call "quirkie" and has to deal with certain things in his own way and in his own timing. But considering his rough start in life, I think he's doing FABULOUSLY!!

All that being said, I cannot begin to tell you what a LOVE our sweet Bosley is!! He has the most tender and sweet of dispositions and is the gentlest spirit I know. He literally cannot comprehend meanness of any kind, so I'm soooo grateful that he didn't wind up being sold for stud to a puppy mill!! I'm not sure he could have survived in that environment. He is a great judge of character, and once you're "in" with him, it's forever!! He is my serious man and the protector of our home. He feels no need to prove his machismo; he just IS brave when it counts. By the way, he does have an "alter ego" that loves to cut loose and PLAY with abandon every once in a while, but when the chips are down, I always know I can depend on my BoseyBear.

Lisa Hawes, TX

Bosley
Lisa Hawes

