

Speaker-Rocco Spinelli: Saving Your Dog From Disaster



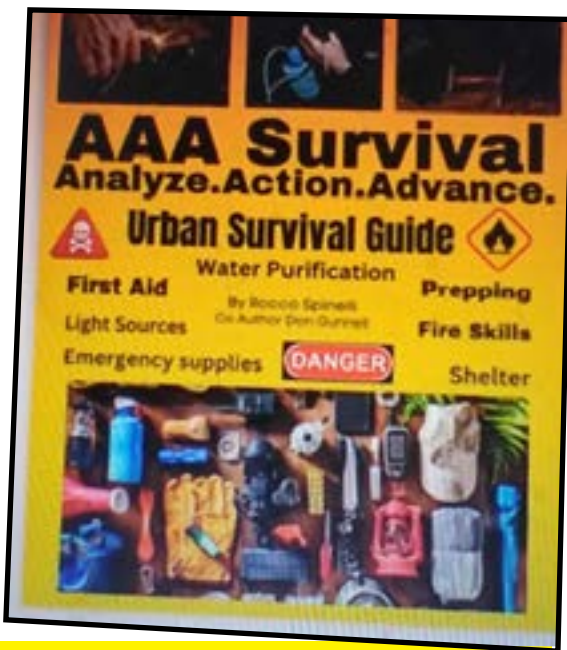
JULY 2023



Rocco Spinelli, having lived through 3 real disasters: the Northridge quake, the Malibu wildfires and the Los Angeles riots will bring the REALITY of his first-hand experience to his presentation at the July 10th Tailwaggers meeting. Rocco wrote his second book called, "AAA Survival." He will share the part of the book that deals with what is necessary to build the proper emergency kit for your pets. Rocco is trained in wilderness first aid, is both a C.E.R.T (Community Emergency Response Team Responder) and L.A.R.T (Large Animal Rescue Team Responder) team member. He is trained

in both wilderness and suburban survival and is currently a Park Ranger in Bear Valley. Rocco's philosophy is "All disasters will lead you back to your emergency preparedness kit".

Those who have reviewed his book say, "You will want to buy Rocco's book because it navigates you through the hundreds of survival gear and scenarios out there into a streamlined practical survival plan. AAA Survival will teach you the critical 3-step plan you need to put in motion the second disaster strikes. If you're ready to hope for the best but prepare for the worst, then this is the book for you. You can get it on Amazon."



Rocco now teaches tracking and primitive wilderness skills and Urban survival (emergency preparedness) at his Tracking lab in Bear Valley Springs. To contact Rocco Spinelli email: earthskills@aol.com

Members and member guests come to the meeting on July 10th, in the Equestrian Lounge. Doors open for refreshments at 6:00 and the meeting is at 6:30.

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Oh, What Did I Do Now?!! President's Message

Pam Miller

For over two years Jazzy would shake, cry and pant in the car every time we would go somewhere. Finally, while riding in the valley and for short rides, that behavior got better. However, every time I headed out the BVS gate, she began to shake, cry and pant again. I didn't know what caused that behavior, but I knew I wanted her to get over it because I take my dogs with me almost everywhere I go.

When I picked her up, as an eight-week old puppy, I put her in a crate and she cried loudly all the way to my house. She also cried in that crate the first night I tried to make her sleep in it. Could it be that she had a bad experience in the crate before I got her? Or, could it be that she associated being in a crate with being separated from her doggie family? Eight to 11 weeks is a natural fear stage for puppies, so maybe it was too overwhelming for her to be separated from her family and hauled off in a crate to an unknown destination.

There are many possible reasons for her not liking riding in a car, or being in a crate. For instance, she could have been car-sick. My intention for crating her, while I drove home, was certainly not to traumatize her, but only to get her to my home safely.

We don't always know the consequences of our actions until we see the results. And then is it even clear that it was us who caused the behavior we see? But what IS clear is that there will always be issues to deal with the best way we can. I am happy to say that with lots of time, patience with her crying and shaking, lots of reassurance in the car, and lots of car rides, she has finally settled down and rides comfortably in the car. For another great example of creating unintentional consequences, read the next article, "Do Not Pee on My New Tree".



It is the Tailwaggers board's intention to provide the members with great speakers and relevant information. That is certainly what we will do at the next meeting. Rocco is a captivating speaker and has extremely relevant information to share as we live in the mountains and head into the fire season. I hope you all come to the meeting on July 10th.

Featured Article

Don't Pee On My Tree!

By Denise Mazzola

"Everything Dog"

denise@denisemazzola.com



I recently heard this story, which just made me shake my head and feel the pain and confusion of the poor dog, who was just being, well, a dog!

Don't Pee On My Tree! Continued...

A friend of the family had just spent a lot of money to have a special tree planted in memory of a family member who had recently passed away.

Well, his dog, Moose, took a particularly liking to this tree, and as male dogs do, he started peeing on it, which infuriated the husband.

So, he bought a shock collar. Every time Moose cozied up to the tree to pee, he shocked him. To the husband the message was clear. Do NOT pee on my new Tree.

Unfortunately, dogs do not learn the same way we do. What is so clear to us, is less clear to them.

The scientist Ivan Pavlov won the Noble Prize for discovering Learning by Association. All animals make associations with smells, sights, sounds or pain. How many of your dogs come running when you wiggle a baggie? Or maybe they get super excited when you pick up their leash? Why? Because there is a learned association between baggie crinkle = treats, and leash = walks.

The negative associations we and animals make are all about our survival and they are incredibly strong. Take the horse and the pony.

The horse and the pony had been pastured together for over 10 years. They were great buddies, until one day when the horse slipped on the ice and fell. Falling for a horse is a traumatic event. As the horse struggled to get up, she saw her friend the pony standing nearby. As soon as the horse got up, she attacked the pony.

They could never be in the same pasture again. Why? Because the horse incorrectly made the association with the pony. In the horse's brain, the pony caused the fall. ...You get the idea.

Most dogs will make the association we want, BUT they will also lump into that association many other things that we cannot predict.

Poor Moose never went near that tree again. Yay, for the husband, but Moose stopped peeing outside and started peeing inside the house. Why? Because Moose made a strong association with peeing OUTSIDE, not specifically peeing on that tree.

If this husband had simply put up an inexpensive fence, made out of chicken wire or snow fencing, his goal would have been achieved without the trauma to the dog.

Shock Collars work because punishment via pain is a strong motivator to avoid something. You must ask yourself if you can live with the consequences of using such a strong punisher. Can you determine ALL the things your dog will make the association with? And can you live with those consequences. I can't. Which is why I don't use, support, or condone the use of pain to change behavior. There are just too many risks.

The only way to stop your dog's aggressive or naughty behavior is to look at the Whole Dog. Let's get curious about their health, nutrition, genetics, learning history, trauma, and their environment. Then and only then can we put together a plan that will address all the dog's needs so we can effectively change their behavior for the better.

General Meeting Minutes **June 12, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 by Molly Mackin.

Molly introduced the presenter for the evening, Monica Nolan. Monica gave multiple demonstrations of Canine Freestyle with her two Aussies. She also showed examples of how to teach your dog a variety of skills. We saw how Freestyle work is unique in that it allows for creative interaction between the dog and handler. Several members enthusiastically asked questions

Pam Miller introduced new members/guests as well as upcoming events.

Respectively Submitted,

Dorothy Ramierz, Acting Secretary

Tailwaggers Happy'ngs

General Meetings

July 10th

Rocco Spinelli, BVS Ranger

Saving Your Dog in a Disaster

August 14th

No meeting in August.

Relax, Stay Home and Cool off!

General Meetings are the second Monday of every month, unless notified differently, in the Equestrian Center lounge at 6:00 for refreshments and 6:30 for the meeting.

Agility Division

Agility Workshops:

Agility Playdays: September 23

October 21

Contact Gary Hill, 480-216-8488, or Lucy Radike, 661-904-3379, to sign up and or more information.

K9 Fitness Division

WalkAbouts

This is a weekly event on Fridays at 8:00. Meet at the Nature Path by the ball field. It's a wonderful way to connect and meet new TW friends while socializing and exercising our dogs. You can join us with or without a dog.

HikeAbouts

Hiking the trails with our dogs will begin again in the fall, when the weather gets cooler. Have a good summer!



Ginger resting on a hike.

Training Division Events

NEW TRAININGS!

Meg and Molly's Training Academy A Success.

A six-week series began on Monday, May 15 and ended on June 19. Offerings included AKC S.T.A.R. Puppy training, AKC Good Canine Citizen/Obedience and Rally training. The dates for the next series of classes will be announced soon. For more information, or to sign up for up-coming trainings, text/call Molly Mackin at 818-512-9836.

NOSEWORK SERIES

Rebecca Barocas, Competitor and Trainer in Nosework for over 10 years.

Rebecca is holding the second 6 week Nosework Series beginning Friday, August 4th. Contact Molly Mackin, 818-512-9836 to sign up or for more information.

FREESTYLE-TRICK TRAINING

MONICA NOLAN - Dancing with Dogs

Monica Nolan has done an amazing job of training teams in the sport of freestyle near L.A. over the past few years. Famous for teaching "Dancing with Dogs," She is also an AKC Evaluator in all the different disciplines. Monica was our speaker on June 12 th. There is a possibility of her doing a workshop with us in the future. Call Molly Mackin, 818-512-9836 if interested in this Training.

Therapy Dog Division

Happy Hounds and Friends Reading Program

Tailwaggers therapy dogs busy reading to the kids at the Whiting Center and going to the hospital.

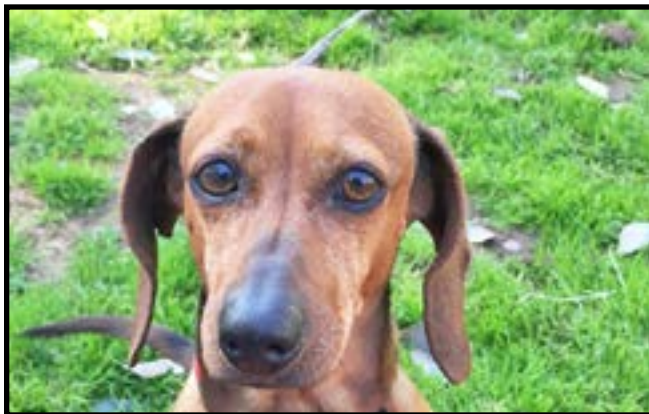
Dog Park Division

Contact Jeannie Alvarado for more information at 661-917-4050

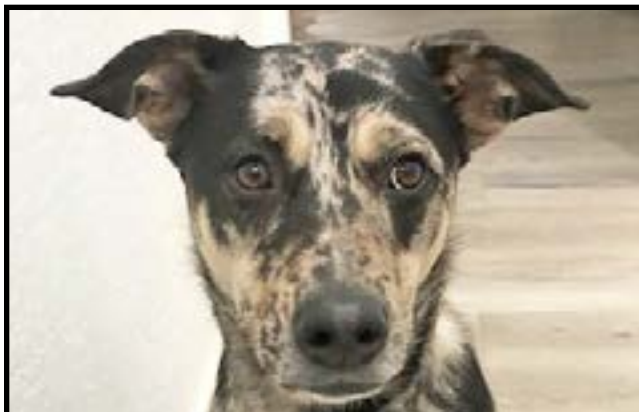
What Does It Mean That My Dog Stares At Me?



Holly Bennett's best friend, Paizlee, is saying "I need to go to doggie day care today!! Let's go!!"



Terry Albert's best friend Molly is telling her he wants some too!



Nan and Ed's best friend, Augie, "is wondering if it is a school day with Meg and Molly?"

Willow, by Terry Albert

Tailwaggers RAISED \$8,860.00 for Have A Heart to bring a SNIP Bus, (low cost spay/neuter service) up to Tehachapi by selling raffle tickets. One of two winners who won a portrait drawn by the well-known artists, Terry Albert, was Belinda White. Kathy Carey was the other. Terry finished her drawing of Willow, for David and Belinda White. Here is their beautiful picture.



We look forward to seeing the drawing she does for Kathy.



Rupert, one of Pam Miller's clients says, "When is my daddy coming home?"

What Does It Mean That My Dog Stares At Me?



Reggie, Nilly Smith's best friend, is trying hard to tell her something.



Mel McDavid's best friend, Teddy, is telling her "I'm trying to sleep Mom. I am not a morning dog."



Jane Tanaka's best friend is telling her, "That was a good breakfast, now it's time for a nap."



Caroline Carpenter's best friend, Birdie Rose, is telling her she loves hanging out in the tunnel.



This guy is trying to tell us that his Mom and Dad really love him, "they were the first to send in my picture, but they don't know Pam lost their email and doesn't know who they are!"

Treasurers' Monthly Report

June 2023

By Jeannie Alvarado

Checking Account Beginning Balance	\$5,879.06
INCOME	
Membership	120.00
Agility	85.00
Total	205.00
EXPENSES	
No expenses for June	0.00
ENDING BALANCE	\$6,084.06
As of June 30, 2023	

June 17, Agility PlayDay

Thanks to everyone who helped make this playday possible including Gary Hill, Rick Gipson, Greg Lee, Dave McGuire, Donna Macintyre, Kim Strong, Mary Thompson, Erin Larkin-Rohrer, Nance Chefalo, Lucy Radike, and Jeannie Alvarado.



Carol Thrope and Merlin



Lookie, weave, weave.
Brenda Tusugian with Winston



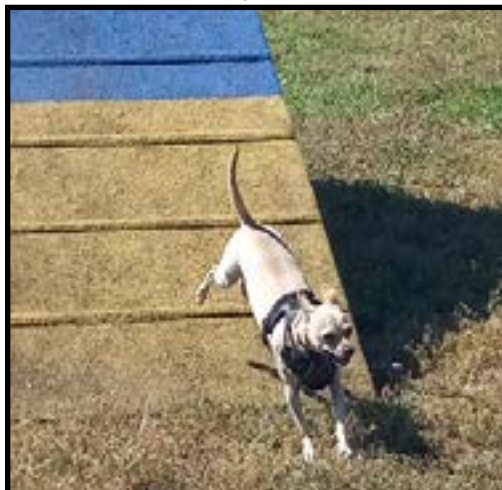
Dot Ramirez with Skyler



Volunteers, taking a well deserved break.



Cynthia Peck with Quake learning the A-Frame



Jazzy, "I made it!" Wee!



Guess what I will give you if you keep your eye on the...food!
Johnathan Tusugian with Winston

Meg and Molly's K-9 Academy

Obedience Novice

Photos by Trista Maja Photography

www.tristamajaphotography.com



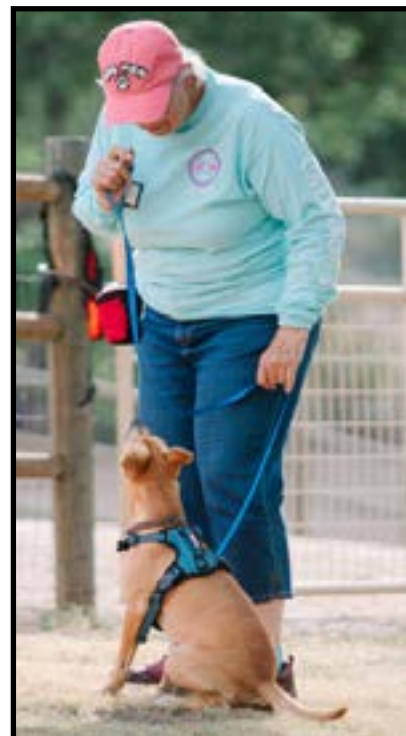
Vicki Raush and Teddy.
Practicing walking on a leash



Nilly Smith and Ranger



Brandy Holcomb, daughter watch as
Harley "settles" on the platform.



Mel McDavid and Teddy.
Practicing "Look at me."

Obedience Novice

Photos by
Trista Maja Photography
www.tristamajaphotography.com



Caroline Carpenter and Birdie



Ed Bullard with Angie learning where her feet are while walking through the ladder.



Jeff Kermode with Ellie learning to appreciate walking next to Jeff.



Molly Mackin, with David White and Willow, learning to Jump!

Rally

Photos by
Trista Maja Photography
www.tristamajaphotography.com



Rocky, watching Jan Bentley's every move - What a team!



Mark and Orbe heading for the next instructional sign.



Michelle Campbell showing off Orbe's sitting up trick.



Jazzy sitting in "front" for Pam and then going forward



Freya "coming around" for Lauren Jaimes.



The Rally Teams

As the Tale Wags with Michael Coughlin

By Jane Tanaka

“He is SO smart!” Michael Coughlin beams with pride when he talks about his 9 month old pup, Bubba. The Central California Animal Disaster Team (CCADT) rescued this shepherd/husky/akita mix and his 4 litter-mates from the Tulare River flood a few months ago. A retired commercial fire sprinkler system designer, Michael agreed to foster Bubba, and paused starting a post-retirement business to patiently work with Bubba, who had never known a home. Bubba now is house trained, only occasionally chews pillows and shoes, and is “living the life of Riley.” Michael exercises Bubba at the BVS Dog Park where he meets his sisters Chia and Venus, who are fostered by Fiona Nelson Hahn, CCADT volunteer. Recently, Bubba has been trying out the agility equipment at Dog Park.



His long-term partner Donna, a park ranger, raptor educator and mountain lion researcher, was also an equestrian, and they purchased their home in Bear

Valley Springs in part due to her love of horses. Michael and Donna commuted from Orange County on weekends for several years, with plans to retire in BVS. In 2014, Donna was diagnosed with a rapidly progressing cancer and passed away 40 days later.

A year after Donna’s death, Michael moved to BVS full time. He worked in Bakersfield until he retired. Michael also has two adult stepsons he helped raise during a previous marriage.

Since retiring, he has offered his time and efforts to local causes. In addition to recently joining the BVS Tailwaggers, he has volunteered as a Litter



Loather, and at the Cultural Arts Association Renaissance Faire. Michael also belongs to the Wild Life Coalition and Sportsmen Club. An avid camper, Michael regularly volunteers at the Red Rock Canyon State Park, and is about to begin training in the basics of animal sheltering during disasters through CCADT.

Although Michael grew up with dogs since the age of 4, Bubba Riley is his first pup in 20 years. He initially envisioned Bubba being adopted by a family with children and another dog, but he now considers Bubba his dog. Michael hopes that Bubba’s adorable sisters, Chia and Venus, will also find permanent homes. For information about Chia and Venus, contact CCADT volunteer Fiona Nelson Hahn via her email, FNelson1@hotmail.com.





Understanding Fear in Dogs

By Denise Mazzola

"Everything Dog"

denise@denisemazzola.com

When we think of a scared dog, what usually comes to mind is a trembling animal hiding in a dark corner or under the bed, whining, his tail tucked. Nonstop barking doesn't often make the list. Nor does shredding of clothes, gnawing through window frames, or growling and lunging at visitors. But these can all be symptoms of fear in dogs. Fear-based behaviors vary so widely that we frequently don't recognize them as such. Instead, we think of the dog as stubborn or naughty or trying to run the household (the long-discredited dominance theory), which means we end up trying to solve the wrong problem. Clues in canine body



language can help us identify fear and anxiety—fear-based behaviors always come with some physical, postural giveaways. It might be muscle tension, a tightly closed mouth, crouching, dilated pupils, yawning, or ears held back, among many others.

Speaking of FEAR!

Why dogs develop fear-related conditions is a complex question without an easy answer. Genetics play a role (experiments have shown you can breed for fear of people, for example), and so does proper socialization, the all-important early exposure to new people, places, animals, sounds, and objects. Puppies who have positive experiences with new things in the environment are much less likely to develop fear later in life. But that isn't the whole picture, because some well-socialized dogs do develop fear disorders. And again, bad experiences (abuse, accidents) can explain some of those cases, but not all.

Helping a fearful dog takes patience and effort on the part of human companions. Once a visit to a veterinarian has excluded pain or illness as the source of problematic behavior, a qualified force-free trainer or behaviorist can assess the situation and design a behavior modification plan. Treatment might include desensitization (exposing the dog to something he fears at such a low level it doesn't trigger his anxiety) and classical counter-conditioning (pairing something the dog fears with something he loves). The less-than-good news is the amount of time it can take to see improvement. But the good news is that many dogs can and do overcome fear.



Mission Statement

The BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club is dedicated to responsible dog ownership/guardianship. We are a body of people who care about their dogs and want to be with like-minded responsible people who feel the same. We are committed to sharing and learning. The club will provide experiences through education, training, fun events and social activities. It is designed to improve handler skills and be an information center for owners presenting issues and subjects based on our members' needs.

The club will provide support for local rescues in Kern County.



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Lucy Radike
661-904-3379

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Diana Munday
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The Snake Guys
Preserving the BVS Ecosystem
A Volunteer Series

Snake Relocation
Small Wildlife Rescue
Facebook: Bear Valley Springs Snake Guys

Text or Call

Ron Hoyton	661-203-4468	Debbie Swinars	805-405-6010
Chris Budge	661-972-4320	Craig Swinars	661 821-0968
Key Budge	661-972-4320		

**2023 BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

**Mail to: Tailwaggers Dog Club,
29800 Jamaica Dunes Dr.,
Tehachapi, Ca 93561**

Annual Dues: \$30.00. Make checks payable to: BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club.

Please print

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Street Address: _____ Tract & Lot _____

Cell Phone #(s) _____

Mailing Address (if different from above): _____

E-mail address(s): _____

May we publish your name, phone numbers and e-mail address for club use? Yes _____ No _____

Please provide family members' names. Give the current ages and birth dates of your children who may be participating in Tailwaggers' activities. ****All minors must be accompanied by and under the supervision of a parent or parent-designated adult (in writing) while attending or participating in Tailwaggers' activities.**

The BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club exists to represent canine interests in BVS, to promote responsible, informed dog ownership, and good fellowship of dog owners and BVS residents, to promote fun dog-related activities, including training, to improve and maintain dog-related facilities within BVS, and to support local canine rescues. Membership is open to adult property owners and residents in good standing with the Bear Valley Springs Association (BVSA).

ACCIDENT RELEASE: My signature below hereby releases the Bear Valley Springs Tailwaggers Dog Club and the BVSA and all persons connected with these aforementioned groups from any liability/responsibility for any loss/injury/damage to either myself, my family, my dog(s)/or my equipment while I am/we are participating in, assisting with, or working on any event/activity sponsored by the BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club. Pursuant to Section 305 of the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB By-laws, all adult family club members signing below hereby agree: (a) to take physical and financial responsibility for any dog under my custody or control; (b) that if participating in any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event with a dog that is not my own, they shall be liable for damage or injury inflicted by any such dog(s); and (c) that the Board of Directors or designated Event Coordinator or Trainer of BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club has the right to exclude any aggressive, unruly, or unmanageable dog and their handler from any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event. All adult family club members signing below further agree to sign and maintain on file with BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club a current year's Waiver, Release of Liability and Assumption of Risk form.

ALL adult family club members must sign.

Name: _____ Signature _____ Date _____

Name: _____ Signature _____ Date _____

(Parents must sign for minor child)

Tailwaggers Office Use Only

Dues Paid \$ _____ Date Paid: _____ Cash/Check# _____

Liability release/waiver signed: Yes__ No__

BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB

WAIVER, RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK TO BE COMPLETED AND SIGNED BY EVERY CLUB MEMBER

All club members must sign this form. Please read and be certain you understand the implications of signing. In consideration of my participation in activities arranged by BEAR VALLEY SPRINGS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB (BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB), I hereby release and covenant not to sue BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB, its owners, shareholders, directors, officers, employees, representatives, agents, and lessees and their successors from any and all present and future claims whatsoever, which the undersigned and any of them and the heirs, representatives, executors and administrators thereof, or any other persons acting in behalf, or on behalf of their respective agents, have or may have resulting from ordinary negligence and inherent risk of my participation in any activities or arrangements and the use of the facilities and equipment of BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB and Bear Valley Springs Association (BVSA) and Bear Valley Community Services District (BVSCSD), including but not limited to any loss, injury, damage, illness, sickness, or liability sustained by me while on or about the premises of the BVSA, the BVSCSD, or the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOB CLUB.

Express Assumption of Risk Associated with CANINE-RELATED ACTIVITIES. I, whose name and signature appear below, do hereby affirm and acknowledge that I have been fully informed of the inherent hazards and risks associated with canine activities and sports, including training, showing, competitions, exhibitions, events, meetings, play days and other activities. Inherent hazards and risks include but are not limited to:

1. Risk of injury from the activity and equipment utilized in canine activities of all kinds is significant including the potential for permanent disability and death.
2. Possible equipment failure and/ or the malfunction of my own or other's equipment.
3. My own negligence and/or the negligence of all others, including employees, agents, independent contractors or representatives of the BVSA, BVSCSD, and BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB, including but not limited to operator error.
4. The propensity of a canine (dog) to behave in dangerous ways that may result in injury or death to the participant or others or their dog(s) regardless of the dog's previous training and past performance.
5. The inability to predict a dog's reaction to sound, movements, unfamiliar environment, objects, persons, or animals.
6. Propensity for a dog to bite, fight, run, scratch, make unpredictable movements, jump, push or shove without warning or apparent cause.
7. Collars, harnesses, leashes and other equipment may loosen or break, which may result in accident, injury or death.
8. The domesticated animal may also react in a dangerous manner when condition or treatment is considered hazardous to the welfare of the animal.
9. The potential for a participant or others to fail to exercise reasonable care, or take adequate control when engaging in a domesticated animal activity, including failing to maintain reasonable control of the animal or failing to act in a manner consistent with the person's abilities.
10. Broken bones or severe injuries which may result in severe impairment or even death.
11. Pursuant to Section 305 of the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB By-laws, I agree to take physical and financial responsibility for any dog under my custody or control; that if I am participating in any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event with a dog that is not my own, I shall be liable for damage or injury inflicted by any such dog; and that the Board of Directors or designated Event Coordinator or Trainer of BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club has the right to exclude any aggressive, unruly, or unmanageable dog and their handler from any BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB event.

I understand the description of these risks is not complete and that unknown or unanticipated risks may result in injury, illness, or death. I agree that immediately prior to participation in any activity arranged for me by BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB I will inspect the facilities and equipment to be used and if any defect is apparent I will not use the facility or equipment and I will notify the management of the BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB of the defect.

I HAVE READ AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THE ABOVE WAIVER, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND FULLY UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING THIS WAIVER, RELEASE AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AND SIGN IT VOLUNTARILY.

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____ Phone: _____

Any person under the age of 18 years must have a parent or guardian co-sign this form.

Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____