



MARCH 2023



March Speaker: Canine Companions

With Melissa Billingsley, Krist Wookey, Cathi Estes and Lois Quinn

Contents



Pictured left to right: Puzzle raised by Melissa Billingsley, Sloane raised by Krista Wookey and Button raised by Cathi Estes and Louis Quin.

Have you ever wondered what it takes to raise a Canine Companion dog? Or, have you been interested in what it takes for a dog to become that trusted companion who can help make life easier for someone with a disability? Canine Companions will share all that and more at the next Tailwaggers meeting. Everyone is welcome, you do not need to be a member of the Tailwaggers Dog Club.

Canine Companions will tell you that the journey begins at 8 weeks when you receive a fluffy adorable puppy. Puppy Raisers then socialize and train the puppy with about 40 commands and basic tasks over the course of 18 months, which prepares the puppy for advanced training. During this time, you attend two puppy classes a month and take your pups all over town introducing them to different sounds and environments. After 18 months turn in day arrives and your puppy enters Advanced Training. Next, they are paired with a trainer and you will receive a monthly update on progress. In about 6 months these dogs may become Hearing Dogs, Facility Dogs, PTSD Dogs, Service Dogs or Skilled Companions. They are then paired with someone who has a disability, where they will perform life changing work.

Canine Companions is a nonprofit organization that provides highly trained service dogs to people with a disability, free of charge. The Kern County Chapter of Canine Companions was formed in 2011 by Chapter

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Leader Melissa Billingsley. Our Chapter alone has raised 34 puppies for Canine Companions.

Canine Companions is always looking for new Volunteers and Puppy Raisers for the Kern County Chapter. If you would like more information, please visit canine.org. Raise a puppy and change a life!

Come to the meeting on March 13, in the Equestrian Lounge. Doors open for refreshments at 6:00 and the meeting is at 6:30.

How Helpful are Canine Companion Dogs?

- Some real life examples -

By Katie Jacobson

Long time resident of Bear Valley Springs and currently resident of Orcutt, Ca.

From alerting to blood sugar to sniffing out guns and pests, Orcutt area dogs are on the clock.



Orcutt resident Chanda Hagen, says her lab Kestrel, 6, changed her life. "I used to hide in the corner and not interact (in social situations.) People aren't scary anymore. It's the two of us and we're out there in the world making changes and educating people." Hagen, who trained dogs and horses for 35 years, is 8 years in a wheelchair due to genetic disabilities. Kestrel, Hagen's 4th service dog, has the temperament service dog owners and handlers want. Besides loving to work and being treat-motivated, "absolutely fearless, trainable, connected to the owner, extremely comfortable and friendly to all... not upset by other dogs."

Hagen explained that getting around in a wheelchair can be quite dangerous. She's had close calls with cars and face planted on "lumpy sidewalks." Kestrel's jobs include pulling the wheelchair when needed, retrieving dropped items, pushing buttons for crosswalks and doors and creating a safe space for Hagen. "She's my partner. People smile at her and start conversations. It facilitates interactions."

Jessica Kromer, another Orcutt dog trainer, knew her dalmatian, Arson, could be trained to alert to

blood sugar highs and lows for her son, Kovey Allen. Allen, 14, has type-one diabetes. She collected samples of high and low blood sugar saliva and trained Arson to alert to the blood sugar danger zones. Arson uses his paw and pokes with his nose and then barks, if needed, until Allen takes action. The most important time for Arson to be on duty is at night. Allen, who does have a device to check during the day, can sleep through a device alert. One night, Kromer recounted, his blood sugar plummeted to 22, which could lead to diabetic coma, (normal is 80 to 100). Arson jumped on the bed to wake him so he could eat the emergency glucose. "One hundred times over we owe this dog his life."

Jacquelyn Huebner, 21, from Orcutt, says she was able to go to Cal Poly due to her dog Aspen. Aspen alerts Huebner to rising anxiety levels. Symptoms like jumpy legs, finger flicking, and fast breathing/heart rate, will cause Aspen to nudge Huebner's knee, stare at her intently and even jump in her lap. The anxiety condition was noticeable for her from junior high. The idea of moving 45 minutes away "was terrifying," says Huebner, but getting Aspen, "opened up my life." Huebner described a day at Disneyland when Aspen accompanied her on rides and "worked hard all day long creating space." Aspen creates space by sitting behind her in lines and circling her in crowds and also picks up anything Huebner might drop during an anxiety attack. Local students will get to see Huebner and Aspen this summer at Camp Hope, where she attended as a student. She will be teaching about service dogs. Camp Hope teaches kids about animal responsibility.

President's Message

Pam Miller

Every person has their own story. My older brother, by 3 years, and I grew up in the same family. MANY years later we again share a home. There are some things that we react to in the same way, which makes living together very easy and some things we do not, which makes us look at each other and say, "Who raised you?" We also remember some things that happened differently, and some things one of us remembers, and the other not at all.

From all of our experiences we create our own story. I expect him to have the same story and clearly, he doesn't. And for good reason. Our experiences are our own and particular to ourselves. The same is true for our dogs.

I have two dogs. One I rescued at two years old and one I "rescued" at 8 weeks old. Since Nonni was two or so when I got her, I expected to not know her full story. In fact, she was named Nonni, which is short for Anonymous because her background was really unknown.

I had to find out who "she was." What scared her, what made her tail wag, what did she enjoy doing? What did it mean when she yelped - seemingly for no reason, and what motivated her to learn tricks? All of these questions and hundreds more were waiting for me to learn the answer to. I had to watch her carefully and do this for many years, to get to know her.

I also had to develop my own observation skills and empathy skills so I could bring out the best in her. I had to understand what she liked doing and what she didn't and respect her desires.

I thought Jazzy would be easier, after all I took her home at 8 weeks old. I thought I should know her, know what her experiences are, why she acts the way she does because I "raised" her. But it soon became apparent that she had her own personality and that she interpreted what she experienced in her own

way. I cannot choose what she likes or doesn't like, what scares her or what she is happy about. It also became clear that she is not a "robot" that I can teach the same way I teach Nonni. Clearly, they are separate individuals and I have to meet them in their world.

We need to try different ways of teaching with different dogs, and not get stuck in one way. That is why Tailwaggers presents a variety of trainers and subjects related to continuing ways to bond with and teach our dogs.

Spending time and giving attention to our dogs is the best way to bond with them. So, go to that morning Walkabout on Fridays with other club members and their dogs. Let your dog enjoy the smells and attention s/he will get from you and others on the walk. Or, how about trying the hikes Rona takes us on?

Take a class with your dog - try agility, obedience, trick training, or any of the others Tailwaggers will offer this coming year. Play with your dog at the dog park or even in your house.

In the cold wet weather I play chase with my pups in the house, I throw the ball and play tug with them inside. I hide their food and let them find it. I put food in boxes and they have to knock the boxes around to get the food out. It is easy to make up all kinds of indoor games.

The important thing is to DO SOMETHING they like doing with them daily to create a bond of mutual respect and love. They are, after all, our best friends and a source of love and loving.

P.S. See the next article which explains again what I am talking about.



Your Dog Is NOT a Robot

Pupford.com



I've always loved robots! The idea of a machine that can complete tasks for you is fascinating.

And nowadays, we deal with robots every day. You have one on your phone (Siri, etc.), a speaker in your house that will do exactly what you ask, and you may even have a robot that vacuums your house (best appliance I own).

You give an input or command, and get the same output every single time.

Unfortunately, I think that because we are so used to getting the exact same output from these robots, we often, inadvertently, view our dogs in the same manner. We want $A=B$ always, but that's just not reality with our dogs.

And while I know you don't actually think your dog is a robot, I want to discuss ways that you might act like your dog is a robot.

WHAT WORKS FOR ME, MIGHT NOT WORK FOR YOU

I have two sister Labrador Retrievers. So you would think that of all the dogs out there, they would surely behave in a similar fashion. Nope.

They are extremely different in more ways than I can explain. But needless to say, they do not behave

the same way in every situation. And how I train and raise them individually is extremely different.

So, why do we often think that a technique that worked for a neighbor's dog is going to work for our own? And even beyond that, why do we think that a toy your neighbor's dog loved will be loved by your own dog?

It's important to remember that the things you learn (even from us here at Pupford) may need some tweaking to best fit your dog's needs. Or, they may not work for your dog... and that is okay!

Don't be afraid to try out different variations of training techniques you learn to best meet your dog's needs.

DON'T BE TOO ROBOTIC AS A TRAINER

While this episode is about how your pup isn't a robot, it's a good reminder for us as humans to not act too robotic when training our pups.

My opinion is that when we get into 'training sessions' we often get hung up on trying the same things over and over. And sometimes that just doesn't work.

Don't be afraid to mix it up! If your pup is struggling with recall, try turning it into a game. Or, try jumping up and down when you call your pup to you.

Again, remember that if your training becomes too robotic it may lead your pup to tune out and not focus as well.

GIVE YOUR DOG A BREAK

My dog Sunny has hip dysplasia. When I tell my dogs to go to their place (typically their bed), I do not expect Sunny to lay down. It can be uncomfortable for her and so a sit is just fine, even though I expect my dog Scout to actually lay down on her place.

That example illustrates that it's more important to look at your own dog's situation than a conventional 'this is how a behavior is done' mindset.

Continued on next page

Your Dog Is NOT a Robot, con't

And sometimes, our dogs just need a little bit of a break when they aren't "performing how we hope". There are so many factors in their surroundings including sounds, smells, and other stimuli that we may not even notice.

That isn't to say we should be okay with our dog not listening to us or following behaviors that they are capable of! Rather, it's a reminder that our dogs are creatures with nuance, and we should be okay with that.

RECAP

While we all know our dogs aren't actually robots, we sometimes get into the trap of thinking they should behave like robots!

Remember that not every technique will work for your dog and that sometimes they may just be having an off day or off moment when we ask for a behavior.

As we try to view our dogs through the lens of them behaving variably, it can help us remember to be patient and consistent with teaching new behaviors!

Join or Renew Membership in the Tailwaggers Club.

Now is the time to renew or join the Tailwaggers Club. I'd like to announce how many members we have next month and have it be an impressive number. It's not only so we can have money in our account to run the club, but also to let the community know we are a group to be listened to when issues come up the valley that we are concerned about.

EARLY REGISTRATION RAFFLE

We will have the drawing Jane's famous Puppy PJ's at the March 13 meeting. All those who paid their membership by Feb. 14 will be in the drawing.

General Meeting Minutes February 13, 2023

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

The President, Pam Miller welcomed all attendees and made general announcements. She reminded all to please renew their memberships this month and talked about how the funds are used. She explained that all people who renew by tomorrow will be entered into a raffle for a custom made set of pajamas for their dogs made by Jane Tanaka. She also showed the new brochures available and asked members to pass them out to their friends.

We then had an excellent presentation by Cindy Clark about Search and Rescue dogs and her adventures in that field over many years.

The president then asked for Divisions Reports and what each division is doing.

1. Gary Hill talked a little about the Agility Division and gave the upcoming dates and what they entailed. The first date is April 1st for a coaching day. The first hour will be for brand new members who have not done any agility. The second hour will be for members who would like to refresh their skills. Agility Playdays are April 22nd, May 20th, and June 10th.
2. Pam talked about the Training Division and that Ashley Ohmet will be giving lessons for individuals and will start a puppy class in Tehachapi on Saturdays. Puppy Class will start on Feb. 18th. Also Molly Mackin may start lessons in Bear Valley around May with Meg Prior.
3. Nilly Smith updated information about the Therapy Group. They are still doing the "Reading with the dogs" for children and the group is visiting the Tehachapi Hospital and senior home in Golden Hills.
4. The Fitness group has a "hike/walk" about on Wednesday Feb. 15th.
5. Pam updated the group on the Rescue Division and the fundraising for Have a Heart "Snip Bus." In addition to the \$4,006 donated in 2022, as of tonight we have added \$980.00 making a total of \$4,986.00

Our Treasurer, Jeannie Alvarado gave the Treasurer Report.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday March 13th. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45PM.

Aversive vs Positive Training - Does It Make A Difference?



By Gary Hill

Friends, the article below lends yet more support to the growing body of evidence that aversive training methods [using painful or noxious stimuli to stop unwanted behavior] lead to long-term negative outcomes for our dogs. Here are the investigation's concluding remarks:

“Overall, our results show that companion dogs trained with aversive-based methods experienced poorer welfare during training sessions than dogs trained with reward-based methods. Additionally, dogs trained with higher proportions of aversive-based methods experienced poorer welfare outside the training context than dogs trained with reward-based methods. Moreover, whereas different proportions of aversive-based methods did not result in differences in dog welfare outside the training context among aversive-based schools, a higher proportion of aversive-based methods resulted in poorer welfare during training. To our knowledge, this is the first comprehensive and systematic study to evaluate and report the effects of dog training methods on companion dog welfare. Critically, our study points to the fact that the welfare of companion dogs trained with aversive-based methods is at risk, especially if these are used in high proportions.” Here's to keeping it positive, Tailwaggers!

psychologytoday.com

[Does It Matter Whether Dog Training Is Positive or Aversive? Specific dog training methods have long-term and short-term emotional effects.](#)

Do You Know of Susan Garrett?

Susan Garrett is a well known positive trainer who has many videos on YouTube. You can google her and find a video for every behavior challenge your dog may have. This is a great introductory video to her training methods.

[The Heart / Mind Connection Side of Dog Training with Susan Garrett](#)

Treasurers' Year to Date Report

February 2023

By Jeannie Alvarado

Checking Account Beginning Balance \$8,963.34

INCOME

Membership	790.00
Ads	50.00
Tee-Shirts	18.00
Insurance Refund	25.00
SNIP Fundraiser	980.00
Dog Coats	235.00
Donation	230.00
Have a Heart Raffle	15.00

Total 1863.00

EXPENSES

Newsletter (Feb & March)	300.00
Flyers and Brochures	26.71

Total 326.71

ENDING BALANCE \$10,499.63

As of 22, Feb. 23

Allocated to SNIP (raised in '22) 4006.00

Allocated to SNIP ('23) 980.00

Balance - SNIP 4986.00

Ending Balance w/o Allocations \$5,513.63

- Membership \$ does not include Nov & Dec's which was deposited in 2022.
- Donation check made out to Have a Heart for TW of \$2000 is not included in this SNIP fundraising total.

Tailwaggers Happy'ngs

General Meetings

March 13

Speakers: Canine Companions - Raising Dogs to Change Lives

Melissa Billingsley, Krista Wookey, Cathi Estes and Louis Quin.

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

Agility Division

Agility Workshops: April 1st

Agility Playdays: 4/22; 5/20; 6/10; 9/23; 10/14

Contact Gary Hill, 480-216-8488, or Lucy Radike, 661-904-3379, for more information.

K9 Fitness Division

WalkABOUTs

This is a weekly event on Fridays at 9:00. 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

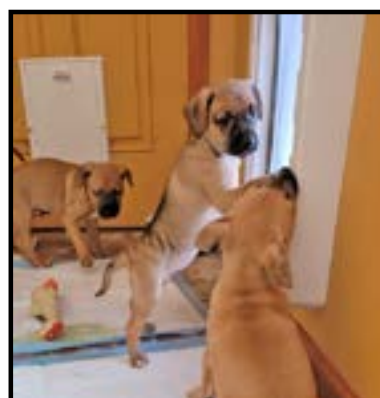
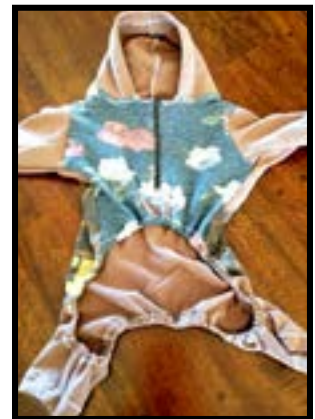
Rona McKay and her dog Ginger takes Tailwaggers, as well as the BVS Trail Scouts, on fun hikes usually once a month. The February Hike was attended by four people even through it was a cold morning. Contact Rona at 310-367-2742 for more information.



Rescue Division

Tailwaggers is having another fundraiser for Have a Heart. More than ever, since their move, they need help getting the SNIP bus up here. We are having a Raffle for an artists rendition of your pet. Pamela Wildermuth and Terry Albert offered to draw the winner's pet. We will have two winners. A great cause and a great prize for two people. Call Holly Bennett at 661-557-5313 or any board member for tickets.

We have warm, cuddly doggy pajamas for Sale \$15



Two Rescue Division members, Dot Ramirez and Mel McDavid, are fostering 5 puppies!

Tailwagger, Janine Severance, is fostering a Lab puppy.

The community thanks you and the puppies thank YOU!

Continued...

Training Division

Ashley Ohmet, Delightful Dogs Training. To enroll in her classes go to Delightful-Dogs.com

- 1). Offering training on an individual basis at your own home.
- 3). Tailwaggers small group training. TBA
- 4). Obedience Training. TBA

Therapy Dog Division

Happy Hounds and Friends Reading Program

Tailwaggers therapy dogs are reading to the kids in Whiting Center once a month. They are also going to the hospital and to schools in the area. This is a terrific program and Nilly Smith, Lauren Jaimes, Mary Thompson, Joni Henschel, Guy Munday and Molly Mackin are doing a great service for the community.



As the Tale Wiggles On: Messages from Tailwaggers Afar

A Hello from Kathy Kneer, past President and BVS resident.



Hello to our two and four legged friends in Tailwaggers from Bob, Kathy and Jake Kneer in Carson City! I'm happy to report we have happily settled in our much smaller home here in Carson City, NV. After some home improvements for Bob, more downsizing from Kathy and new trails for Jake to find, we are trying to stay warm this winter! Carson is not only closer to family but also Tahoe is in our backyard. We made a quick trip to Tahoe when there was a break in the weather and the roads were clear! Here we are in Sand Harbor State Park. As you can see, we have lots of snow! While we miss all of you, we are also busy planning our next RV trips. We plan to spend a month in Phoenix, visiting my niece who now works at the Phoenix Zoo as a Vet Tech in the hospital. While there, we will be planning our first trip to the Pacific Northwest in June., Then a trip in the fall to the east coast. Retirement is grand! Please let me know if you plan to be in our neck of the woods! Until we meet again, best wishes and congratulations to the incoming President, Pam Miller, and the board - you are all very lucky to have a dedicated group of leaders!

Dog Park Division

Please watch your dogs while in the park, and pick up their dog poop.



Hardy dog park users!

“Dad, I’m telling you...”



How You Might Be RUINING Your Dog's Recall

Pupford.com

While recall is a behavior that takes a lot of practice and persistence, there are some things you may be doing that are actually RUINING your dog's recall...

OVERVIEW OF HOW YOU MAY BE RUINING YOUR DOG'S RECALL

One of the most common mistakes I see with recall is when pup parents call their dog to them, and then they do something not enjoyable for their pup.

For example, calling your dog to you, they come, and then you put him/her on a leash and leave the park. Well, if you do that enough... your dog is going to start associating the recall cue with the “bad” thing of leaving the park.

Or, calling your dog to you and then putting them in the bath.

Or, calling your dog to you and then brushing their teeth.

Or, calling your dog to you and then clipping their nails.

You give a cue, they perform the desired behavior, and then... BOOM, a negative experience (in their mind).

When this happens too many times, your dog will start to associate “come” with negative things. And when that happens, your dog will STOP wanting to come back to you.

So, instead of calling your dog to you when you're gonna do something they may not like, YOU should go to them. Or, if you must call them first, give a couple of other cues in between the “come” and the not desirable thing.

If I'm at the park and need to leave, I don't call my dog to me and then instantly leash her up. Instead, I'll call her to me, give a few short throws of her ball once she comes, and then go to her and clip her on the leash.

Simply put, every time (seriously) your dog comes to you there should be a positive experience. Don't let negative experiences immediately follow when your dog successfully comes back to you.

HOW TO BREAK UP A DOG FIGHT SAFELY

Pupford.com



Honestly, I hated writing this article. I hate dog fights. They are extremely alarming experiences and can leave you and your pup emotionally shaken.

If you have one takeaway from this article I would hope it would be to learn more about dog body language. That is the single most important way to avoid dog fights and keep your dog safe.

[Learn more and get access to the Dog Body Language Course here!](#)

If your dog gets involved in a fight you have a few options to try and break it up safely. Anytime you try to break up a dog fight you put yourself at risk of being attacked and/or bitten.

And while there are other methods that other people may recommend, these are what we feel are the safest and most effective options for stopping a dog fight.

1- NOISE, DISTRACTIONS & WATER

When dogs start fighting, they get in a “zone” and it can be hard to get them out of it.

One method to stop a dog fight is to use noise, distractions, or something similar to break them out of that “zone”, even if just for a moment to allow you to get your dog and move to safety.

Here are some ways you can break your dog’s attention during a fight:

- Giving a loud clap and/or yelp/shout
- Dumping water on the dogs (this can be surprisingly effective)
- Using an airhorn or something similar
- Banging on a nearby tree/wall/garbage/etc
- Spraying citronella toward the dogs (NOT condoning this as a normal training method, just for this type of emergency)
- Blowing a whistle (carrying one on your keychain is great)

Those are just some ideas, but the principle is to be as loud and distracting as possible to try and break the dogs’ attention. If you can get a 1-2 second pause, you can likely get your dog out of the situation.

2- PUT SOMETHING (NOT YOU) BETWEEN THE DOGS

Another safe way to break up a dog fight is to get something in between your dogs.

I understand that you likely may not have anything readily available, but in some instances, you can get creative. The idea is to create a physical barrier between the dogs.

Here are some things you could use to get space between two dogs.

- A backpack or something similar (be careful to not get your hands too close)
- A skateboard, bicycle, or other similar objects
- An opened umbrella (again, mind your hands)

While this method may not always be feasible, if you do have access to a large object it can be one of the most effective ways to break up a dog fight.

Once you have an object in between the dogs you can leash/pull the dog away accordingly and hopefully de-escalate the fight.

3- THE WHEELBARROW METHOD FOR BREAKING UP DOG FIGHTS (can be risky)

Some people disagree with this method, while others swear by it (that’s life, right?). Generally, the “wheelbarrow method” can be a good way to separate fighting dogs.

Continued on next column

Continued on next page

How to Break up a Dog Fight Safely... con't



collar and lifting them up, and then walking them backward away from each other. Again, risky but it can work.

I only mention these methods so you have “backup plans” if the other methods above don’t work.



It requires two people to work in unison, which in a high-intensity situation like a dog fight can be quite difficult. Regardless, here is how it works.

1. Ideally, at the same time, each person grabs a dog by the hind legs and quickly lifts the back legs up (it’s best if you grab above knees, but anywhere works)

2. With the dogs hind legs up, walk backwards (like a wheelbarrow)

3. As you both walk backward, walk in a somewhat circular motion. This motion makes it more difficult for your dog to reach back and snap at or bite you

4. Continue walking the dogs backward to either a safe space (ie on a different side of a fence, etc) or where you are far enough away from each other and you can leash up your dog
It’s important to note again that the circular motion is important to keep your dog from being able to reach you.

NOTE: This method does present an inherent risk. Anytime you try to break up a dog fight and you get physically involved, you risk being bitten or attacked.

SOME OTHER METHODS

I will note that some people recommend giving a quick, loud clap and shout and then going in to grab the dog by the collar/scruff area. I think this is risky since you’re putting your hands near the dog’s head, but it has worked for people in these situations.

Others will recommend grabbing the dog by the

While knowing what to do is important, knowing what not to do can be equally important. Here are some things to avoid doing to try and stop a dog fight.

3 THINGS NOT TO DO WHEN DOG FIGHTS HAPPEN

1- DON’T USE YOUR HANDS

If you try to put your hands in between the dogs, you’re going to get bit. It’s that simple.

2- DON’T GET IN BETWEEN THE DOGS

It isn’t worth the risk of trying to be the barrier between two fighting dogs. You will likely end up in a very bad situation.

3- DON’T KICK, HIT, OR YANK THE DOGS

This will aggravate them more, perceive you as a threat, and likely lead to you being attacked.

WHAT TO DO AFTER A DOG FIGHT HAS ENDED

1. GET TO A SAFE SPACE

Leaving the same dogs in close proximity is just asking for trouble.

2. CHECK FOR INJURIES & CALM YOUR PUP

You’ll want to check your dog for injuries. It’s best to wait until your dog has calmed down to decrease the likelihood of you touching an injured area and startling your dog. Again, if they are in fight mode it can lead to a bite.

3. EXCHANGE INFORMATION WITH THE OTHER PUP PARENT (if possible)

You may need to file a report with local animal authorities, especially if injuries were sustained to either dog or human.

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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**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: _____