

AUGUST 2024

BVSTailwaggers.com
Tailwaggers Facebook



Developing Your At Home Doggie Spa Day

Megan Reubens, Pet Groomer



Meet Megan!

Her journey with dogs began in 2015 at Dirty Dogs and Meow, a natural dog food store, where she transitioned from a salesperson to a bather. In 2017, she began her apprenticeship with Absolute Pawfection Luxury Mobile Grooming and completed her training in late 2018, where she went on to work as a one-on-one groomer and establish her own unique style!

Megan's approach to grooming is built on respect and clear communication with both

the owner and the pet. When combined with proper maintenance at home, this ensures a low-stress and often enjoyable grooming experience for our furry friends.

She firmly believes that a dog's trust in their groomer can help overcome, or at least partially alleviate any fears or hesitations they may have during the grooming process.

Megan is excited to share her knowledge on home grooming, everything from suggestions on tools and products to the gentlest ways to help your pet with gland expression issues!

When Megan is not treating pets to a spa day, she is busy wrangling her two toddler daughters and supporting her husband, who serves in the US Navy. She enjoys riding horses and spoiling her daughters, Lyla and Ellie, as well as her dogs: Pippa (a small mixed breed), June (a Bloodhound), and Dixie (a Basset Hound). If time allows, her favorite outing is ocean fishing with her husband!



Members and friends of Tailwaggers are invited come to the meeting on TUESDAY August 6, in the Equestrian Center Lounge. Doors open for refreshments at 6:00 and the meeting is at 6:30.

Meeting the Challenges

President's Message

Pam Miller

While sitting at my desk, Matt, a pug, is alternately whining then barking behind my chair at me. "What in the world do you want?" I ask him for the 10th time. His huge eyes stare at me like, what is wrong with you? I'm telling you what I want!"

So, trying to guess, I go to the kitchen and get the treats out. I proceed to have my dog Jazzy, my cat Capri, and my guest dog Matt, do tricks for treats. There, that should do it I think.

I go back to my chair and Matt begins his whining and crying again. I turn around this time and look at him. I see that he is looking at the couch intently. Ye gads! All he wants is to be lifted up onto the couch. I know he can jump up there, but he wants to be lifted! Why? I have no idea but I lift him up. He immediately stops whining, curls in a circle and begins snoring. He is content.

I have had dogs all my life and they seem so familiar to me that I forget they come from another planet. That, as puppies, they are kidnapped from their mother and siblings and often put into a crate to spend the night alone.

I reflect on the article written by Kathy Callahan, CPDT0KA, FDM entitled *Kidnapped From Planet Dog*.

"The truth is this: Before you took him home, that 8-week-old puppy spent every single moment of his little life in a cozy, warm scrum with his own kind. He was cheerily hanging out with his family doing everything that comes naturally to dogs: wrestling, biting, sniffing, chewing, and jumping. He was never alone. He had no idea you were going to swoop in, kidnap him, take him to a new planet and, here's the kicker, suddenly be

mad at him for everything that is prized in his culture."

Callahan asked us to consider this:

Just a baby!

Kidnapped!

From another planet!

Far away from its own tribe, its own customs.

She goes on to say the Magic Answer to all of puppyhood is empathy. Empathy, putting yourself in your dog's place, and sensing how it must feel, (confused, lonely), helps your own anger evaporate. It also makes room for effective problem-solving. Like actually "listening" to what they need and creating ways to meet their needs. Like I finally did with Matt.

Callahan points out that even if we think we just want to hang out with our dogs and cuddle, that's not actually true. "We also ask them not to bark, jump, bite, pee, sniff, or chew. Sometimes, it's as if we're asking them not to be dogs."

Of course, most puppies will transition from one planet to another amazingly well even when empathy is not present because dogs are adaptable and their life depends upon meeting our needs. But if we want to enjoy our puppies or dogs, it becomes much easier if we approach training with empathy and adjust our expectations to where they should be - then training will become, as Callahan says, "not easy, but simple."

If you would like to read Callahan's full article and learn her secret to enjoying puppyhood (which leads to enjoying your adult dog) click on this link and [read it here](#).



Tailwaggers Happy'ngs

General Meetings 1st Tuesday of the Month

Our General meetings are on the **first Tuesday** of every month, unless notified differently. We meet in the Equestrian Center lounge at 6:00 for refreshments and 6:30 for the meeting.

August 6, 2024

Speaker: Meagan Reubens, Grooming Your Dog

September 3, 2024

TBA

October 1, 2024

Josh Proctor, Animal Behaviorist

Agility Division

Agility Playdays

Saturday, September 7 & 21st
To sign-up or help,
call Gary Hill (480) 216-8488
or Lucy Radike (661) 904-3379

Rescue Division

Contact Molly Mackin re: Project Hope

Therapy Dog Division

Happy Hounds and Friends Reading Program

The group will take a break for the summer. This is a good time to contact Mary Thompson and let her know if you are interested in finding out about the program at 661-972-0731.

!!! WalkABOUTS Time Change to 7pm !!!

Walkabouts on the Nature Trail will now be held at 7:00 on THURSDAY EVENINGS. Jeannie Alvarado will there to greet you. Call Jeannie at 661-917-1915 for more information.



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Training Division Events

FOR THE LUV OF DOGS Spring/Summer

Training Camp with Molly Mackin, AKC-CGC Evaluator, APDT, LIMA, VSA Certified Dog Trainer.

Upcoming trainings will include a puppy class for dogs 5 months old and younger, Obedience 1, Obedience 2 and possibly Canine Urban and Trick Training. See the flier on page 9.

For more information, or to sign up for upcoming trainings, text/call Molly Mackin at 818-512-9836.

NOSE-WORK SERIES -Rebecca Barocas,

Competitor and Trainer in Nose-work for over 10 years.

Contact Rebecca at 661-435-1194 for more information or to sign up for her next series beginning on Friday, October 25 through November 22nd. This will be a 5 week series and the price will be \$105.



General Meeting Minutes July 2, 2024 by Dot Ramirez, Sec.

Call to order: Pam Miller at 6:30

Announcements:

Pam thanked board members for setting up the room, staffing the refreshment table, and welcome table. As well as those who brought refreshments.

Pam announced upcoming activities:

- **Agility:** Sept 7 & 21. Call Lucy or Gary.
- **For the Luv of Dogs** training sessions will begin in Sept and will include Ob 1 & 2 as well as puppy classes. Flyers are on the back table.
- **Presenter:** Tonight’s presenter is Mike Puffer from Have a Heart
- Have a Heart works with fosters (some from Tailwaggers) to rescue dogs from shelters and find adopters. Mike has been with HAH for over a year and has fostered over 50 cats and dogs.
- HAH received \$7500 for an additional snip bus in July.
- HAH has found permanent homes for 166 animals so far this year. On average it takes 21 days for adoptions to occur. They are presently looking for a foster for a mom with puppies.
- County wide there were over 900 intakes from strays and surrenders.
- HAH focuses on education and stresses the importance of microchips and spaying / neutering your pet. Cost is approximately \$35 with the Snip Bus. Their phone number is 925-788-1763. Chips are usually \$20 with HAH but free during the week of 4th of July. Mike emphasizes to adopters that it takes approximately 3 months for a dog to decompress once out of shelters.

Pam adjourned the meeting at 7:36

Monthly Financial Report

June & July, 2024

By Jeannie Alvarado

Checking Account Beginning Balance **\$6,007.89**

INCOME

Membership	90.00
Agility	90.00
Donation	10.00

Total **190.00**

EXPENSES

Newsletters	300.00
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Total **\$300.00**

Ending Balance

As of July 20, 2024 **\$5,897.89**

Treasurer was on vacation in June. June /July reports are added together on this report. Monthly deposits and expenses were noted separately in monthly record.

DAKOTA-Over the Rainbow Bridge



Our sympathy goes out to Mel McDavid and Dot Ramirez on the loss of their dog Dakota. She was a rescue that was hard to loose because she was such a good dog and only 7 years old.

Spotlight on Some Nosework Participants



Hanging out, waiting for our turn.



Finding the PRIZE !!



Nosework...con't

I apologize for not getting shots of all the participants and their dogs to put in the newsletter. Somehow the first class did not get their pictures taken...maybe too early for some of us to be on our toes!



STAR PUPPY

Your puppy training mission is simple. Teaching your puppy that his world is safe and fun through games, socialization and learning basic cues. Building your relationship with your puppy first, is the most important key to building a successful future together.



K-9 Obedience 1 & 2 TRAINING

Depending upon the experience levels of the dogs in this class, the focus will be on teaching body and voice commands through stimulating activities, games and tricks some of which may include

- Socialization
- Sit
- Down
- Stay
- Leash Walking
- Target & Touch Work
- Place Command
- Crate Work.



FOR THE L♥V OF DOGS Fall Camp

We believe dogs make the world better! We believe dogs are our family and our friends. Simply put... dogs make us better people.

Molly Mackin AKC-CGC Evaluator, APDT, LIMA, VSA Certified Dog Trainer.

We teach **you** how to train your dog. Our classes are especially designed to build confidence and success as dogs master skills in a simple step by step process. We believe in building a positive relationship and foundation first for a life time of happiness with your dog.

TO ask questions or sign up for classes, RSVP/TEXT: Molly Mackin at 818-512-9836.

\$210 for a 6-week series (\$35 per class)

**K-9 Obedience 1 & 2
Fridays September 6, 13, 20, 27, Oct 4 & 11**

**STAR Puppy Class: September 6, 13, 20, 27
(4-weeks, 45 minute classes for \$100)**





Featured Article

Can Dogs Eat Cat Food?

Andrew Dickens - Dog Food Advisor
<https://www.dogfoodadvisor.com/canine->



To the untrained eye, cat and dog food can look pretty similar when they're served up side-by-side.

What's more, if you're lucky enough to share a home with both cats and dogs, you'll have likely witnessed the latter quite happily chowing down on food intended for the former when given even half a chance.

These observations naturally raise the question: can dogs eat cat food? Is it safe for dogs to eat cat food? The good news is cat food isn't poisonous for dogs.

"Generally speaking, it's not dangerous for dogs to eat cat food, but it is dangerous for cats to eat dog food," says Laura Ward, DFA's in-house animal nutritionist. Therefore, parents needn't worry if dogs finish off a whole portion of feline food.

That being said, it can do no harm to keep an eye on your dog if it happens and call the vet if you notice any worrying symptoms, such as facial swelling, itchiness or labored breathing. If they're especially unlucky, your dog might have ingested an ingredient to which they're allergic.

Should dogs ever eat cat food? The answer to this is no, not really. It might be stating the obvious, but cat food is uniquely formulated for a cat's specific needs.

"Cats are obligate carnivores," says Ward. "This means they require meat in their diet and have a higher requirement for protein and fat, as well as other nutrients — including taurine."

Given that it's richer and full of tasty meat, you can't really blame your dog for having their head turned by cat food, but you shouldn't let them indulge themselves. If you've ever overdone it at the breakfast buffet, you'll know why.

"A dog's nutritional requirements tend to be oversupplied by feeding cat food," says Ward. "If an adult dog eats cat food occasionally, this isn't usually an issue, but the oversupply

Continued...

Can Dogs Eat Cat Food?...con't

of nutrients is likely to cause gastrointestinal upset in dogs with sensitive digestion.”

If these digestive woes continue for longer than 24 hours, you should give the vet a call. Unfortunately, the problems don't stop there. “The oversupply of nutrients in cat food could cause weight gain and obesity in some dogs, while the higher fat would also be an issue for dogs predisposed to pancreatitis.”

Any dog can be diagnosed with pancreatitis, but breeds with a higher risk of developing the condition tend to lean on the smaller side, such as Miniature Schnauzers and English Cocker Spaniels.

What's so different about dog food? Just as cat food caters to the nutritional needs of cats, the same can be said for dog food and dogs.

“In contrast to cats, dogs are carnivorous omnivores, which means that their diet is more flexible,” says Ward. Sure, this means dog food will have its fair share of meat, but there'll usually be some carbohydrates and vegetables in the mix, too. It also tends to be less heavy in calories and fat than cat foods.

How can I stop my dog from eating cat food? As many parents will know all too well, dogs can be greedy creatures and strangers to self-restraint, so cat food needs to be kept as far from intrepid snouts as possible.

Parents looking after both cats and dogs are recommended to feed them in separate rooms to avoid your dog being tempted by what's in a cat's bowl. If that's not possible, you could also consider putting cats' bowls on surfaces off the floor.

Enriching Your Pet's Life With Green Vegetables



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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Each Office Independently Owned and Operated

**2024 BVS TAILWAGGERS DOG CLUB
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP**

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)

Mail to: BVS Tailwaggers Dog Club, 29800 Jamaica Dunes Dr., Tehachapi, CA 93561

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 one of these forms. 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: _____