

**JULY 2024**

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**BVS**  
*Tailwaggers*  
**Dog Club**

## **A Volunteer with a Purpose**

**Mike Puffer, Have a Heart Volunteer**



### **Lucky Dogs Have Help Finding Homes**

Michael J. Puffer is a dedicated member of Have a Heart Humane Society, where he oversees the adoption room with a quiet determination and a heartfelt commitment to animal welfare. As a retired air traffic control supervisor, Michael leverages his extensive experience in decision-making to carefully match kittens and puppies with their ideal forever homes.

Michael will be the speaker for the Tailwaggers Dog Club on July 2. He will share about Have a Heart Humane Society, their mission to rescue pets, their desire to work with fosters, and creating a program where they pull animals from the shelter, and use Tailwagger fosters to home them during the adoption process.

Since taking on this role, Michael has successfully found homes for 135 animals between January 1 and mid-May, a reflection of his steady and thoughtful approach. His work is not about recognition but about the joy and comfort each adoption brings to both the animals and their new families.

In addition to his duties in the adoption room, Michael is also an active foster parent for Have a Heart. Over the past year, he has provided a temporary home to more than 50 animals, giving them the care, training and attention they need while they wait for permanent families. His fostering efforts are a testament to his kindness and unwavering support for animals in need.

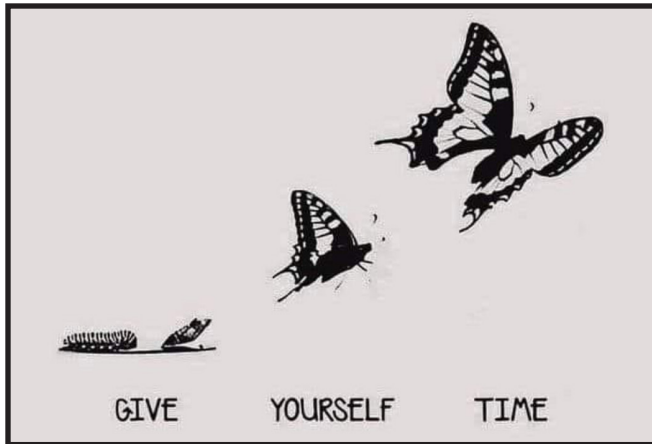
Michael J. Puffer embodies the compassionate spirit of Have a Heart Humane Society. His humble dedication ensures that every animal receives the love and care they deserve, making a significant impact in the lives of countless pets and adopters.

**Members and friends of Tailwaggers are invited come to the meeting on TUESDAY July 2nd, 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



Give yourself time. Give your dog time. Time is a precious gift. Nothing *has* to be done now, nothing needs to be finished *now*. This is what I get from the image of a caterpillar becoming a butterfly. We often cause ourselves stress by putting too much expectation on things going fast rather than relaxing into a rhythm of natural progression. I remember trying to teach Nonni how to roll over and thinking she is never going to get this. I thought I was teaching her wrong or she was not bright enough to get it. Neither was the case, I only needed to be persistent and she only needed time. One day, just like that, she rolled over! And it was one of her favorite tricks from then on.

On the other hand... Time, time, time. Where does it go? This is a critical question the older you get. You are aware that you have picked your spouse, raised your kids and finished your career. Ideally, this can be another time of freedom to choose what else you want to do in life, and yet, their is a problem. Their is not enough time! Yikes!

I hope there are members in our club who are young enough not to relate to the picture painted above. But for those who are, what

to do with the rest of the time you have is a relevant question.

I want to do something worthwhile, something that brings satisfaction to my life, just as raising my son did at one time, or doing a good job in my career. But, now I am also more focused on enjoying my activities, having fun with my friends and deepening my connections with loved ones.

I look forward to Tailwaggers as a way to do something worthwhile, helping to provide others with meaningful information and fun activities and the possibilities of making deep and meaningful connections with pets and people alike.

As you may have noticed, I did not change the title of my message. I thought I should, but then I realized that I see my life through the lens of meeting challenges daily and that is the purpose of my life - meeting the challenges offered, the good and the hard in the best way I can. That is what makes me feel alive.

I hope everyone has a good 4th of July. I feel it is especially important to remember why we celebrate it.



The Founding Father delegates of the Second Continental Congress declared that the Thirteen Colonies were no longer subject (and subordinate) to the monarch of Britain, King George III, and were now united, free, and independent states. The Congress voted to approve independence and adopted the Declaration of Independence on July 4.

# 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.

**July 2, 2024**

Speaker, Michael Puffer from Have a Heart

**August 6, 2024**

Speaker: Meagan Reubens, Grooming Your Dog

## 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

Call Molly Mackin for information about  
Project HOPE. 818-512-9836

## 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 8am

Walkabouts on the Nature Trail resumed officially on April 5 with Lucy Radike leading the walks at 8am. Call Lucy for more information. (661-904-3379)



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## Training Division Events Started!

**FOR THE LUV OF DOGS Spring/Summer Training Camp with Molly Mackin, AKC-CGC Evaluator, APDT, LIMA, VSA Certified Dog Trainer.**

Puppy S.T.A.R. and Obedience 1 finished June 7th. 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.**

Rebecca's classes for Tailwaggers began June 21, and will go till July 19. \$125 for 6 weeks. Contact Rebecca at 661-435-1194 to sign up for her next series or for more information.



# General Meeting Minutes

## June 4, 2024

Call to order: Pam Miller at 6:36

Announcements:

Pam welcomed new members and announced upcoming activities:

- **Agility:** This Saturday June 8, Last one for the summer. 8 am at the small dog park.
- **Rescue Division:** 8 or 9 dogs placed during the Grummage sale event. Lots of followup is needed for the newly adopted dogs like: Training, going back to shelter, sharing advice... fosters needed for dogs that are scheduled to be transported to various rescues. Terry Albert is getting 2 dachshund fosters 1 ½ & 2 yrs.
- **Presenter:** Tonight's presenter is Rebecca Barocas, (Nose-work)

She introduced her dog Decker. Rebecca has been training since the 80's with police dogs. She started nose-work in 2013 after trying to find something to build confidence in her dog. Nose-work began in 2006. Because all dogs love to sniff and hunt, all dogs can be successful.

She shared that dogs are the leads in this activity. It is the job of the handler to look for the dog's signals such as: Body language, tail carriage, breathing, crabbing. The handler follows the dog's lead.

Rebecca showed us different tools she uses and reinforced the use of high value treats as rewards.

Rebecca and her dog demonstrated how her dog sniffs out scents previously hidden and explained when her dog presented her with a signal.

She answered members Questions.

- The membership list will be sent out.
- Pam adjourned the meeting at 7:36

*Respectfully submitted,*  
*Dot Ramirez, Secretary*

## Hot asphalt

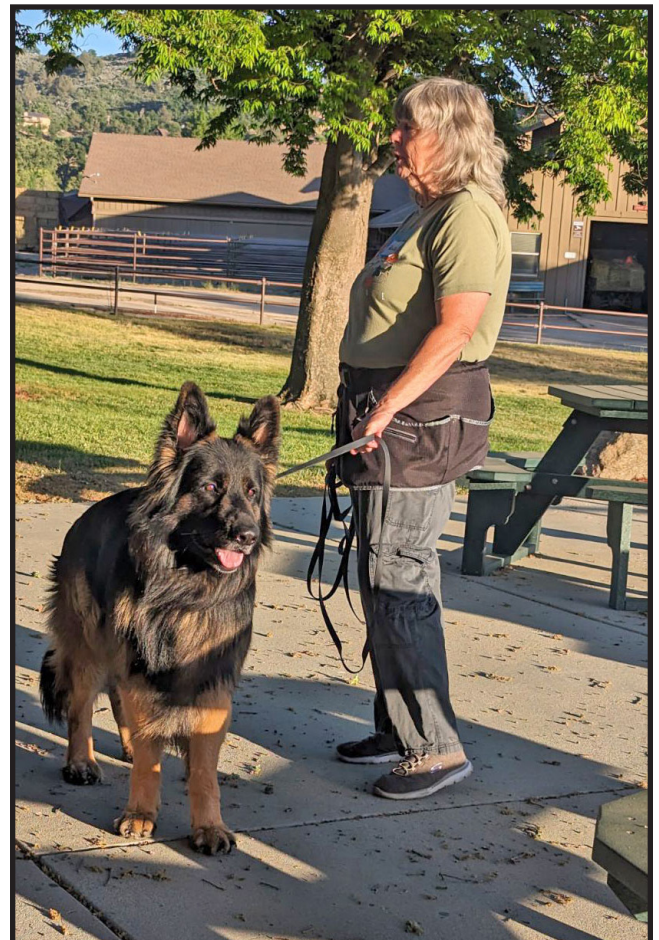
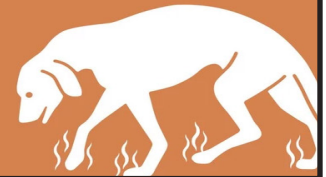


High temperatures can make the asphalt too hot for your dog's paws!

Air temperature	Asphalt temperature
25°C / 77°F	52°C / 125°F
35°C / 95°F	65°C / 149°F

### How to avoid burn

'Seven-second test': If the back of your hand can't stand the heat on the asphalt, it's too hot for a walk.



# As the Tale Wags

By Holly Bennett

## Meet Lulu and her Family

Lulu, the greeter of people and dogs, was friendly, excited and curious to meet me at the lovely home she has shared with her human parents for all her eight years. She directed her gaze at me with her beautiful, darkly lined big eyes, while wagging her tail.



Vicky and Gary Laier are Lulu's adoring, human parents who moved to Bear Valley Springs from Simi Valley in 2013. They joined the Tailwaggers Club at the beginning of this year for the camaraderie, friendship, activities, in addition to community involvement. They are also members of the Garden Club as evidenced by their gorgeous yard.

TW activities they have enjoyed include speaker meetings, the dog park, and Friday morning Walkabouts at the nature path. As readers of the TW monthly Newsletter, they are informed of other club offerings including Project Hope, the therapy dog program, the Christmas Photo Shoot and fund raising.

Lulu is half American Bulldog and half Boxer. I googled characteristics of each breed, finding ones she shares. A trait I found interesting that did not readily come to mind, was protectiveness, common to American Bulldogs and Boxers.

I came to consider the possibility that Lulu shows her protectiveness in the friendly, cute, and sweet way she greets everyone: perhaps screening them, thus ensuring things start off on friendly footing. Lulu defines and manages the perimeters of her yard and even RV spaces when camping. She manages these, of course, using her sweetness tools of greeting all who pass by.

American Bulldogs are known for seeming to look brave, while actually they are big softies, and oh so affectionate!

Another trait of American Bulldogs I found interesting is that, according to Google, they are the healthiest of the bulldog breeds with the lowest incidence of genetic health problems.

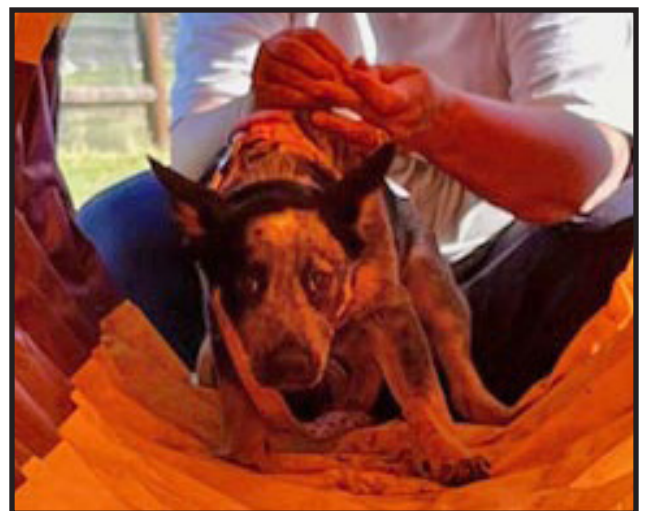
Breed characteristics Lulu shares with both American Bulldogs and Boxers include loyalty and high intelligence. Her intelligence was apparent when her parents said she essentially trained herself and her adaptability to new situations, people, and dogs.

Lulu, like other Boxers, is a loyal and dedicated companion. She enjoys keeping Gary company when he works from home. If possible, she'd probably like being at Vicky's

*Continued...on page 10*

# Fun at the Agility Playday on June 8th

*Thanks to Gary Hill, Greg Lee, Donna Macintyre, Lucy Radike and Nancy Chefalo for all their work in putting together the Agility Playday events. It has meant many phone calls, getting up early on the day of the event and moving equipment in and out of the Dream Shed. We all thank you for providing us with a morning of fun and the chance to play with our dogs.*



# For the L♥V of Dogs: Last Day of Training Camp with Molly Mackin

*Molly is guiding us, humans and dogs, through a great learning experience.  
Next classes will be starting in August.*



**Carol Knipp and Roxie**



**Cindy Marble and Sassy**



**Above: Dan Grider and Ellie  
Below: Suzanne Tanaka  
and Paul Chino**



**Above: Jan Bentley and Koda  
Below: Pam Miller and Jazzy**



**Above: Kathy Montes and Jessie  
Below: Terry Albert and Sunny**



**Holly Bennett and Paizlee**



**Last Day of Training Camp, con't...**



**Jan Bentley shown here demonstrating one of the completion tests - carrying water without spilling it while walking her dog.**



**Birthday Boy!**

**Courtney Manus and her dog, Camper, got their certificate of completion on Camper's first Birthday.**





## S.T.A.R. PUPPY

Learn the secrets to molding the ideal companion for you and your family while training, socialization and learning basic commands!



## 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 Spring-Summer Camp

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

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

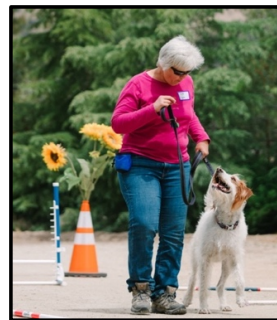
We teach **you** how to train your dog. Our classes are especially designed to build confidence and success as dogs master skills in a simple step by step process. We believe in building a positive relationship and foundation first for a life time of happiness with your dog.

**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)**

**Either Fridays Sept 6, 13, 20, 27, Oct 4 & 11  
Or Saturdays Sept 7, 14, 21, 28, Oct 5 & 11  
pending sign-ups.**

**More classes coming soon: OB 3 and Trick Training.**



# Adoption Story

By Cindy Marble

## Kelly and Milo



The story of Kelly and Milo begins long before they met. Last November Kelly's 15 year old dog, Kirby died leaving her Cockapoo, Holly, solo at home. The search for a companion dog for Holly started in February but by late March almost ended. Kelly tried to rescue a dog from Mount Vernon SPCA then later a dog from Have a Heart. Neither was a fit or even safe to leave at home with Holly. Kelly was ready to say "no more dogs."

Finally in April/May, Molly Mackin found a great dog at the Mount Vernon Animal Shelter and brought him home to foster but really brought him home for Kelly. A 10 month old puppy, Milo, arrived house trained, kind, curious, sensitive and smart. What winning combinations!

Kelly admits that "Milo is training us." But this is not a bad thing as this includes walks twice a day, improving Kelly's fitness and how to keep the house chew proof. It sounds like Milo has a great sense of humor even if the joke is on Kelly.

### The Starfish Story

*A man walked along the beach. Ahead he saw a boy dashing back and forth in the sand. He smiled thinking the boy was enjoying a game on a fine morning so he hurried to catch up.*

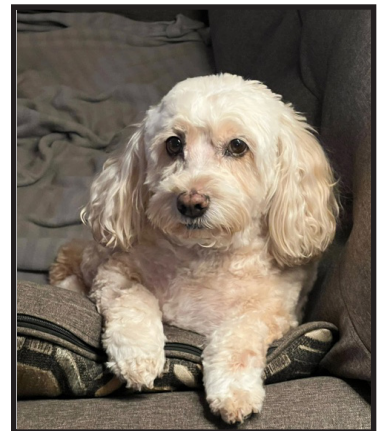
*As he got closer, he saw the boy picking something up out of the sand and gently tossing it into the sea. As he got closer to the boy the man called out, "hello, what are you doing?"*

*The boy paused in throwing, looked up and replied, "throwing starfish into the ocean. The sun is up and the tide is going out. If I don't throw them back in, they will die."*

*"But don't you realized that there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it? You can't possibly make a difference."*

*After listening politely, the boy reached down picked up another starfish, gently tossed it into the sea and said, "it made a difference to that one."*

**Holly**



**Milo**



*Continued...on next page*

## Kelly and Milo, con't...



When asked if she is fully in love with Milo, Kelly hedges. The difficulty trying out 2 different dogs in March, one whom she felt a deep heart connection, left her feeling guarded.

However, after talking with Kelly just 45 minutes, it was clear that at least I knew she was head over heels in love with Milo. She admits that Milo is special and will be with her for the duration.

This is another success story, facilitated by Molly Mackin and Pam Miller. But it seems it was the destiny of Milo to land in his forever home with Kelly. A calm and loving companion for Holly.



## Meet Lulu and her Family, con't...

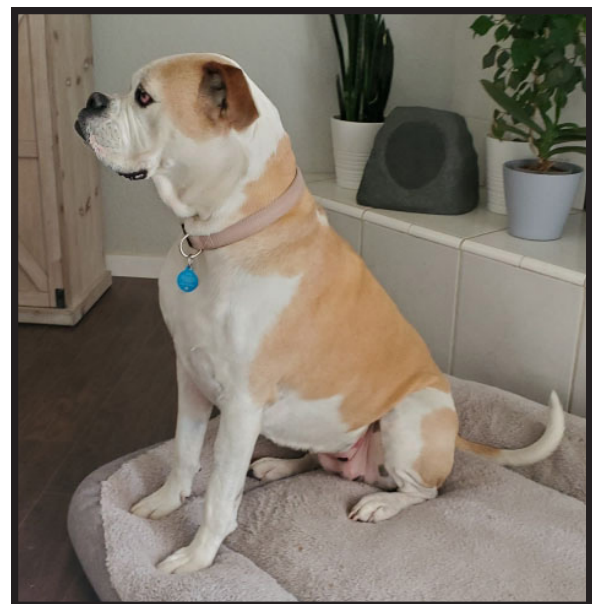
side at the Bear Valley Springs Association where Vicky works. She would make an excellent greeter there!

Another Boxer trait of patience, along with loyalty and companionship helped both Vicky and Gary deal with the loss and grief of their son to COVID four years ago.

In addition to her daily walks, Lulu absolutely loves jumping into the family golf cart for rides. She has even jumped into other peoples' golf carts for a fun ride! Quite the adventuresome girl, she has also enjoyed paddle boat rides.

I then Googled characteristics humans who love dogs share and discovered this quote: "Humans who love dogs tend to be more compassionate, loyal and dependable. They have a greater capacity for empathy, understanding, and are more open and accepting of people different from them." From the time I spent with Vicky and Gary, I'd say that accurately describes this couple!

You may meet Lulu the Greeter with Vicky and Gary when you are out and about in our beautiful community of BVS.





***A compilation of pictures made by the children at McKinley Elementary School who participated in a school project called the PAWSITIVE PROJECT. One of their activities was to go to the City of Bakersfield Animal Care Center and meet many of the dogs at the shelter, choose one and draw a picture with that dog in it. Pam Miller compiled the art and Tailwaggers will donate this banner to the shelter.***

## From Quora



from his suffering and let him be free of his pain. We just celebrated his 14th birthday last month, and I had hoped for more time. But I'm thankful his last hours were spent with me, and that I could do right by him as he was the most loyal being I've ever had the opportunity to love.



## Featured Article

### Chosen by Cindy Marble

“Ever since Bella returned home in mid-September from being lost, I think daily about how much joy my dogs (and highly unusual cat, Felix) bring me. This article highlights just that. From training successes (thank you Molly for your methods and way) to silly toys which make Sassy squeeze and howl in a figure 8 zoomie pattern from yard to office that is repeated and repeated! For summer I wanted to keep it light, reminding us of the absolute joy our 4 leg-eds bring us and how our connection goes so much deeper than we might at first realize.”

## The Most Satisfying Moments in Dog Ownership



By Nancy Kerns -  
*Whole Dog Journal*  
Published June 6,

Their leashes are taut at this moment, but they aren't pulling. I generally use longer (6-foot) leashes, which is probably why the leashes aren't more slack, but I really like these 4-foot ones from Baumutt, which are comfortable in the hand and light.

Of course we love our dogs 24/7, but we're not always swollen with pride over them. Seeing our beloved companions snack on some cat poop, or (I think it's worse somehow), their own poop, can bring us down to earth again, but for a moment, let's celebrate the stuff that makes dog-ownership such a gratifying experience.

Two training accomplishments above all others are the most pleasurable for me—and thus the most important for me to work on with my dogs: a tack-sharp recall and the ability to walk on leash without pulling. These are the two skills I practice—and highly reinforce—the most frequently. Truly, I do almost no other training with them, unless I need to teach them to do something to illustrate an article in WDJ (Whole Dog Journal)

We practice recalls daily. Some are just for practice, though I look for real-life opportunities to call them away from distractions such as squirrels, utility workers (such as meter readers or people delivering packages). But other opportunities are genuine, such as when I call them away from barking at someone who is walking by our (fully fenced) rural property, or, on an off-leash walk, calling them back to me immediately after they've spotted a deer or jackrabbit on the trail ahead.

One of the most beautiful moments in my dog-owning lifetime happened recently, and as a direct result of all of our practicing. I was on an off-leash walk with two other

*Continued...*

## Satisfying Moments...con't

people and three other dogs, and my dogs went over to the riverbank we were walking near to get a drink of water. Suddenly, Boone, my younger dog, came bounding up the embankment, bouncing like a kangaroo and looking very aroused. I ran a few steps to the edge of the embankment and looked for Woody. I was very surprised to spot two figures swimming downstream in the river: In the lead was a large male deer with a big rack of antlers, and about 10 feet behind him, Woody. They were both swimming strongly, and the current of the river, swollen by California's generous winter rains, was taking them downstream at quite a clip! My companions both shrieked, "Oh my god! Nancy! Woody!" I shouted at them to SHUSH! so Woody could hear me, and then yelled, "WOODY, OFF! HERE!" To my friends' amazement, and my absolute delight and relief, Woody immediately made a graceful U-turn in the water and swam for shore (the deer kept swimming and we saw that he was going to make the far shore easily). Upon reaching shore, he shook off and bounded back up the embankment, seemingly full of pride and happiness at having flushed the deer into the river. I know I had tears of pride and happiness in my eyes about his recall! That was one of those instances where I dumped the entire contents of my bait bag into my hands and let him have ALL the treats.

Much less dramatic, but nearly as pleasurable: Walking with my dogs on a loose leash. I am fine with them walking ahead of me, as long as they are not pulling, and they are fantastic at this skill. My sister who lives far away from me was visiting this week, and she's not a huge dog-lover, but even she noticed and complimented me on how easy it was to take a walk with me and my dogs. She said, "I have some friends who spend the whole walk yelling at or struggling with their dogs, and I

don't enjoy walking with them, because they won't go without their dogs and their dogs are not fun!"



Woody is drawn to babies like a magnet. He's happiest when a baby likes being licked by his giant tongue. Here's another moment that fills me with pleasure: When Woody is allowed to greet babies or small children. He is a giant softy, drawn to the small and unsteady. If a parent is game, and their children are reaching for him, I allow him to greet them how he likes to, by licking them in the face or on their sticky hands. His tail is always wagging, his body loose, his eyes soft; he just loves children, even if they shriek at his tongue or grab at his face. Not every parent trusts a big, big-headed dog making right for their baby's face, it takes some courage and trust in me as his handler, but I know I can count on his consistently kind, gentle response. If I see that a child looks apprehensive, I can ask him to sit still and let them approach him, but his tongue will start licking the air before they even reach him. (However, he can and will restrain himself from licking them if I insist.) What are your favorite moments with or watching your dogs?

### **Nancy Kerns**

*Nancy Kerns has edited horse and dog magazines since graduating the San Francisco State University Journalism program in 1990. The founding editor of Whole Dog Journal in 1998, Nancy regularly attends cutting-edge dog-training conferences including those for the International Association of Animal Behavior Consultants, Pet Professional Guild, Association of Professional Dog Trainers, and Clicker Expo.*

# 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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**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: \_\_\_\_\_